

TAIPEI AMERICAN SCHOOL

Fall  
2010



Volume  
11

# TAS Alumni News



## Message From the Superintendent

We are pleased to send you this TAS Alumni News with updates about your alma mater, fellow alumni, and faculty alumni. As you will see, this has been a very active year for all members of the TAS community, as TAS celebrated its first sixty years and worked on exciting programs and changes for the years ahead.

This school year is off to a great start, with many new programs in place that implement our strategic plan, with an engaging new website, as well as exciting progress on the new facilities that we expect to have completed by January 2012. As I mentioned at the groundbreaking ceremony in September, our new facilities will allow TAS to improve our offerings across the board, to meet the needs of our deserving students who need twenty-first century educational options, and will assure that TAS can remain an outstanding international school with academic excellence, innovation, cutting-edge programs, and the wide variety of cocurricular options necessary to keep our students competitive and successful anywhere in this rapidly changing world.

We have much to be grateful for—our talented student body, our supportive and involved parents, our dedicated faculty, our collaborative Board, our active and loyal alumni body, and the vision and resources to continue making the school even better. Many of you have expressed your gratitude to the school—when you visit TAS and attend alumni gatherings around the world, in the letters and emails you send, when you enroll your children, and through your gifts to the annual giving program.



As I said to the faculty at our opening meeting, I am so very grateful to have been given the privilege of leading our school over the past four years through immense change and, I believe, great improvements for our students and their families. I am committed to making this school even better, which will require understanding the effects of deep change on each member of the community, finding ways to make all members feel a part of the successful change efforts. Maya Angelou wrote, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you make them feel." Students forget much of what their teachers tell them, what they did in class, but they long remember how their teachers make them feel about themselves. Our teachers are building their students' confidence and their love for learning with every new lesson. What an enormous responsibility, and how fortunate we feel to do such critical, rewarding work.

Hope to see you or hear from you soon. Thank you for staying connected.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hennessy".

Sharon Hennessy

## The Bridge From an Island to The World



Cover photo: Class 2010



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*TAS Alumni News* is published by the TAS Advancement Office and is circulated free of charge to alumni, faculty, and former faculty.

To make sure you continue to receive the *TAS Alumni News*, please keep us informed of any changes in your address by updating your profile under Alumni on the TAS website: [www.tas.edu.tw](http://www.tas.edu.tw)

The *TAS Alumni News* is printed on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper.

Dear TAS Alumni,

Greetings to the alumni community! It always is my pleasure to have the opportunity to interact with such a wonderful group of people. As TAS moves forward into the future, we know that a vibrant and energetic alumni community makes possible many things that are beneficial to us all. Your evident passion, commitment, and dreams for the future of TAS mean a great deal. Therefore, we look forward to increasing engagement with you.

Communication is an important part of school life—before enrolling as a student at TAS, throughout the student experience, and after departing and becoming a member of our alumni community. The improvements in the TAS website [www.tas.edu.tw](http://www.tas.edu.tw) are one initiative that we hope will increase your connection to the school and promote broader information sharing and awareness.

You probably have noticed that in June we launched a new website. Through the media-rich pages of the new website, TAS sends the clear message that we provide students with a bridge to success; we bring together innovation, structure, and clarity of purpose to enable students to realize their full potential; we foster a love of learning and help students become positive contributors to the global community; we all are on the journey together. You, as TAS alumni, embody this message, exemplifying what opportunities can result from a TAS education.

We hope you have been able to log in to explore the alumni portal section of the website. Earlier this year we sent an e-Notify message to every alumni whose email address we have; in it we sent your user name and password and instructions on how to log-in to the secure alumni portal. If you need assistance or did not receive the message, please email [alumni@tas.edu.tw](mailto:alumni@tas.edu.tw). This section is yours and will be developed to meet your needs. Please provide us with suggestions.

This *TAS Alumni News* shows some of the ways alumni are engaged in the life of the school community and have an impact on the lives of our current students. These include: your efforts to stay connected with each other (see page 8); your visits to campus (see page 9); your volunteer work with our students (see page 6); your returning to teach at TAS (see page 5). In addition, your contributions to the annual giving program of the Friends of TAS benefit our students each and every day.

Thank you for all that you do that makes TAS proud. I feel privileged to be a part of the Taipei American School community and am eager to continue to engage and connect with all those who have made TAS such an outstanding institution.

Paige Summers  
Assistant Superintendent for Advancement



## Taipei American School Superintendent Dr. Sharon Hennessy Signs a Six Year Contract at TAS

*By Christopher Kavanagh, Communications Liaison  
on behalf of the Taipei American School Board of Directors*



The Taipei American School Board of Directors is happy to announce that Superintendent and Head of School Dr. Sharon Hennessy signed a six year contract at TAS. Since arriving four years ago, Dr. Hennessy has worked in harmonious partnership with the Board to refocus the school's attention on educational improvements. The TAS community recognizes that her dynamism and leadership are exactly what the school needs. Parent satisfaction levels have never been higher; superior college matriculation results across the student body demonstrate the strength of the TAS program; and faculty retention is at an optimal level.

Dr. Hennessy was praised by one Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) evaluator for her emphasis on "a transparent approach in communication" and success in "creating a positive working relationship with the Board. Roles and responsibilities involving administrative responsibilities on the one hand, and fiscal and policy oversight on the other have been clarified."

The Board of Directors recognizes that such lengthy appointments are rare for heads of school these days but voted unanimously to offer Dr. Hennessy the long-term contract in order to secure her leadership for at least the next six years. Continuity in a climate of change and renewal is important, and board members believe that the school is heading in the right direction. Board Chair Dr. Winston Town noted some of the laudatory comments made by board members about Dr. Hennessy, such as "her attention to the needs and development of all students at TAS sets her apart" as well as the observation that "Dr. Hennessy is tireless in attracting and retaining the best educators, the key to a great school." He summarized the unanimous board opinion that "Dr. Hennessy is the clear choice to propel TAS to a higher level of success now and in the future."

Dr. Hennessy held leadership positions in two of the most highly regarded schools in the United States, one public and one private, for twenty years before taking over as Head of School at Taipei American School in 2009. She was for many years an adjunct faculty member at Boston University, where she was recognized with the Excellence in Educational Leadership Award from the University Council for Educational Administration. She held a joint appointment from the United States Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Education and served on the School Board for the Departments of Defense Dependent School System world-wide. She previously served on the Board of Trustees of the prestigious Roxbury Latin School. She holds five graduate degrees, the most recent from Harvard.

Dr. Hennessy said she is "humbled and delighted" to have this signal of recognition for the work accomplished to date. She added that as a lifelong educator with three decades of experience in various positions, she considers Taipei American School "educational nirvana" given the "amazing students, dedicated faculty, involved parents, and supportive board."



## Taipei American School Broke Ground on Facilities Development Project

**T**aipei American School broke ground on their facilities development project on Tuesday, September 14.

The Board of Directors hosted the event and all administration attended, as well as many alumni, parents, faculty, and students. Guests heard speeches from Board Chair Dr. Winston Town, Superintendent Dr. Sharon Hennessy, and AIT Director Dr. William Stanton.

The board has enthusiastically supported the project from the beginning, and both past and present board members have dedicated a lot of time and effort throughout the process. This project will allow TAS to provide students with new educational opportunities not possible due to current facility limitations. The board was able to attract the participation of world renowned architect and TAS parent, Kris Yao. Last school year, Mr. Yao shared his exciting vision for the facilities development project. People travel the world to view Mr. Yao's critically acclaimed buildings, but TAS families can simply visit the school's magnificent libraries to witness his inspiring work. TAS is very fortunate to have Artech, Inc. back again to work on the current project: the new upper school building featuring science and technology classrooms with research and robotics laboratories, an arts building, and another gymnasium with covered and outdoor tennis courts.

Mr. Yao's deep understanding of the TAS mission enabled him to translate the board and administration's statement of program needs into a design of structures

that demonstrate how TAS values academic excellence, cocurricular involvement, and environmental awareness. The buildings qualify for the Bronze Ecology, Energy Saving, Waste Reduction, and Health (EEWH) Certification.

A large amount of space currently used by the upper school will be renovated for purpose built facilities for the middle and lower schools. The middle school model will be retained in order to meet the developmental needs of students in that age group. However, now TAS can have a middle school that embraces that traditional model while adding depth and breadth to the model academic program as well. The additional space will allow that to happen. In the lower school, the efforts to create a world class Mandarin program will be enhanced by the plan for a longer school day, adequate spaces, and daily Mandarin classes.

Indeed, the new facilities will allow TAS to improve offerings across the board, to meet the needs of the deserving students who will have twenty-first century educational options, and will assure that TAS remains the premier international school where academic excellence, innovation, cutting edge programs, and the wide variety of cocurricular options keep students competitive and successful anywhere in this rapidly changing world. Dr. William Stanton said, "As TAS builds upon its successful sixty year history, the American Institute in Taiwan looks forward to sixty more years of partnership." Occupancy of the new buildings is projected for January 2012.

## The New TAS Village Snack Bar



The new TAS Village Snack Bar, located where the old Snack Bar used to be, opened its doors to students and faculty members in August 2010. The Village Snack Bar redesigns included a new enhanced interior, restructured displays, and specialized sections for food offerings. If you are back at TAS for a visit, do not forget to check out the Village Snack Bar!

New sections include the "Grab & Go Alley," the "Heart-Healthy Park," the "Hot Sandwich Avenue," the "Pastry Street Corner," and the "Cold Beverage Boulevard."

As part of the TAS Facilities Development Project, the current TAS cafeteria will increase in size by 60%, allowing more seating and space for enhanced food options.





### The View from College – TAS Prepared Us Well

By Martha K.S. Patrick, Communications Office

In early January each year, TAS welcomes recent college-aged alumni back to campus, inviting them to share with parents and seniors some of what they have learned in their recent transition from TAS to college. In January 2010 more than 40 alumni returned to TAS, enjoying the chance to see each other, their underclassmen friends, and their teachers and counselors.

Seven months after graduating from TAS, alumni spoke with pride about the solid academic foundation they gained at TAS. All conveyed—in words and in their self-confidence—that they felt prepared to tackle the challenges of adapting to new situations, though college life differs greatly from the regimented life of a TAS senior living at home. Several alumni spoke of adjusting well to the writing demands of college, in contrast to college classmates who were unaccustomed to researching and writing lengthy papers. Other alumni expressed gratitude for their experiences in working closely with TAS faculty, which added to their confidence when talking with professors. Many alumni were appreciative of the support given them by TAS college counselors in their search for their best-fit college or university after TAS. Frequently alumni shared fond memories of opportunities at TAS to develop their talents and leadership skills through art, music, drama, dance, sports, and service opportunities, as well as to get to know new people through programs like IASAS.

During the morning panel for

parents, ten alumni offered practical and thoughtful suggestions to parents about supporting their sons and daughters in the transition to college. Though the alumni attend a wide range of colleges and universities across the U.S. (and one “uni” in UK), all focused on preparing for the new independence and responsibilities of college. TAS students may benefit now from learning to do their own laundry, from starting to track their spending money, from working on time management, from learning to drive while still in Taiwan, and from learning to cook for themselves. Students need to find and follow their own passions, to “put thought into what they are doing, not just do something for the title,” and to “challenge themselves” in courses that develop higher level skills. Parents can give “encouragement, not telling students what to do, but letting them make their own mistakes.”

After lunch with seniors and some visits to classes and faculty, more than 20 alumni spoke to groups of seniors about their recent experiences. Some suggestions were practical, others philosophical, some serious, others humorous—the importance of doing your own research so that you choose a school you fall in love with; the usefulness of attending international orientation; the challenges and



rewards of getting to know your roommates though they may seem very different; the fact that most college friends come from your dorm and the clubs you join, not from shared classes; the benefits of going to class and not procrastinating with work; the fact that there will be disappointments; the shocks of recognizing that your college mates are very smart and that highest grades will not come easily (if at all); the realization that no matter where you go, it will not be TAS again, but you can succeed! One alumna concluded, “it is important to really know who you are. Then people will find you interesting and you will become involved. As at TAS, being part of a community can bring out the best in you.”

Despite the challenges they face, the visiting alumni made it clear that they were proud of being TAS graduates and grateful for the many things they gained while at TAS. One alumnus commented that “though TAS graduates are not necessarily smarter than their new classmates, we have the advantage of being exposed to a wide view of the world. We have learned to approach

the new with an open mind.” The whole TAS community can be proud of this latest group of alumni and the students who will follow them.



## Carol Yeung '98 Returns to TAS as an Upper School Science Teacher

Just 12 years after graduating from TAS, Carol already has a PhD and is teaching at her alma mater as the Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Honors Biology teacher. She is working next to her own high school biology teacher, Mr. Ross Olson. During her senior year, Carol applied and was accepted into several schools in the United States but toward the end of the year, she made the decision to stay in Taiwan and attend National Taiwan University. She majored in Forestry and took many classes in Chinese history and literature. She went on to study Ecology and Evolution at the National Taiwan Normal University, where she received her PhD. Here Carol reflects on her transition from life as a TAS student to life as a TAS teacher:

*When I was a student at TAS, my science teachers, including Mr. Olson, always impressed me with their passion for the subject. So, in the back of my mind, I always considered the sciences beautiful and intriguing. It was not until graduate school that I became serious about science and decided to train professionally as a scientist. I was presented with the opportunity to teach at TAS after obtaining my PhD. Mr. Olson encouraged me to give it a try. The idea of working with him and with TAS high school students excited me very much.*

*A part of me still feels like a TAS student. However, some of the things that bothered me as a teenager now seem so trivial from an adult perspective. For example, I remember crying over receiving a B+ in one of my favorite classes. Now, I have a strong connection*



*with senior faculty members who have taught at TAS for a long time, not only because they worked at the school while I was a student, but because they also appreciate this country that I call home.*

*Overall, I have enjoyed getting to know each one of my students on an individual basis. Teaching to all of the different personalities is one of the most challenging aspects of education. I have a greater appreciation for my own teachers, now knowing how hard they prepared for all their classes and motivated all of their students.*



Ellen Wang '06 is a TAS lifer, one of those students who started at TAS as a KA student and graduated from TAS. In high school, she played the trumpet and worked with lower school grade five jump start band students. After graduating from TAS, she majored in music at Lake Forest College, a liberal arts college. She has always been interested in music history. When her advisor asked what she saw herself doing in ten years, Ellen replied she imagined herself working

## A TAS Music Score Keeper

By Helen Chen '94

behind a desk, looking at music scores. This was no surprise as she confessed one of her favorite things is looking at music scores. Her advisor suggested that she consider the field of library sciences as most music libraries will have collections that include not only music scores, but books, CDs, arrangements, and videos.

Before applying to graduate school, Ellen is taking some time to test the waters. There is a Chinese saying, "If you are lost, the best thing is to go home and restart from there." TAS is home and very familiar. Interestingly, many music teachers know her not because they had her in their classes, but because they saw her every Friday after school when she went to the

music office collecting recycled paper as a Student Environmental Alliance (SEA) member.

Now Ellen is a volunteer in the TAS music department and in the upper school library, gaining experience with catalogues and database systems. At the same time, she is auditing classes at National Cheng Chi University. Occasionally, she also plays in Jazz Ensembles, being a good role model to other students. Just a few weeks ago, she was in the classroom with the grade five jump start band. Unbelievably, there are more than 20 students interested in playing the trumpet. Maybe one of these students will be inspired and will follow their passion, just like Ellen is.





## TAS Graduates Return as Summer School Teaching Assistants

A record number of TAS alumni worked as teaching assistants for the TAS Summer School Program in June 2010. Many of them worked in classrooms where they once sat as students themselves.

### 2010 TAS Alumni Statistics

We have 5,005 email addresses for alumni in our online database. We'd really like to reach all alumni and to have contact details for everyone. You can assist us by keeping your contact details updated and informing us about your alumni friends.

### Current Demographics

The enrollment for the 2010-2011 school-year is 2,163 students.

The lower school has 730 students, the middle school has 566 students and the upper school's current enrollment is 867.

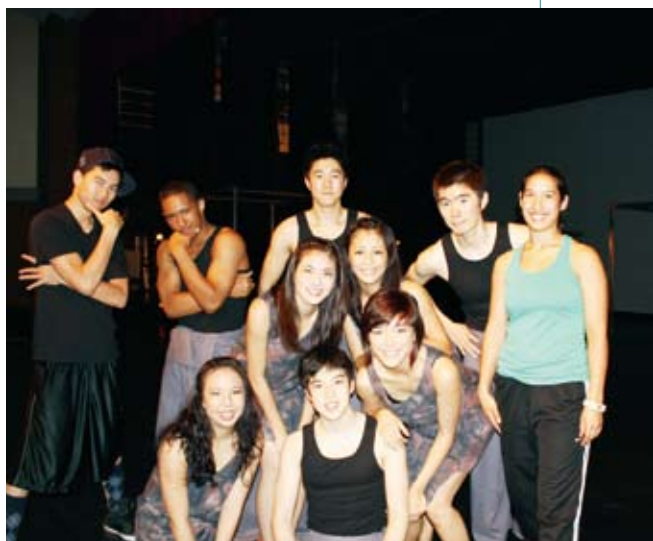
### Nationality breakdown by passport for 2010-2011

We have 32 countries represented at TAS this school year. U.S.A. passport holders comprise up to 65% of the total student body; Canada at 10%, followed by South Korean passport holders at 8%. Australia, Japan, and Singapore make up approximately 2.5 % each.

## 2010 IASAS Cultural Convention



During the 2010 IASAS Cultural Convention held on campus March 3-7, several TAS alumni volunteered to judge the forensics and debate competitions: Iris Hsu '88, Howard Pan '93, Alen Chang '94, Karen Wang '98, and Michael Pickles '04. They judged oral interpretation, extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, original oratory, and debate.



Rob Tsai '03 and Indah Boyle '04 returned to TAS as guest artists to teach dance workshops for IASAS Cultural Convention participants. They also choreographed new works for TAS dancers following the Convention. Indah taught several modern dance classes and choreographed a piece specifically for TAS.

Jeff Wang '03 visited TAS with the a cappella group, PennYo, that was touring Taiwan. Penn Yo is a University of Pennsylvania-recognized a cappella group that specializes in transposing modern Chinese pop songs into a cappella arrangements. The singers provided fantastic entertainment during the Alumni College Student Homecoming lunch for alumni and seniors. There are several TAS alumni in the group (Stephanie Tsai '06, Rohenne Lee '04, Yijen Liu '01). Penn Yo also talked with TAS Opus singers about their college singing experiences.



## Check out the Blue & Gold online:

You can read the most recent edition of the upper school student newspaper at <http://blueandgoldonline.org/wp/>



## Superstar Jay Chou makes a music video on the TAS campus

You can read about him on Wikipedia at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jay\\_Chou](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jay_Chou).



Photo: courtesy of JVR Music

Jay Chou made the front page of *United Daily News* in May 2010 because he was ranked #70 of the 100 Most Creative People in Business 2010 by the US magazine *Fast Company*.

He performs in our cafeteria, third floor upper school hallway, and the gym in his music video. The song, *New Tutorial*, was released in May 2010. He mentions TAS on the back cover of the CD. Additionally, the Friends of TAS will benefit from Jay's use of our facilities for his video.

View the video on Youtube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fZFjK6r1DE>.

# Taipei American School *Recognition Ceremony*



In June 2010, the following members of our faculty and support staff were recognized for their services to Taipei American School. Some members of our community also retired.

### *45 years*

Chiu, Yi-Tsun

### *40 years*

Arnold, Richard

### *35 years*

Chou, Jennie

### *30 years*

Chang, Shirley  
Chen, Tina  
Jao, Karen  
Lin-chang, Mei Chu  
Orensky, Stephen  
Shiao, Anna  
Sun, Chin-sen

### *25 years*

Chang, Patty  
Lee, Isabel  
Lu, Jenny  
Wu, Amy  
Wu, Catherine

### *20 years*

Chen, Li  
Kao, Dorothy  
Keenan, Kathleen  
Lee, Ann  
Lin, Fenny Chou  
Ou, Yeng-ming

### *15 years*

Carter, Greg  
Flemming, Deborah  
Flemming, Kenneth  
Huang, Cindy  
Iverson, David  
Kao, Ava  
Tu, Cindy  
Wei, Victoria  
Wu, Ai-hwa  
Yamazaki, Mary

### *10 years*

Chao, Tun Lin  
Cheng, Sonia  
Gray, Aaron  
Hsia, Alice  
Hsu, Caroline  
Kao, Cindy  
Lewis, Mark  
Lin, Pearl  
Lu, Li-Hua  
Strait, Julie  
Sun, Marlene  
Wang, Judy  
Wang Lin, Mei-chu  
White, Alison  
Yen, Amy

### *Retirement*

Hsu, Jean  
Chiang, Haru  
Liu, Jessie  
Tsang, Malinda  
Liu, Nancy  
Hughes, Cliff  
Wolfe, Patricia



Ms. Kathleen Keenan and Ms. Michelle Hiteman



Ms. Karen Jao and Dr. Catriona Moran



Mr. Richard Arnold and Dr. Richard Hartzell

## The Glory Days Basketball League Relives Glorious Days in the TAS Gym

By Helen Chen '94

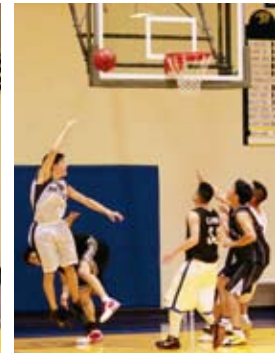
Several alumni basketball groups have been playing in the TAS gymnasium almost every week for the last few years. This past summer, the groups joined together and formed a league. Sean Cheng '02, a former TAS IASAS basketball player, coordinated the league that has spiraled into a community. He shares his thoughts below.

*The idea came to me in my sleep. I woke up in the middle of the night and I knew right away that it could work: a basketball league for TAS alumni, complete with referees, scores, and rankings. Participation from the TAS alumni community was more than I ever expected. More and more alumni started giving up their weekend activities to drive to Tien Mou to play in the games.*

*There are 6 teams and a total of 70 players with 5-6 rotating staff members. There are also 10-20 fans made up of family, children, and friends. All team captains are TAS alumni, but only half of all the players in each team are alumni; the others are friends and co-workers. However, my team, "Glory Days" is made up of all TAS alumni.*

*The league and the games are reasons to get away from the routine of everyday life. They are great opportunities to socialize with other TAS alumni and community members. More specifically, these games offer the alumni a chance to play basketball in the gym where it all began.*

The Glory Days Basketball League started using a gym in Nangang in December 2010 and welcomes TAS alumni and friends to join or to support the players. Scores and videos are updated weekly on their website (<http://www.glorydaysbasketball.com/>). Fans vote for the best player of the week and individual profiles will come soon.



Alumni return to campus to scrimmage with TAS teams



**Tiger Sports.**  
**Be a fan!**

Athletics information is available on  
the TAS website under School Life.

TAS is hosting IASAS Rugby this school year. You can also watch IASAS events live through online video streaming on the TAS homepage. Follow our athletes and cheer for the TAS Tigers wherever you are.





## Anna Ho '63 Speaks to Upper School U.S. History Classes

**A**nna Ho '63 was invited by Mr. Richard Arnold to speak to five U.S. History classes during her visit to Taiwan in October 2009 and share her experiences with TAS students. She wrote:

*I graduated from TAS in 1963 and got a job as a secretary for the Marco Polo Travel Agency from July 1963 to April 1964. Then, I got a visa to go to Madrid, Spain because the Chinese government did not recognize TAS and I could not go to a Chinese college. I spent about 4 months in Spain and learned Spanish. I earned a scholarship to attend Brigham Young University in 1964 and graduated in 1967.*

*After college, I got married and moved to Indianapolis, Indiana where my husband went to medical school. I worked as a program director for the YMCA, an outdoor day camp director for the Girl Scouts of America, and substitute teacher for kindergarten through high school. After that, I moved to California and worked for the YWCA as the program director.*

*Then I decided to go to law school. During that time, I taught Community College Paralegal Courses, worked as an investigator, interpreter, paralegal, and then started my own law practice after I earned my degree and passed the bar. I practiced criminal defense for about 15 years before I was*

*appointed by Attorney General Janet Reno as an immigration judge, where I have worked for 15 years.*

*I believe it is important for TAS high school students to hear what careers alumni have pursued after graduation. I attribute my personality and ability to cope with whatever is happening in my life to the cosmopolitan environment that surrounded me at TAS. Although I had very strict Chinese parents, I was taught to be independent, rely on myself, and to be responsible for whatever decisions I made in life.*

**Anna Ho is currently an immigration judge at the U.S. Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review.**

Feedback from AP U.S. History Student Lilliana Lin (current grade 12 student):

*I think the most meaningful experience in my U.S. History class was when Judge Anna Ho came and answered our questions! I have always wondered how I would do it if I were arguing a court case, which is part of the reason I wrote my research paper on Miranda, Arizona. Thus, it was an incredibly valuable experience for me because there was an alumna, someone who walked through the same hallways I do today, who is a part of such an exciting process! It was fascinating to listen to the experiences she has had over her career.*

## Dell L. Dailey '67

**T**AS welcomed back a distinguished alumnus in August. Ambassador Dell Dailey '67 was invited back to Taiwan by the ROC Ministry of Defense, and he was especially excited to visit TAS because he had lived with his family in Taiwan and attended TAS from 1959-1964. He was the class president of his 9th grade class and remembered Mrs. Hope Phillips and many upper class students. After graduating from West Point, Ambassador Dailey served more than 36 years in the U.S. Army, reaching the rank of Lieutenant General at the Director of the Center for Special Operations. His duties involved participating in major military operations such as Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Uphold Democracy, Joint Guardian, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. Most recently, Ambassador Dailey served as Ambassador at Large for Counter Terrorism under the Department of State. After his TAS visit, Ambassador Dailey wrote:

*I have seen many countries and lived in many too. Other than the USA, none provoke more emotion and respect than ROC-Taiwan. The time at TAS and friends made those years contribute immensely to that*



*TAS parent James MacKenna from the American Institute in Taiwan, Assistant Superintendent for Learning Karen Moreau, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations Steve Panta, Ambassador Dell L. Dailey '67, Assistant Superintendent for Advancement Paige Summers, and Alumni Officer Helen Chen '94.*

*wonderful and powerful feeling. After 46 years it was great to be back! The TAS Advancement Office and the entire TAS Team have continued with a magnificent tradition and carried it further and higher than ever expected!*

## Collin Webster '94, gives a PD workshop for the PE/Health Department.



Collin Webster '94 (standing, sixth from the left) with the PE/Health department



*Recently, Collin was interviewed by Helen Chen '94*

**What was your first reaction when you received the invitation from the TAS PE department?**

I was giddy with excitement.

**Did you ever think you would come back one day to TAS to "teach" our teachers? What was it like?**

No, the thought never crossed my mind. The experience was an absolute delight.

**What was it like to be back in Taiwan, Taipei, and TAS?**

After 16 years being away, the feeling was a mixture of nostalgia and sentimentality.

**How has TAS changed from when you were a student here?**

Some facilities, such as the library and the track, have had significant facelifts. But overall, TAS is still TAS. Any changes were mostly lost in the big picture for me.

**Who were the most inspirational teachers you had at TAS? How did they encourage you and motivate you?**

I had excellent teachers at

TAS through and through. In the classroom, some of my fondest memories come from sophomore English with Mr. Cole and IB Spanish with Mr. Blowers. I also think of my director in drama, Mr. Carrelli (I was in *Flowers for Algernon* and *Dracula*), and my track coaches, Mr. Forsgren and Mr. Ferguson, as inspirational teachers. The common trait in all of them was a passion for seeing me succeed.

**What topics did you cover during the PD day? What did you hope these teachers would take away from attending your workshop?**

I presented contemporary research and emerging ideas related to two major topics: the promotion of physical activity across the school day, and motivating students in physical education. The objective was for the teachers to gain perspective on the unique and broad reach of their subject area in the development of the whole child and how their work can contribute to a more active and healthy society.

**What have you done since you graduated from TAS? What area/fields do you specialize in?**

Since graduating from TAS, I went on to receive my PhD in physical education pedagogy

and to work as a professor at the University of South Carolina. In the meantime, I also got married, worked as a teacher in Dubai, and became the father of the most beautiful little boy in the world, Caelan, now two years old.

**What are you currently working on and what are your future plans?**

As a professor I have responsibilities in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service. My work primarily consists of teaching undergraduate and graduate students, conducting and publishing research, and providing service to both the university and the physical education profession. My future plans are flexible; I will continue to seek tenure and promotion at USC for the time being, but my wife and I are also considering a return to overseas teaching. Either way, I will continue to work as an educator.

**I remember you were very active in track and field back in high school and participated in IASAS. What was that experience like?**

I ran on the cross country and track and field teams while I was at TAS and, through very hard work, broke three school



records (800, 1500 and 5000) and two IASAS records (1500 and 5000). All records still stand. I learned important lessons from my experiences in TAS athletics and continue to draw on these lessons today to guide my pursuit of new goals and achieve new successes.

**What about Kyle, your twin brother? Do you have any interesting stories from TAS days?**

Kyle, as expected, has gone

on to pursue a highly successful career in art. He works as a freelance illustrator and his impressive client base includes the likes of *Time Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Entertainment Weekly*. Kyle is happily married and the proud father of a nearly two-year-old girl. He and his wife, Sonja, are expecting their second child in October. In terms of interesting stories from TAS days, I wouldn't know where to begin...! Kyle was a celebrity at TAS, just as

he is now in his profession.

**What was it like to have your father as the upper school principal when you were in high school?**

I had lots of free periods. Actually, what I remember most was sitting in my cap and gown at graduation and listening to him deliver the commencement address. It was a moment of personal reflection and insight for me, accompanied by pride in being my father's son.

## Brenda Lin '94 makes a special presentation to the graduating class of 2010.



Brenda returned to TAS at the end of May to give a special presentation to the graduating class of 2010. She read a section from her book *Wealth Ribbon, Taiwan Bound, America Bound* that focuses on her journey from TAS to college in the United States. She also shared wonderful insights on her struggles with identity and gave the seniors a glimpse of what they might experience during their first semester at college.

Steve Chen '05 read the book and offered the following feedback:

*I think many Taiwanese Americans will be able to relate to Brenda Lin's book Wealth Ribbon, which discusses cultural and identity issues she had to face living in Taiwan and the United States. I thought it was funny when she wrote that people said, "Wow! Your English is so good coming from Taiwan!" I was impressed with her knowledge of her family's roots and it encouraged me to want to know more about my parents' and grandparents' history in Taiwan. It also made me reminisce over my childhood in Taiwan.*

## Ryah Whalen '01 speaks to grade 8 students about a future in mathematics.

Ryah spoke to a group of middle school students interested in mathematics when she returned to campus in late May. After giving a brief summary of how math has shaped her studies and career, she talked about the types of jobs some of her fellow math majors pursued. She holds bachelor degrees in both mathematics and statistics from Northwestern University and is



currently enrolled at the Harvard Business School.

She encouraged the middle school students to challenge themselves by taking advanced courses and to focus on understanding concepts rather than just memorizing what they need to know for tests. It was extraordinary to have a TAS graduate return to inspire our current students.



## Cathy (Herman) Tilton '76

### A Visit, a Connection, and a Memory Rekindled

I attended Taipei American School 40 years ago, from 1969-1971, when my father was stationed at Taipei Air Station. As an Air Force brat, I moved every few years and had to make new friends. Most of the other students at TAS at that time were in the same situation, which formed a basis of camaraderie. I moved from New York to Taipei and then to Mississippi—very different worlds!

Since then I have had a fairly normal life defined by work, family, church, and more work. However, in the last few years I have had an opportunity to travel with my job. I have been to a myriad of other countries but had never found myself back in Taiwan until January of this year.

When I learned I would be in Taiwan for one day, I decided to extend it to two and use the extra day to visit many of my childhood haunts. I attended 6th and 7th grade at TAS (1969-1971) and remember it fondly, especially the friendships I made there. I was extremely busy prior to arriving in Taipei so had not done much research. The staff at the Landis Hotel, however, went out of their way to help me. Also, I found a website blog where many people provided valuable information.

Of course, one of the surprises was the new location of the school. I went to the previous campus location, which is now the Taipei European School. I did not find anything familiar, especially outside the gates. However, the dikes made it real. I remember having P.E. class

out on the fields near the dikes and lying on a blanket there to watch the amazing fireworks every 4th of July. Does anyone else remember Old Glory rising into the sky?

Our home in Taiwan was in Tien Mou, which was a village at that time. We lived near the American compound that was comprised of a theater, bowling alley, swimming pool, and teen club. I thought if I could find my neighborhood, which was where the bus picked me up and dropped me off from school each day, I could find my old house — if it still existed. I soon learned that the old American compound was now the new site of TAS!

Tien Mou is no longer a small village, but a small city in itself. Houses and small storefronts had been replaced by multi-story apartment, commercial, and retail buildings. The main tree-lined street was lovely — and there sat TAS. Since it was a Saturday, I didn't expect anyone to be there, but it was abuzz with sports activities. The guard looked at me a bit skeptically when I explained my visit and, by chance, Helen Chen had stopped in that morning to pick something up and was gracious enough to invite me in and show me around. She filled me in on the history of the flood, the construction of the new school, and the TAS of today. The surviving remnants of the old school — in the form of the "thinker statue" and bell — brought back memories, as did some of the old photographs on the wall. For whatever reason, I had not received a yearbook while a student, but



Helen found the '70-'71 edition with my 7th grade class. She made a Xerox copy of those pages.

I remembered "monster-burgers" and "senior island," as well as playing 4 square and tetherball. I also remembered reading *Death Be Not Proud* as a class assignment and crying over it.

Looking out across the athletic fields of the new school, Helen pointed out where the old theater had been located. So after chatting some more and taking some pictures, I headed off to start the search for my old house. Alas, the duplex surrounded by rice paddies no longer existed. In fact, only a few brownstone walls remained in the area where many houses had stood and were now connected to larger buildings.

I concluded my visit by stopping by the old police station, the "Tien Mou tree," and the Buddhist temple that are symbols of a bygone era.

My visit to TAS and Tien Mou was a sweet journey that has brought me into the TAS alumni family. I can only hope that it also brings a renewal of old friendships in the process.

*Cathy Tilton is a security software engineer and lives in Sterling, Virginia. She visited TAS at the end of January 2010.*

**We are always delighted to welcome TAS alumni back to TAS and to hear from our alumni worldwide.**



## Kim (Goodman) Akers '79

I returned to Taipei after leaving in 1977, 33 years ago. I lived in Taiwan with my parents and siblings, Steve '76 and Mike '80, for 11 years. It was a very exciting and emotional trip for me to see all of the changes that have taken place over the years.

Using Google Earth, I found 2 of the 3 houses where we lived over the 11-year period. Our first home was in Beitou and was exactly as I remembered it. The address of our second home was the same, but a new, huge house stood in its place. Then, I went to Wellington Heights where our last home was located. Fortunately, the house had not changed at all since we left. Looking at it, I could almost hear Steve and Mike's band playing music in the garage and see our beloved pets looking through the gate.

I went to the previous location of the TAS campus. Taipei European School is there now. The only familiar parts were the "Senior Island Pagoda" and the Kodak building. The color was weather-beaten, and the trees and shrubs were overgrown around it.

The new TAS campus is beautiful, modern, and state-of-the-art. It has replaced the former BOT housing area,

movie theatre, and pool. I saw the school bell and the "Thinker Statue." I went to the Alumni Office where I was greeted by Helen Chen '94. The TAS connection made us instant friends. Helen gave me a tour of the new campus. The libraries are magnificent! Helen called Mr. Dankowski, a former faculty member living in Taipei, and he filled me in on the last 33 years at TAS and in Taiwan. Helen also took me to the cafeteria where she showed me the outside picnic tables, the original ones from the old campus. I sat down and had my picture taken. I went home with several mementoes from TAS, including and a book on the 50th anniversary, complete with a DVD. For alumni who have not seen the DVD, I highly recommend it.



Steve Goodman '76 Kim Akers '79 and Mike Goodman '80

*Kim Akers lives in Australia with her husband Richard Akers and 3 children: Sarah (age 12), Rachel (age 11) and Michael (age 7).*

## Thomas Glass '76



*Thomas Glass and his wife Linda visited Taipei in April 2010.*

I attended TAS from 1973-1975 for my sophomore and junior years of high school when my father was stationed at Shu Lin Kou Air Station. I remember my small engine teacher Mr. Chen who had me so fascinated with mechanics that I became a transmission rebuilder. I also remember Mr. Doyne, my history teacher, who turned me into a history buff.

Finally, after many years, I had the opportunity to return. The campus is beautiful and is now located in Tien Mou. We were greeted by Helen Chen and Dr. Winnie Tang. Helen is the Alumni and Community Outreach Officer and Winnie is the Admissions Officer. They gave my wife and me a grand tour of the campus. We quickly realized that it is a quality school, structurally with top of the line teachers and students. The students were very professional and talented. I was impressed; students had their own computers and seemed light years ahead intellectually of where we were at that age. I did see one old memory: the school bell.

We explored outside the school and found the house where I lived on what we called Cherry Hill. Winnie met with us on one of our last days. She took us to the jade and flower market. Too soon our time was up and we headed back to North Carolina.

I was looking for furniture knobs for a roll-top desk my father bought in Tien Mou. I found a furniture store that could get them but not before we had to leave. When Winnie heard this, she told us she would mail them to us. She did and my dad's desk looks new again. Meeting Helen and Winnie made our trip more memorable. They are a credit to Taipei American School as well as a credit to Taiwan. This was why I wanted to return: the people.

## Lorene V. Garrett '83

### TAS Alumna Finds You Can Go Home Again

Of all the places I lived during my childhood as an Air Force brat – California, Okinawa, Italy, Alabama, Texas, Ohio – Taiwan was my favorite. For thirty-two years, the smell of rice paddies and water buffaloes hovered at the edge of my memory next to a picture of the high-rise KODAK building and the urge to return to Tien Mou. When my Toastmaster friend, Dana LaMon, was asked to speak at the Fall District 67 Toastmasters Conference in Yangmingshan last year, I got my wish. Finally, my fourth, fifth and sixth grade (1974-1977) memories were just a fifteen-hour plane ride away!

From the moment we landed at the Taoyuan International Airport, I began looking for familiar landmarks. Toastmasters are friendly people and Taiwan Toastmasters were doubly so. Our hosts indulged my desire for a trip down memory lane soon after we arrived. I wanted to look for the stone house where I had learned to skateboard with the local kids. Surely that remote area would

remain the same. The four-lane Zhong Shan highway winding past the Grand Hotel and into Tien Mou should have been a clue.

If you have not visited Taipei lately, you might be surprised by the bustling metropolis boasting New York City-sized shopping malls and the world's tallest building (at the time), Taipei 101. Scooters have replaced bicyclers towing carts. Storefront eateries have replaced noodle stands. Instead of a small town community, Tien Mou now holds high-rise apartments fronted by upscale shops like Chanel.

I understand the need for progress. Although my memories of Taiwan had remained the same since 1977, I was no longer the eleven-year-old girl with the afro puffs. Still, I wanted to find the Taiwan I remembered.

Three days later, after the Toastmaster's Conference, Helen Chen '94, stepped in and whisked us off to the old TAS grounds. The high rise KODAK building where I'd attended elementary school (actually only three stories tall) stood with a circular façade on the stairwell just as I remembered! Fading paint, wild grass growing up to its walls - it was the most beautiful building I'd ever seen. The asphalt from the original parking lot and the crumbling concrete wall surrounding the grounds greeted me like old friends. Then there were Helen's memories: the old school's swimming pool, the single story middle school buildings, the railroad tracks, and the dike. She validated my stories.

Next, we checked out the new TAS campus. The bell hung outside. The "Thinker" had a place of honor in the lobby right next to historic pictures that lined the walls. As my friend Dana spoke to the TAS upper school students, they laughed, groaned, and cheered in all the



right places. TAS is still the "best in the west" because of high caliber instructors like Mr. Hastorf, my fifth grade core teacher. Thanks to Helen, I got to see him and he remembered me! He hasn't changed; he is still tall with a bushy head of hair and an engaging smile, although he works on a computer now.

Taiwan was a place of many firsts for me. I had my first poem published in the local paper and Ebony Jr. magazine. I learned to dance at the Youth Center and became a Girl Scout. My overly protective mom let me ride the local bus to the market to shop for Christmas presents by myself.

Our nine days in Taiwan unfolded from Taipei to Taichung and back to Taoyuan. Our hosts were gracious, good-natured people who ensured we had the best time. Strangers smiled and half-bowed when we passed them on the street or at the train station. Many stopped to ask where we were from before sharing the names of places they had visited in the United States. Everyone we met offered to assist with anything we might need. And they did not laugh too much as we tried to use our limited Chinese.

As I boarded the plane with new memories of Taiwan in my heart and in my digital camera, I realized there was something else that had not changed in the thirty-two years since I last visited - the kindness and generosity of the people.

*Lorene V. Garrett is a recovering aerospace engineer and lifelong poet. She lives in southern California and is working on a memoir about chasing her dream of flight.*



SECTION 3 FIFTH GRADE

Standing: Mr. Hastorf, Lorene Garrett, Monica Smith, Arleen Webster, Linda Nelson, Ginger Lantz, Andrea Krooks.  
Sitting: Gilbert Crouse, Mike Kincaid, Frank Kuehn, Barth Robinson, Tony Kay, John Cerna, Mike Steele.  
Kneeling: Curt Kemper, John Gulliotte, Donald Anderson, Eric Christensen, Chris Chow.







## A Trip Down Memory Lane:

**Jenny Dowd '76 Returns to Taipei with her siblings Steven '73, John '81, and Cindy**

*By Virginia (Jenny) Dowd Foskey '76*

**W**e had a wonderful visit to Taiwan in March 2010 that brought back many memories and built new ones. I was very impressed with the tour of the new TAS campus; the school itself is lovely, one I would love to attend. My sister, Cindy, graduated in Florida before we moved to Taipei in November 1970. We stayed until the military moved us back to Florida in 1972 (where my brother graduated). In 1973, we returned to Taipei for 18 months. I hoped to graduate from TAS, but the military moved us again. TAS prepared students for college life and the choices we had to make. I met so many interesting people, such as Reno Cassinelli and his sister Yena. During our recent visit, my brothers, sister, and I had breakfast with John Dankowski, former faculty member who has been living in Taipei since the 1960s. Returning to Taipei and TAS bonded us together. I will always remember my Sunday evenings spent at the Enlisted 63 Club eating the wonderful buffet and watching the acrobatics and magicians!

*Virginia Foskey directs the Public Guardian Office for Orange County.*

## Henry Calhoun '80

**W**hen I think back to my high school days, they are with very fond memories of Taiwan, the people, the culture and specifically all of the friends I made while I was at TAS.

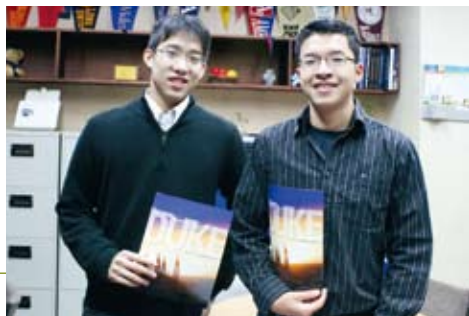
While it certainly wasn't your traditional US high school experience, I wouldn't trade anything for the times I enjoyed during my four years in Taiwan. Going to the "hole in the wall" before basketball games, hanging out at the teen club, tea dances at the Hilton Hotel and spending countless hours with more friends than I can count all added up to wonderful experience that I still cherish to this day.

My recent visit attests to the fact that Mr. Arnold, the staff, and many others at TAS are continuing to prepare all of the youngsters who walk the halls of TAS for a rewarding life. If your current students are as lucky as I am, they too will be able to visit TAS and look back fondly on a wonderful experience.



*Henry Calhoun '80 (who left Taiwan in 1979) is living in Seattle. He visited TAS in February 2010. Henry has a sister Francine Calhoun '79 living in Centerville, VA.*

## Jeffrey Chan '07 and Edward Liao '07



**O**n behalf of the Duke University Undergraduate Admissions Office and the International Association, Jeffrey Chen '07 and Edward Liao '07 hosted an information session about Duke University at TAS on January 5, 2010. As Duke's official International Ambassadors, they introduced current TAS students to the undergraduate experiences that Duke has to offer.

**Send us  
your stories!**

**We want to hear from you!**

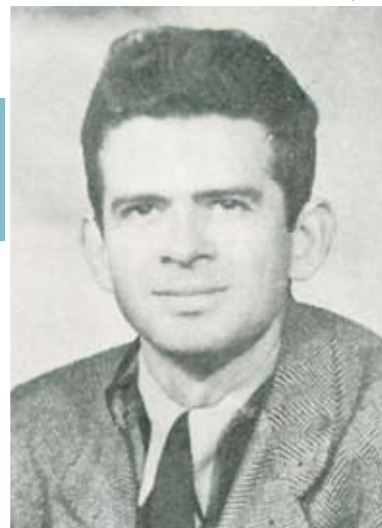
Email [alumni@tas.edu.tw](mailto:alumni@tas.edu.tw) about fascinating adventures, your accomplishments, reunions, or memories of Taiwan. TAS reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, and clarity.

## In Celebration of Tom Cummings

Mr. Tom Cummings, a TAS faculty member from 1960-1970, celebrated his 80th birthday the first week of November. He was a very influential teacher to many TAS alumni and they offer their thoughts below:

Mrs. Hope N.F. Phillips,  
former administrator, described him this way:

"Tom Cummings, as quickly became evident when he first joined TAS, is a teacher from whom one could not help but learn, whether in his classes or in extra-curricular encounters. He has never met a student from whom he has not been willing to learn, a personal trait which may well account for the large number of former students and colleagues who remain in touch with him."



### Letter from Linsley "Lins" Dorman '63

I was a student at TAS between 1960 and 1962. Tom Cummings was one of my teachers during my junior year, and I wrote a story about him then as a classroom assignment. Here is the story I wrote when I was 17:

*"For a long time I had a mental block where writing was concerned. It developed in my early school years, and returned with regularity just as I did to the classroom each September. While vacations weren't totally ruined, they were tainted by specters of English teachers who insisted on themes entitled "How I Spent My Summer Vacation." In the first place, the long lazy days of summer do not rightfully belong to the classroom. Furthermore, I always considered it an invasion of privacy to be compelled to reveal the books left unread in favor of comics, or the mornings spent snoring lustily in lieu of educational pursuits. Worse yet, just how did you describe the fun of doing absolutely nothing for days on end? That is, when come September you were confronted with rules of grammar and propriety where teachers were concerned.*

*The annual Fall predicament was a horrible one, and I was handicapped by all the previous years of what I termed OPRESSION. I wanted to write. I liked to write, but couldn't. I was limp. Ideas did not come easily. Only God and my parents, whose ears had long since become accustomed to my groans and mutters, appreciated the hours of struggle in fulfilling a writing assignment.*

*It took a dictionary and a thesaurus, plus a barred bedroom door, before even an idea began to percolate. It took three of four pencils – at least one with an eraser intact – and reams of paper, to get that idea down into digestible form. And I always ended up wondering whether the results justified the efforts. Even an*

*autobiography was rough going, but one of the most difficult writing tasks I am now undertaking is to write about teachers. This is one of the many unusual themes my third year English teacher, Tom Cummings, assigned the class.*

*For a while I thought that someday I'd like to teach. By the time I got to TAS, I had been a student at 12 schools, which I believe gave me a pretty broad education and an insight into what constitutes a good teacher. Individuals responsible for developing adolescent minds sometimes do not take their duties too seriously. As a matter of fact, I used to wonder why some of my teachers ever chose the profession in the first place. As I became older and got to know some of them more thoroughly, I was shocked to learn that dislike could be mutual. When I was about thirteen, I came to the conclusion that teachers felt sorry for students because they were ignorant, and we felt sorry for them because their minds were cluttered up with so many facts – and some fiction.*

*Now that I am in my third year of high school at TAS, I have found a favorite. He is Tom Cummings, and he is average in height, but way above average in intelligence. He wears glasses and is thoughtful about a lot of things like not wearing nice neat clothes to school. I always feel good when I see his white sweat socks. They are exposed because his trousers look like he is getting ready for a flood, just like mine. That couple of inches above the ankle gives us a lot in common. His shoes are completely unspoiled by polish, and he wears a sweater the same color as mine. I always look forward to his five o'clock shadow at eight in the morning. I don't like to shave every day either. I don't really have to.*

*He has a temper but doesn't divulge it during classroom hours. The only indication of a smoldering underneath is an oft-repeated ambiguous request – "Shut up and be quiet!" To which he adds, "please" in a soft pleading tone. He is a thwarted archaeologist*



*and takes equal pleasure in digging up ancient relics from the ground and digging out old trite phrases from teenagers' hieroglyphics. I have improved under his influence. And I don't feel inferior wearing pants to school that I have outgrown. This is important because it is kind of hard to concentrate when my trousers are choking me. He is an interesting, dedicated teacher and an influence in many ways."*

Anyway, that's what I thought about Tom Cummings in 1962, and that's how I feel about him today, 48 years later.



Tom Cummings at a 1997 TAS Reunion.

## A Trip through the Gorges

### Reminiscences by Carla Fields Martin '63

I walked into Mr. Peter Lang's Spanish class not thinking about what I was whistling. "Where did you learn that?" he demanded. I told him Mr. Cummings took us on a hiking/train/trip through the gorges. We learned it while we were walking along the wet mountain roads and were whistling it as we walked. "Don't you know the song is 'The Internationale', the communist national anthem? Don't you know that you could be arrested if someone from the government heard recognized what you were whistling?" Taiwan in 1963 was very different. It was ruled by the Kuomintang, the Chinese Nationalist Party which had been ousted by Mao's communist party. The Kuomintang was very anti-communist.

I had to smile. Typical of Tom Cummings. Yes, Tom would teach us how to whistle "The Internationale" among many, many other things.

Tom Cummings lead a group of us on an exploration of part of Taiwan. During this exploration of parts of Taiwan we also embarked on an exploration of who we were. He taught us a lot – not just to comply meekly with the powers that be, but think critically and to keep your heart open while doing so. He taught us to evaluate and come to our own conclusions. He taught us by listening and discussing our ideas and from that we learned that our conclusions were important.

We started our extended weekend by hiking through the mountain gorges of Taiwan, hiking to a remote native village in the mountains and then taking a train to a city down south. What a trip that was.

The first night we stayed at a student hostel. Back then I didn't know what that was. I later found out there were students hostels all over the world. The hostel was pretty bare, unheated with tatami floors, but it was

cheap and provided ample food.

The next morning we hiked to a mountain village where ethnic tribesmen lived. I think this was a destination Tom was interested in because Tom was an anthropologist and a published author of a book in anthropology. To get there we had to hike up a mountain and cross a suspended bridge, the type you see in typical Indiana Jones movies, where it was made of wood, traversing a deep deep ravine. I was so scared I couldn't walk. I had to cross on my hands and knees because my legs wouldn't hold me up I was so frightened. But what a view. As you crossed over you saw this beautiful lake and saw these very non-Chinese looking people, Tsou maybe? I can't remember which ethnic group. I learned on this part of the trip you can continue in spite of your fears.

While hiking through the mountains, it got pretty cold and drizzly so Tom and the wet bunch of us hitch-hiked. He talked to the driver in Chinese (Tom spoke both Mandarin and Taiwanese). We were lucky enough to all hitch a ride on the back of an empty gravel truck. As it drove through the winding mountain road small rivulets would pour onto the road and we would have water pour on our heads but we were happy because we weren't walking and were on the way to our destination. We were headed to town to catch a train.

We took a train further south and spent the night in a Japanese Inn... replete with sliding doors and tatami floors. The inn was lovely. There was something about the light coming in through the sliding doors. The light was dancing through the paper windows. You see things sometimes and you know that picture is something that you will carry in your mind all of your life, it was so lovely.

Tom was an odd duck. He treated teenagers as people, people to be heard, people to be respected as human beings. How accepting he was of us. In turn we loved him. He taught us to be caring human beings, to question things and to look for the answers. He approached each of us in a way that we could listen and learn.



## Feature Story

It was funny. He had this laser-like-mind but appearance-wise Tom always looked scruffy – he perpetually looked rumpled, with dandruff on his shoulders, as if he hadn't shaved in two days, and like he slept in his clothes. What a mind, what a heart.

This trip was arranged because Tom wanted us to experience Taiwan, to continue to learn about ourselves, to learn and appreciate different cultures, to open our minds and hearts. Thank you, Tom. I love you. My fellow travelers, I love you too.

I remember many different things about that trip! We travelled during what was the extended Thanksgiving weekend and in those days the East-West Highway alternated travel directions--so we were a day late getting home (to some consternation of parents and school officials) because the day we wanted to go west, the road was going east.

I fondly remember the gravel truck.

There were at least three other teachers on this trip: Marshall Clough, Fran Bowden, and Marilyn von-lesen – all part timers, all Americans. We ate wonderful Chinese food in place of turkey and one of these days. One of these other three took great pleasure in draining shared dishes of all the sauce.

I also remember Tom collecting our passports and presenting them to authorities with Marshall's diplo passport poised on top of the stack.

I learned the word aspirin in Chinese during this trip.

Tom Cummings can be contacted at the following address and phone number: 20 Larch Lane, Wenham, MA 01984, (978) 468-1908.

## In the Kitchen with Curtis Stone from Take Home Chef

By Lydia Lim '99

Curtis Stone, the chef who hosts The Learning Channel show Take Home Chef visited Taiwan in March 2010 to film a promotional video with an unsuspecting shopper at a local supermarket. Who would not want to have a world famous chef offer to cook in their house? Curtis Stone arrived at Jason's Supermarket at Taipei 101 on a Monday morning and found a crowd of more than 400 fans armed with cameras. Guess who he selected as the lucky "unsuspecting" fan? Curtis Stone chose TAS graduate Lydia Lim '99! Below, Lydia describes her encounter with fame.



*Lydia Lim '99 went to Le Cordon Bleu in London.*

*Curtis Stone is one of the top chefs in London and was head chef at a one-star Michelin restaurant. The series is on the air in Taiwan every Wednesday from 7-8PM on the Discovery Travel & Living Channel.*

## Feature Story



My friend, Wendy Su '97, worked for the Discovery Channel at the time and when she told me about Curtis Stone's upcoming trip to Jason's, I thought it would be fun to go watch. I was not the first person he approached. When I saw him talking to another woman, I decided to take advantage of my time there and buy my groceries for the week. I was surprised when he snuck up behind me and said, "Hello!"

I later found out from the show director that he had tried talking to several women before approaching me, but they were either too nervous to speak in front of cameras or did not speak English well enough to have a long conversation with Curtis. The filming of the supermarket scene and the cooking in the kitchen took five hours, and resulted in a one-minute promotional video.

I really enjoyed the experience because it was just so different from my day-to-day routine of taking care of my one-year-old daughter. Curtis was really down to earth and humorous. He was genuinely shocked by the crowd that turned up.

Since I attended cooking school, it was not stressful to cook with Curtis. However, it was strange having to look at all of the cameras and smile all the time. He makes it all seem so easy onscreen, but there is actually a lot of preparation that goes on behind the scenes.





*Stanley Song lives in Tokyo and is Chief Engineer of Oren Technologies, Incorporated.*

## Stanley Song '99

### Turning a Hobby into a Lifestyle and Career

**M**y interest in cycling started in 1994 when a friend asked if I would be interested in going for a bike ride one weekend afternoon. I soon discovered that it was my key to freedom and independence. While at TAS, I rode with Mr. Carlton, Mr. Halabi, and Wayne Hsu. Before long, I joined on a race team and spent summers working at a bike shop. Cycling followed me through college. I participated in a "human powered vehicle project" and raced on the Cornell mountain bike team while earning a B.S. Degree in Mechanical, Aerospace, and Electrical Engineering. I considered a career as an electrical engineer and attended graduate school at Cornell and earned a Master's Degree in Neuromuscular Biomechanics. However, after working at IBM for 6 months, I moved into the bicycle industry and took a job at Cannondale Bicycles.

In 2009, I launched "Project Simon," an electronically controlled suspension fork, at the 2009 Interbike show in Las Vegas. I also recently started my own company, Oren Technologies Inc., a new cycling brand focused on electronic technologies for the cycling industry. It is an American corporation with operations based out of Japan and Taiwan.

## Wayne Hsu '99

**"T**he birdman" graduated with degrees in biological sciences and entomology from Cornell University in 2003 and earned another degree in conservation biology from Columbia University in 2007. He is currently a Greenpeace campaigner in Taiwan working to end deforestation, critical to protecting biodiversity, the global climate, and forest-dependent communities. He wrote:

*I will never forget the delight of receiving the Principal's Award in high school, but it was the satisfaction of helping the environment through GEO Week, Earth Day, Red Envelope Drive, SOS Conference, Jane Goodall, Green Committee, and Friday afternoon recycling that truly meant the most to me. I am pleased to see the TAS Alumni News printed on environmentally friendly paper. I'd love to hear if there are any alumni into birds or tropical forest research and conservation. I would also be delighted to advise anyone on how to make a business, institution, or lifestyle more ecologically sustainable.*



*Wayne Hsu at Mt. Kinabalu in Sabah, Malaysia.*



## TAS Values

Honesty

Responsibility

Respect

Kindness



## Meet the new Fun Taiwan Co-Host, Nadia Hatta '99

By Helen Chen '94 and Nadia Hatta '99

Nadia Hatta, a TAS graduate from 1999, is the new co-host of Fun Taiwan on the Discovery Travel & Living Channel! Nadia has been co-hosting season eleven of Fun Taiwan since June 2010. Fun Taiwan is one of the most-watched programs on the Discovery Channel in the region. The show is broadcast in twenty countries throughout Asia. The program features sites, food, and fun activities from different parts of Taiwan, offering insights into interesting professions and unique stories from this island.



This year, Discovery Channel was looking for a new co-host who is bilingual in English and Chinese, loves to travel, has an unending curiosity for the world, and has a thirst for adventure. Nadia was selected from more than 400 applicants because of her energetic personality and her fearless willingness to try new things at any time. She confessed she did not really prepare for her interview; she walked in and showed them what she really is like. Did she show them some yoga moves? No, but she did impress everyone with a headstand at the press conference.

Nadia was born in Taiwan but grew up in Canada before moving back to Taiwan and becoming an eighth grade student at TAS. She traveled frequently with her father and has learned to speak more than six languages including Hindi and Arabic. After graduating from TAS, she studied theater and acting in New York and then decided to return to Taiwan with her family. She is a yoga teacher and designs her own jewelry on the side.

Recently, Nadia shared her thoughts with Helen Chen '94.

### **What was your TAS experience like?**

I had incredible teachers at

TAS. Mr. Jim Murvine was my eighth grade humanities teacher. He saw beyond my teenage antics and awkwardness. He would talk to me and tell me I had a knack for writing. He encouraged me to hone my talent, and I started to write for the Blue & Gold school newspaper. I ended up writing lots of poetry that was published in the school magazine, and I continued to write, eventually writing my own film and now my own TV show.

Mr. Ray Heberer was the Jazz Ensemble teacher. I was the only girl in the group other than the pianist. I played the saxophone, and he always gave me opportunities to do solos; he always was very encouraging.

### **What impact did TAS have on your life?**

I joined many clubs and activities when I was in high school. I played IASAS soccer and basketball for many years. I also was very active in student government serving as a class representative, treasurer, and fundraising head. These leadership opportunities gave me responsibilities early on and allowed me to work with different people. I learned about being responsible on a smaller scale, and the experience has helped me to juggle my various responsibilities

on a bigger scale now.

### **Is there a memory that stands out from your TAS experience?**

When I was a member of Wish for Kids, I met children who were terminally ill; that experience nurtured my compassion. I felt lucky that I was healthy, and the children taught me to appreciate life. I realized the importance of charity through that club.

### **What is it like to be the co-host for Fun Taiwan?**

This is something I never imagined I would do. I have learned not just about how to host a travel show but also about how to work with a team from Taiwan. I have learned to challenge myself physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally. Never have I felt that I reached my threshold until this show. I have learned to withstand a lot of pressure, to think on my feet, and to react quickly. Being part of this international show is so important to me, there is no room for failure. This is a very special opportunity, and I realized I have to step up to the plate no matter what. I struggle constantly to decide my own style that is unique to me. Under extreme circumstances, you find out who you really are. I developed myself and found myself in the show.



## **What is the best part about being seen on TV?**

When I have bad feelings about myself, my fans cheer me up. For example, once I got a message that said, "I watched your show today and it brings smiles to my face because this part made me laugh." I love it when I make people laugh, and I want to inspire people through happiness. Fans write to tell me how my shows have made a difference to them, and I realize I need to be strong for them. This is the responsibility of every artist and every public figure, because people listen to them.

## **What are your goals for yourself in this show?**

The show is about the people and the places of Taiwan, but I also bring in my own experience from

other countries. I tie in some spiritual aspects and make connections to yoga philosophies that have helped me grow so I can start to inspire people and plant positive seeds. I want to inspire people through my journey.

The real world is not all glamour and sparkles. There are days where I feel like a complete failure, when things did not go as I had expected, and when I doubted myself. But there are also days when I felt great about what I am doing every day. Being an entertainer is like being a teacher. Teachers make students believe in themselves and tell them that they can do it. Sometimes I sit down with other artists and listen to their problems. I always ask them to find out where their heart lies. It is very important that we believe in ourselves.

*Fun Taiwan airs on Discovery Travel & Living in Asia/Pacific at 8:00pm Friday and in Taiwan at 8:00pm Sunday.*



## Former TAS Faculty Visits

# Former TAS Faculty Returns for a Teacher Professional Development Workshop

*By Helen Chen '94*

In December 2009, our middle school PE and Health teachers participated in a workshop conducted by Professor Peter Chen, a former faculty member from the 1960s. During his time at TAS, Prof. Chen was a part-time PE instructor and the US volleyball coach. Prof. Chen has more than 50 years of teaching experience in the areas of leadership, coaching, pedagogy, and philosophy. He was a coach for the Taiwan gymnastics team at the 1964 and 1968 Olympics Games in Tokyo and Mexico. He has extensive experience in judging and managing gymnastics teams for Taiwan and New Zealand. When Prof. Chen was scheduled to speak at universities in Taiwan as a visiting professor, TAS was fortunate to have the opportunity to invite him to share some gymnastics teaching strategies with our teachers.

Margaret Bond, MS PE teacher said, "The main focus of Prof. Chen's professional development workshop was gymnastics, with particular emphasis on the skills for the grade 6 gymnastics unit. From his wealth of experience, Prof. Chen showed us various progressions in skill development. He shared slides



and video clips of basic gymnastics movements, often times, combining a series of basic movements that he invented himself to help students develop from beginner to advanced levels. Although the session was short, we experienced a variety of gymnastic skills by doing the progressions for cartwheels, handstands and balances."

Heavy emphasis was placed on safety for the students, and a combination of available equipment was used to create a set-up that will allow students to comfortably try out some of the basic gymnastics

movements while offering protection to support their bodies. The PE teachers laughed aloud as they themselves attempted these creative ways to explore movement of the body through basic exercises and gain confidence in their own abilities.

It is quite a coincidence that a current TAS faculty member and an administrator happened to be former students of Prof. Chen. Grade 1 teacher, Kim Carter, has known Prof. Chen since her college years. About 20 years ago, Kim had Prof. Peter Chen as her PE lecturer/teacher when she attended Dunedin

College of Education in New Zealand. Prof. Chen, his wife, Jean, and their four children had moved to New Zealand from Taiwan in 1970. She found Prof. Chen to be a motivating teacher whose lessons were always well organized, interesting and stimulating. She always looked forward to his classes because he never just 'lectured'. He believed that practice had to follow theory. Kim says, "I remember clearly one time when Prof. Chen demonstrated a handstand flip over a wooden box at the age of 58! I was 24 at the time (with very little gymnastics experience) and was rather nervous at the thought of having to try this move. However, by the end of the lesson, I had managed to do one."

A few years later, while teaching in New Zealand, Kim and her husband Greg, current TAS LS PE teacher, went to a job fair and were offered jobs at TAS. They did not know much about Taiwan. The Carters



contacted Prof. Chen and his wife Jean, who kindly invited them over to their home, put on a fabulous dinner and shared their love and knowledge about Taiwan. It was then that the Carters first learned that Prof. Chen had taught at TAS in the mid 1960s before moving to New Zealand! Based on the information learned from the Chens, the Carters decided to accept positions at TAS and have been here for 18 years!

Middle School Associate Principal Mr. Gary Pettigrew also took classes from Prof. Chen while completing his

teacher training in Dunedin, New Zealand. The class was memorable because the content of the course related directly to the teaching of physical education, gymnastics specifically, and provided concrete examples of teaching strategies. "The questions posed by Prof. Chen made me think about how children learn, and he presented research he completed about students and their experiences in physical education classes. This was the most memorable class in college for me because it focused on pedagogy," Gary recalls. After more than twenty years, Gary still remembers Prof. Chen for his outstanding teaching and his commitment to his students.

Prof. Chen is an outstanding educator. He is an incredible man who has touched many people in his career. Our faculty gained a lot from his expertise. It was a pleasure to welcome him back to TAS.

# Alumni Benefits

## Live locally or visit often?

Enjoy the following perks as a TAS alum:

- An alumni gate pass
- Use of gym and sport facilities during non-instructional hours
- A library card
- Campus parking permit for use before and after school and on weekends
- Priority admission for school-age children

To learn more, sign in to the Alumni Portal at [www.tas.edu.tw](http://www.tas.edu.tw) and complete the online Alumni Benefits form or call +886 2973 9900 ext 329.



## Thanksgiving Dinner at TAS November 2010



## Reunions

Please let us know if you are planning or would like to plan such an occasion. We'll post the information on our website, assist with communication and online registration, and send you some TAS items for free!



2001



2003

## Reunions of the TAS Tigers in Washington, D.C.



2006



2008

By Babara Blandford Helm '60

Our first gathering was in Washington, D.C.'s Chinatown for Chinese New Year in 1999. What started as a small, local gathering expanded over time and now includes TAS alumni from the entire east coast.

In 2000, those of us who could not go to Taipei for the school's 50th anniversary met at Seven Seas in Rockville, Maryland. From that point on, we have gathered every Chinese New Year; first, at Four Sisters in Falls Church, Virginia and then at China Garden in Rosslyn, Virginia. Additionally, in 2003 and 2005, we met on the eastern shore of Maryland for a crab feast hosted by Mike DuBuque '59 and his wife Cindy.

Marcia Dutton Talley '61, a member of our group, has a new book coming out soon and we hope a book signing is in our near future. We hope to continue getting together and sharing our TAS past and present with each other and family and friends.



## Shanghai Reunions January 2010



# TAS '80s-'90s REUNION

April 29 - May 1, 2011, Denver, CO

Early Bird Registration - \$69  
through 12/31/10  
Regular Registration - \$79  
starting 1/1/11 through 3/30/11  
Registration Closes - 4/01/11

### Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLRs)

In addition to a rigorous curriculum, Taipei American School educates students to become:

- Enthusiastic collaborators
- Information-savvy learners
- Skillful communicators
- Conscientious citizens
- Creative thinkers
- Healthy individuals
- Ethical people
- Versatile learners





## Class of 1999 Reunion

By Nancy Hong '99

Our ten year reunion was a great success! I had so much fun reconnecting with old friends and even mingling with those I barely knew. On one hand, I felt nostalgic seeing everyone practically unchanged from high school. At the same time, you realize how much everyone has accomplished in just ten years and you can't help but feel happy for each other. It is a wonderful feeling to know that although we have all gone our separate ways, TAS bonds us forever. The reunion reminded me of how proud I am to be part of the TAS community!



# 2011 TAS Reunion with the Mother Goose Band

When: Summer 2011

Details will be available on the Alumni Calendar section of the TAS website at [www.tas.edu.tw](http://www.tas.edu.tw).

The Mother Goose Band was quite popular between about 1971 and 1975. They were on television almost every week, and played a lot of concerts at Taipei City Hall and at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall... and of course, they started at TAS.



An early version of the Mother Goose Band playing at TAS in front of the Round House.



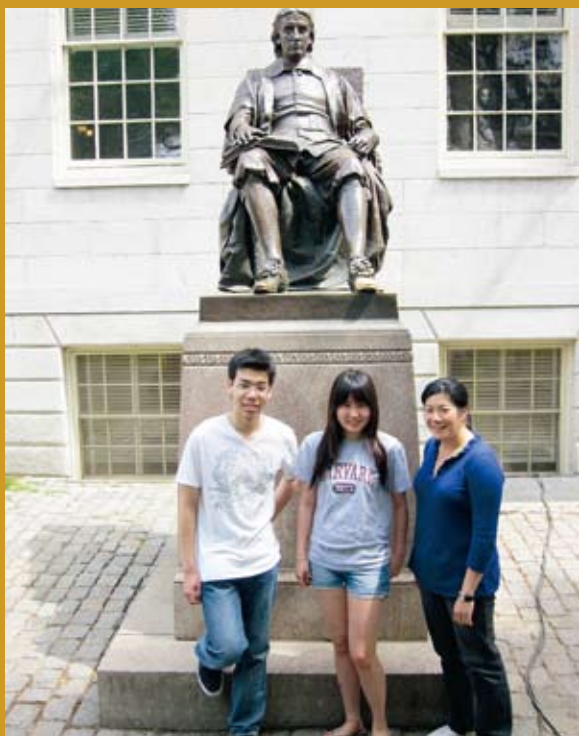
A picture of Mother Goose before a concert at Taipei City Hall. From left to right: Wesley Freeman, Tracy Freeman, Billie Wang (local TV celebrity), Ming Freeman, and George Fung from Hong Kong. There were many versions of Mother Goose, but this was one of the most well known.



## Alumni College Student Gatherings with US College Counselors

In spring 2010, TAS Upper School College Counselors visited many universities and colleges in the United States and Canada. At some universities, they met with TAS alumni and learned how well students felt TAS prepared them.

### Harvard University



### University of Chicago



### University of Michigan



### University of Illinois Champagne Urbana



### Purdue University



**Are you working at a college or university or do you live near one and are willing to be a local contact for freshmen from TAS? Let us know!**





## TAS Former Faculty/Administrator Reunion in Portland

*By Dr. Louise Tolbert, Former TAS teacher, 1989-1998.*

**TAS** ties do certainly bind as I have experienced over and over! When I learned I would be attending a family wedding in Seattle on August 14, I decided to do a stop in Portland in order to visit with many friends. I contacted Cathy Funk and asked if the Portland TAS Teacher Alumni group might be meeting while I was in town. She said I should pick the date and she would start organizing the group for a luncheon meeting. One thing led to another and pretty soon the Portland group expanded to include former teachers from several other places who could not resist the chance to attend a reunion gathering. Jan Clark, the official emailer began sending out notices, and Cathy along with Susan Rinker and Jan began to sample food at Chinese restaurants in order to choose where the growing group would enjoy lunch. Since everyone knew we would need more time to chat than lunch would allow, Cathy and her husband, Bill Funk, and Susan and her husband, Henry Schwartz, decided to host a pre-party in their condo building. The thirty participants began to arrive at 11:00am and in true Taiwan fashion, we walked as a group to the restaurant for a 12:30 lunch. Delicious Chinese dishes were consumed among conversations, photographs, hugs and laughs. Certainly a good time was had by all, and people departed with promises to attempt another expanded reunion next year. The Portland folks are great hosts and do, indeed, hold onto the TAS spirit.





## Annual Giving Program

Support in the form of philanthropy is a critical factor in the excellence found in most highly successful private schools. TAS offers the highest quality American-based education at the lowest tuition level of all our peer schools. School fees alone cannot cover the costs and provide the enhancements necessary for continued excellence. Annual giving must play a key part in the future of Taipei American School. With increased voluntary annual giving contributions, we could direct funds where the needs and opportunities are greatest. They can provide the means for excellent educational experiences that lead to greater student achievements. Our annual giving program assures more options and opportunities for all of our current and future students.



### ANNUAL FUND: PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

The quality of TAS teachers defines the quality of our program. We must assure that we can recruit, retain, and motivate those exceptional teachers who can effectively inspire our students, challenge them, support them, and care for them while bringing them to the highest possible performance levels. It takes outstanding teachers to design meaningful and effective learning experiences. The impact a teacher has is immeasurable.

Supporting professional development promotes professional excellence, and our current and future students will remember those bright, skillful, inspired and inspiring teachers who care for and teach them for the rest of their lives, just as you do.



### ANNUAL FUND: PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

Our students deserve programs that constantly develop and challenge them as they explore their interests and talents. We want to provide new educational options and enhanced learning experiences for all students. To ensure program excellence, and based on our strategic plan we are committed to developing the following areas:

English Language Proficiency: Second language learners

and native speakers must have a challenging, consistent, and multi-faceted language arts program.

- Mandarin: Our redesigned program will take advantage of our unique setting and provide opportunities for all students to successfully learn the language.
- Math and Science: We will introduce robotics, research, and additional options that challenge students to the highest level of achievement.
- Character Education: We want our students to have the confidence and courage to contribute to their communities as ethical leaders and citizens.

### ANNUAL FUND: BUILDING EXCELLENCE

Our Facilities Development Project now underway will provide new and renovated buildings within which further excellence can be achieved, one class at a time, one day at a time, student by student. Our students need the opportunities in science and technology that only newly designed labs, research rooms, and lecture halls can promise. They need classrooms where media and technology enhance the educational process. Our artists, musicians, dancers, and thespians need and deserve proper spaces and performance areas. Our dedicated athletes need adequate competition arenas where the school community can cheer them on. Our lower and middle schools need relief from the over-crowding and inadequate classroom spaces. We're building!!!





### HOPE N.F. PHILLIPS SCHOLARSHIP FUND: OPENING DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY

TAS established the Hope N.F. Phillips Scholarship Fund to provide partial scholarships—temporary tuition support—to families experiencing financial difficulties. This scholarship fund allows students who would otherwise have to leave the school because of financial hardship to continue their education at TAS.

The Hope N.F. Phillips Scholarship fund has had and will have a direct impact on the students of TAS now and for generations to come. This school year two students are receiving support from the Hope N.F. Phillips Scholarship Fund.

The ultimate goal is to build an income-producing endowment that will support students at TAS for generations to come.



Last year's development efforts through the Friends of TAS yielded a higher participation level, and higher dollar contributions, than any previous non-capital effort. We were delighted to receive nearly NT\$ 9,000,000 to advance our students' educational progress in so many different and important areas. This year and for years to come, we really want to increase contributions and participation by members of our community and to make our annual giving program more significant. We extend our sincere thanks to all our donors—past, present, and future—for their contributions. Every gift is important to the school, as is every student. When asked, we hope you will consider participating in our annual giving program and make a difference in the life of your school.

Please visit the Supporting TAS section of our website to read the full Friends of TAS report in the 2010 Annual Report.

## Seventh Annual Friends of TAS Gala Ball 2010



**T**hank you to the alumni who attended and celebrated our 60th anniversary with us on May 9, 2010. The 7th Annual Friends of TAS Gala Ball 2010 was a smashing success. We had more than 400 guests, including TAS alumni of course!

Net proceeds for the event totaled NT\$ 2,400,000 and benefited both the TAS Annual Fund and the Hope N.F. Phillips Scholarship Fund.

We were very fortunate to have alumni involved in planning and organizing the special occasion. The evening was made possible because of the following alumni volunteers who dedicated a great deal of time and tremendous effort to make our Gala Ball such a memorable event:

Paula Lee '78, Coordinator  
Sylvia Chao '94      Iris Hsu '88      Tina Huang '93      Ting Ting Yang '93



Ting Ting Yang '93 designed a Blue & Gold ring and contributed it as a silent auction item. Dr. Hennessy was the happy final bidder.



Give Wisely. Remember Taipei American School.  
Give a gift that lasts a lifetime. Give a gift of education.

## 1960s



**Lisa Wu '68 and Vincente Tang '68** visited TAS in August 2010. Vincente moved to Taiwan in the summer of 2010.



**Judy Baxter '68** and her husband Ted visit with **Ting Vanlopsirinun '68** and **Uthai Limlawan '68** in Bangkok. After graduation, Uthai went back to Bangkok where he has been ever since. He has received every issue of the TAS Alumni News but never imagined that he would meet TAS friends again. From a photo and email from Judy Baxter '68, he has reconnected with her, Lily Chang '68, Bella Chen '56, Madeline Ma '69, Sylvia Hai '69, and Steven Chu '68. It is a lot of fun talking to long-lost friends. When Uthai met Judy in Bangkok, he was very surprised that she has not changed at all, and he was very happy to talk about their teenage years from 42 years ago. He thanks TAS for this connection.



**Madeline Ma '69 and Judy Baxter '68**



**Madeline Ma '69, Lily Liu '68, and Anna Cheng Kramer '68** got together for dinner in Vancouver to welcome alumni from Shanghai: Daniel Cheng '68 and Brad Davis '74

## 1970s



**Rino Cassinelli '76 and Bob Jarvis '76** visited TAS in December 2009. Bob was in Taiwan visiting his grandmother, aged 92. They talked with Mr. Arnold and had lunch at TAS. Because they were both rugby players, they picked up many TAS T-shirts. The TAS Tiger spirit never dies.



**Diane Cheng '74** visited TAS in August 2010 with her daughter. She now lives in Beijing.

## 1980s

**John Bruns '82** lives in Beijing with his wife, Carrie, and two children, Garrett and Taryn. He has worked in China for Boeing for 20 years. He looks forward to reconnecting with other TAS alumni from the early 80s.



**Robyn Benedetti '89** moved to Australia in August 2009 with her children, Kelly and Ryan, and got married in January 2010 to Doug Parker.

## 1990s



**Randy Chen '91 and Cindy Teeters** are delighted to announce the arrival of our daughter, Prudence Shiao-Shin Chen, born on December 6, 2009.



**Larry Shao '94** held his first solo exhibition "Liminal Places" in Taipei in June 2010. Liminal Places consists of two bodies of works—a series of photographs and a collection of videos. Current TAS art teachers Cesar Reyes and Dan Castelaz attended the opening reception. One of Larry's works was also selected for the Taipei Biennial 2010 held from September to November 2010. In addition to showing his work, he also taught salsa lessons as part of the Biennial.



**Kyle Webster '94** developed his first iPhone application, White Lines, in March 2010. As a renowned illustrator, Kyle has worked for most major publications in the United States. He turned his attention to the iPhone this year and created a memory game that is simple yet tricky. The game made it to the top 100 applications list and the top 50 games list in March, 2010.

**Campbell Chiang '97** started his new position as Associate Patent Counsel at Qualcomm in San Diego in May, 2010.



# 2000s



**Alice Wang '02** published a new magazine in September in Taiwan called THE BINDER. The publication is dedicated to featuring designers that very few people have heard of, stores that few people know about, and exhibits that many have never attended. She cares about those who follow their dreams despite many struggles.



**Sean Cheng '02 and Jessica Lee '03** got married this year and took their wedding photos at TAS. They both attended TAS in lower school and became friends during their senior year in college. Sean said, "I felt that the advantage of marrying someone who also attended TAS is that TAS alumni share very similar backgrounds, but more importantly, TAS alumni share very similar expectations in life." Sean is the coordinator for the Glory Days Basketball League and Jessica is the official photographer at the games.



**Jay Shuang '02 and Gin Lee** got married this year and hosted a banquet at the Grand Hotel Club on June 26 for family and friends, many of whom attended TAS.



**Lesley Hu '03's new endeavor**, Escape Artist (EA), brings the concepts of paintertainment and art jamming to Taiwan, providing a leisure activity for people seeking innovative and meaningful entertainment. It is a place to express, discover, socialize, and decompress while painting canvasses. Located in the heart of Taipei City, Escape Artist is located behind the intersection of Tun Hwa and Xin Yi at #68 Wen Chang Street. [www.escapeartist.com.tw](http://www.escapeartist.com.tw)



**Terence Tse '06** and 22 other students rode 4000 miles across the entire continental United States for two months this summer, helping to raise donations for "4K for Cancer". The trip was entirely run by students and sponsored by Johns Hopkins University where Terence majored in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.



**Elaine Tsai '06** received the Student Heart and Soul Award, a state-level award for community service, from Bowdoin College in April 2010. The award recognizes the accomplishments of one to four Maine students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership both on campus and within their community. Elaine volunteered with the Midcoast CASH Coalition to assist with tax preparation. The coalition is a collection of 17 community agencies and local businesses that recruit and train volunteers to help low- and moderate-income individuals and families file their taxes. She formed a club at Bowdoin so that she could recruit students and help the next tax season. Last year, her club served about 300 individuals and families, bringing \$306,000 in tax refunds back to the local economy. <http://www.bowdoin.edu/news/archives/1bowdoincampus/007241.shtml>



**Jasmine Chen '07** competed in the speed competition of the jumping championship at the World Equestrian Games in Lexington, Kentucky on October 4. She finished in 86th place with a time of 90.25 seconds. While at TAS, she placed 2nd at the 15th Asian Games held in Doha in 2006. She is currently a student at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Faculty Update



Two gatherings were held in Hawaii, one hosted by Jim and Nanette Ruhter, the other by Randy and LaVonne Mills. Pictured here are (back row) Jim Ruhter, Tom Cook, (middle row), Christine Weislow, Ira Weislow, Nancy Cook, Nanette Ruhter, Randy Mills, LaVonne Mills, (front row), Sophie Tsai, Barbara Luksch.



Nanette Carreon Ruhter met up with TAS teachers while in Taipei for the IASAS Culture Convention held at TAS in March 2010. She is a faculty member at Singapore American School.

## Sad News

**John Kelly '63** passed away on June 11, 2010 from throat cancer. John was a firefighter/EMT for Davie City, Florida for over 19 years and had retired in January of this year. John is survived by his two daughters, Megan and Kathleen. The family can be contacted through John's brother, Jim Kelly '64.

**Diana Geming Fu '65**, born on November 19, 1947 in Shanghai, beloved mother of Dan-Xia Bossard, passed away on June 7, 2010 in Daly City. Diana was an icon of grace, elegance and wit to all those around her. Diana moved back to San Francisco in 2004 to be close to her mother after an illustrious career in Public Relations in Hong Kong. *Published in San Francisco Chronicle on June 11, 2010*

**Lance Ong '73** was a band mate of mine and a long time friend. He passed away from lung cancer on December 7, 2009. Lance attended TAS in the 1970s and played with the band "Thyme," which we started together. He was a brilliant keyboardist and will be missed by many.

*Submitted by Jerry Allen '73*



**Greg Motheral '73** passed away on Saturday, February 27, 2010 from a heart attack. Greg was a senior vice president at the John Marshall Bank. He played basketball at TAS and one year in college. In 1991, he married Joy Schouten and they had two children, Kayla and Alyssa. He and Joy eventually divorced, but they maintained strong parental unity. He later met Cathy Bottrell and her son, Sean, with whom he shared six years of happiness. The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to INOVA Juniper Program, 8001 Forbes Place, Suite 200, Springfield, VA 22151 (c/o Patient Care Funds) or the American Heart Association ([www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)).

**Mary Fogarty**, former TAS nurse, passed away very peacefully and painlessly in February, 2009 surrounded by family. Mary was such a beacon of life, good humor, humility, common sense, and hope that can never be extinguished. Anyone wishing to send a memorial may send it in her name to Tabitha, Cambodia.

**Joyce R. Piquette**, at TAS from 1987-1990 as a library technician and the public affairs director, passed away on February 21, 2010. She enjoyed quilting, needlepoint, and taking care of other people.

**Elena Diaz** passed away on July 27 in Quito, Ecuador. Her husband Brian Solodar was by her side.



### Gloria Cooper

Mrs. Gloria Cooper, a long-time member of the upper school English department, passed away on August 25, 2010 in Alexandria, Virginia. A beloved teacher at TAS for nineteen years, she was a close friend of many TAS faculty and alumni. After retiring from TAS in 2005, she visited Taipei frequently. Her son, Daniel Cooper '89, now lives in Shanghai.



### Robert Douglas Bishop

A special memorial service was held at TAS on October 18 for Robert Douglas Bishop, beloved and dedicated drama and English teacher at TAS from 1998 until his death following a tragic accident. Doug was a guiding force for the performing arts in the TAS community, working in many ways to make sure that TAS students had all the support and expertise they needed to shine every time they gathered on a stage. He is survived by his daughters, Caitlin '09 and Sophie '06.

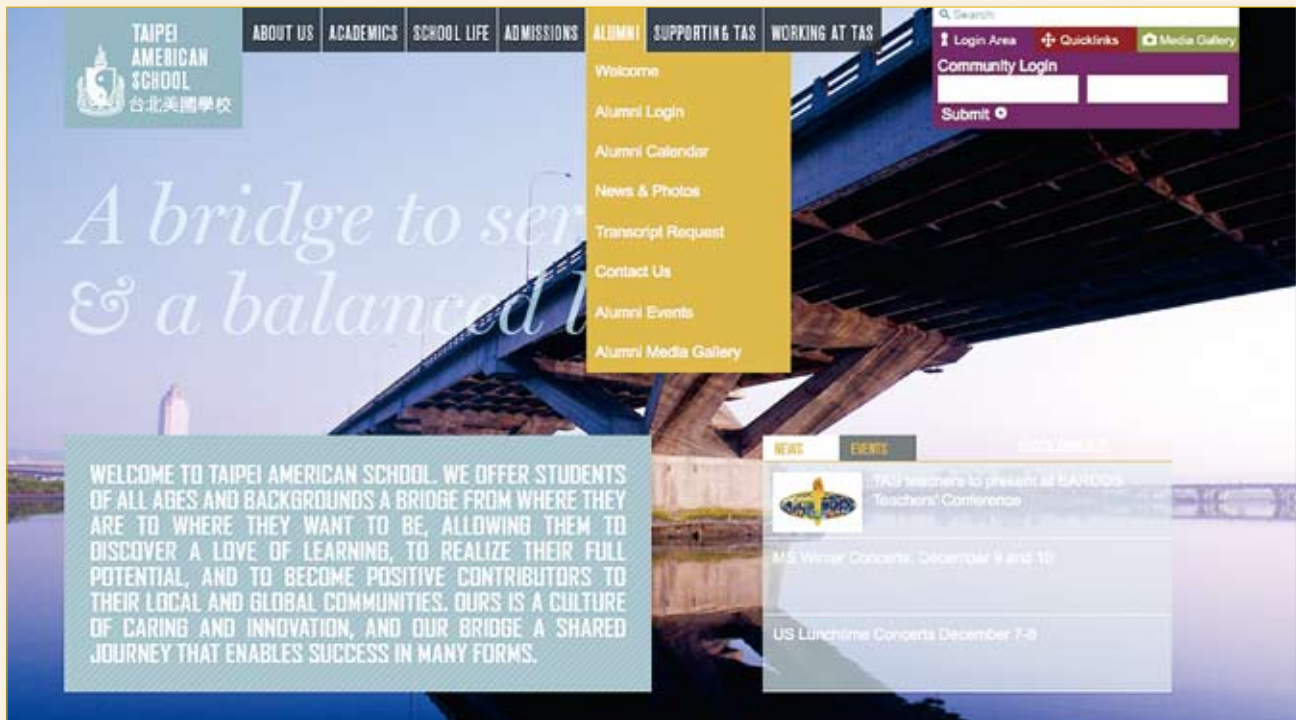
For alumni contact information, please visit the TAS website and log in to the Alumni Portal. The "Alumni Online Directory" contains the email addresses and mailing addresses of TAS alumni.



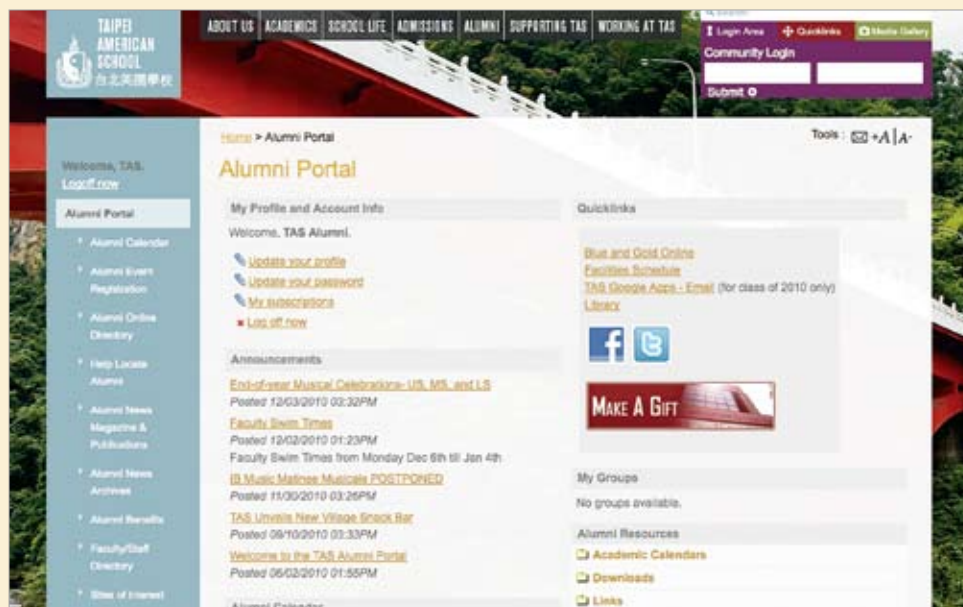
# New Alumni Portal on the TAS Website

[www.tas.edu.tw](http://www.tas.edu.tw)

We are proud to showcase the new features and functionality of the new TAS website. We hope to provide a platform for TAS alumni to stay connected to the school and to reconnect with each other from anywhere in the world. Your log-in and password to access the alumni portal were sent in an email message. If you still need assistance signing-in, please email [alumni@tas.edu.tw](mailto:alumni@tas.edu.tw). The private alumni portal allows specialized access to resources for TAS alumni.



When you log in to the alumni portal, you can update your email and contact information, including your mailing address in the “Update your profile” section. You can search for any alumni in the “Alumni Online Directory.” You can also find faculty contact information in the “Faculty/Staff Directory.”





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## **The Official Taipei American School Alumni Association Facebook Group:**

We have 2,357 members at the moment, 500 more than last year at this time and it continues to increase. Join our group and stay in touch with your TAS friends through Facebook. We send messages and post TAS alumni events on Facebook too.