

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Alumni Focus       | 2-4   |
| Around Town        | 5     |
| Homecoming 2006    | 6     |
| Alumni Awards 2006 | 6-7   |
| Reunions           | 8-9   |
| Alumni News        | 10-12 |
| Alumni Awards 2007 | 13-14 |
| Volleyball Champs  | 15    |

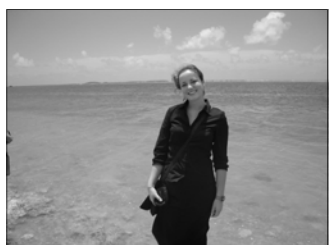
*Setting out to make  
the world a better  
place...*

*Gilbert alumni journey  
to faraway lands...*

*Read about their travels  
in Alumni Focus*



Phyllis Shaffer Wong '64



Sarah LaRosa '02

## FIRST RECIPIENTS OF ALUMNI AWARDS HONORED AT HOMECOMING

**A**mong the festivities of Homecoming 2006 was recognition of the first five recipients of The Gilbert School Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards are an opportunity for us to highlight the many and varied accomplishments of Gilbert alumni and we were very pleased to announce the first honorees. See pages 6 and 7 for photos and background on each recipient.

**THE GILBERT HERITAGE AWARD**

Eugene A. Scalise '42

**YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Brandie A. Schieb '97

**DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONAL**

**ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Ellen Barrett Cunha '62

**THE W.L. GILBERT AWARD FOR  
OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE**

James L. Glynn '26

(Posthumously)

**OUTSTANDING ATHLETE AWARD**

Lisa Mangione Brochu '84

*Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 awards.*

*The criteria for each award, along with a nomination form, can be found inside this newsletter  
and can also be downloaded from our website.*

*Visit us online!*

*[www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org)*

- View the Yellow Jackets' sports schedules
- Visit the alumni online community
- Purchase a Gilbert sweatshirt
- Learn about what our students are studying
- Read past issues of the *Yellow Jacket*
- Visit the Community Link page
- Peruse our Library/Media Center resources
- Find out if your class is planning a reunion

## TIMOTHY J. BARBER '92 JOINS BOARD OF THE W.L. GILBERT TRUST CORPORATION

**T**he W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation is pleased to announce the appointment of Timothy J. Barber to its Board of Directors. Mr. Barber's appointment was accepted unanimously at the January meeting of the Trust.

After graduating from The Gilbert School in 1992, Tim received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Bryant College in 1996, a Master of Tax from the University of Denver in 1998 and a Master of Elementary Education from Hunter College in New York in 2003. Before returning to Connecticut in 2005, he worked for the major accounting firms of KPMG and Geller & Co. in New York City and was a fourth grade teacher in the South Bronx. He is a member of the board of the Friends of the Beardsley and Memorial Library in Winsted and is currently the assistant principal at Jumoke Academy Charter School in Hartford. He resides in Winsted with his wife Andrea and they are expecting their first child in May. ❖

## ALUMNI FOCUS— PHYLLIS SHAFFER WONG '64: THE PHILIPPINES



Trevor and Phyllis Shaffer Wong at Gilbert last fall.

Last October, during a visit to the East Coast from their California home, Phyllis Shaffer Wong '64 and husband Trevor stopped in Winsted for a visit to Phyllis' alma mater. Amazed to see the changes at Gilbert since her own years at the school, Phyllis was at the same time tickled by things that had remained the same. Forty-two years is a long time but she felt right back at home as she wandered the halls of her old stomping ground.

Teaching a Spanish class on the third floor was Phyllis's classmate from "back in the day," Sue Roberts Rouleau. Phyllis and Sue were able to spend a few minutes between Sue's

classes catching up on old times and it was clear to anyone nearby that their memories of Gilbert are held precious and dear even to this day. The two were transported back to the 1960s through laughter and reminiscence until the bell rang and it was time to return to 2006.

Phyllis has spent much of her career traveling the country and the world speaking at conferences and ministering to those in need. Upon their return to California this past fall, Phyllis and Trevor were to begin preparations for a visit to the

*Trevor, Phyllis are pictured with a couple they met while ministering in New York City.*

Philippines, where they would be guest speakers at an International Ministers Conference. The following article and accompanying photographs from their trip were submitted by Phyllis for the *Yellow Jacket*.

“At the 25<sup>th</sup> year reunion of our class of 1964, one of my classmates quizzed me extensively, later admitting his curiosity regarding how a valedictorian had turned out. Well, here is a glimpse into my life since high school...

In my valedictory speech, I gave credit to God for my giftings and accomplishments and now, 43 years later, God through Jesus Christ His Son is still the center of my life, the Lord having brought me out of the corporate world and into a glorious marriage. My husband, Trevor, and I are now full-time ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, locally in southern California where we reside and in churches and conferences nationally and internationally. Wherever we go, we teach seminars on victorious living, health, and prosperity.

For instance, we recently returned from two weeks

in the Philippines where we were guest speakers at an International Ministers' Conference in metro Manila. We got to exhibit our faith in prayer when we learned that a "Super Typhoon" (the equivalent of a category five hurricane) was expected to hit Manila within 24 hours, just as our conference was scheduled to begin. We prayed, and within 12 hours, the news report was that "It was inexplicable, but a high pressure system suddenly came down from above and pushed the typhoon in a different direction." So the conference of course proceeded as planned. Praise Jesus!

After the conference, throughout the remainder of our two weeks in the Philippines, we spoke to church and business leaders twice per day. God blessed us by opening many doors. We spoke on national television and on radio. We met twelve bishops, two generals, one mayor over 16 million people and one real live princess from a European country. Before we had even left to return home, we had already received praise reports back from churches of all sizes and from business people. Many

*(Continued on page 4)*



Setting out to make the world a better place—

## SARAH LAROSA '02: ISLAND NATION OF TONGA

The island nation of Tonga is located in the Pacific Ocean, about halfway between Australia and Tahiti—that's a long way from Sarah LaRosa's home in Winsted, Connecticut! However, Sarah's desire to immerse herself in a new culture while at the same time use her newly-acquired skills as an educator drew her to the Peace Corps, where she knew she could find an opportunity to make a difference somewhere in the world. Tonga is where she'll spend most of two years doing just that.

I started thinking about joining the Peace Corps last fall during the beginning of my senior year at Colby-Sawyer College. I have always been intrigued by the idea of living in a new culture and I wanted to make use of my teaching degree as soon as possible. The idea of teaching English abroad seemed like the best opportunity to do both. I looked at many different avenues for traveling and teaching. My brother Christopher (Gilbert Class of 1999) suggested I look into the Peace Corps and as soon as I did I knew it was perfect for me.

Peace Corps provides intensive language, culture, safety and health training prior to service, and medical and technical support throughout the two years, all of which are extremely nice to have while living on the other side

of the planet! Also, even though I have taken a vow of poverty for the next two years and am living on the equivalent of about US \$275.00 a month, Peace Corps provides travel and living expenses, something that most other volunteer organizations do not offer.

I began my journey with more than two months of training and was sworn in as an official Peace Corps volunteer on Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Pre-service training consisted of two different homestay experiences—2 1/2 weeks in the tiny village of Ha'atafu on the main island of Nuku'alofa and almost six weeks in the even smaller village of Koulo in the Ha'apai island group. I eventually made my way to the Vava'u island group where I will live for the next two years while teaching at a local government primary school, a few miles out of the islands' administrative capital of Neiafu. I will be a resource teacher focusing on teaching English, and will also have secondary projects based in health and environmental education within the community.

The teaching methods used here are much different than at home. Teaching by rote is the most common form of teaching throughout the entire kingdom. As a resource teacher I hope to present colleagues in my school



Sarah celebrates her swearing-in as a Peace Corps volunteer with first homestay family: Lotu, Sarah, Nahi, Mataika, and roommate Bethany from Michigan.

*Tongans invite you into their homes at all hours of the day and night to share their food and stories with you.*

with techniques based in experiential learning. I recently found out that in addition to teaching classes 1-6 at the local primary school, I will also serve as the new school librarian. I am very excited about this new responsibility and opportunity. The library needs a lot of work, however. Most of the books are extremely dirty and disorganized, many of the children's books are placed so high up on shelves that I cannot reach them, and it is quite apparent that there are mice as well! I am hoping to collect books and do some serious cleaning and organizing so that after my two years here I will be able to leave behind a resource that will be more easily and effectively utilized by both the teachers and the children in the community.

As you might imagine,

First homestay mother Keleni on the steps of the house where Sarah lived for her first 2 1/2 weeks in Tonga.

life in Tonga is very different from life back home in the United States. There is very little hustle and bustle apart from Saturday mornings at the vegetable and handicraft market. On Sundays it is against the law to work, so Tongans go to church and then feast on lu cooked on an umu (see photo), after which everyone sleeps for the rest of the day! Tongans do not worry about the future—something that is very hard to get accustomed to after living in a country where most people are constantly thinking about their future. Although the attitude of living in the moment is admirable, it does cause some environmental and health issues throughout the kingdom. People do not realize the destructive impact that throwing garbage into the ocean or on the ground (including but not limited to plastic bottles and batteries) has on their environment and their

(Continued on page 4)



—Gilbert alumni journey to faraway lands

(Continued from page 2)

came back to report miracles of physical healing, inner healing, and finances.

It is the joy of our hearts to minister the Word of God and to see people put the Word into practice. It is so exciting because God's Word works! This is what Trevor and I are all about and what gives our lives meaning and purpose and fulfillment." ❖

*Phyllis was valedictorian of The Gilbert School Class of 1964 and was a French Club leader and member of the Future Teacher's Club. She is a graduate of Wheaton College (Illinois) and holds two bachelor's degrees from Wheaton—Christian Education and English Literature. She makes good use of both—Phyllis is pastor and co-founder of the Assemblies of the Body of Christ Churches as well as editor of Ready Writer Publishing, which publishes only Christian books and literature. She also functions in the ministry office of Teacher and, as such, has ministered in several countries. Currently, Phyllis resides in Glendora, California, with Trevor, two parrots and a dog. Trevor and Phyllis are preparing for future trips abroad, including one to Israel.*



...one valedictorian's journey along the road to success and fulfillment...

Ministering in the Philippines in the fall of 2006.



(Continued from page 3)

health. The group that I came to Tonga with, Group 72, is part of the Community Education program and is comprised of people with backgrounds in education, environment, and health. We hope to address some of these issues during time spent outside the classroom conducting secondary projects on these topics within some of the Tongan communities.



Although Tonga is a third world country, extreme poverty does not exist here. While the diet of Tongans is very poor and as a result there is a high rate of diabetes and obesity, people do have plenty to eat

thanks to great soil for growing crops. There are mostly root crops such as taro and sweet potato, as well as plenty of fruit including watermelon, pineapple and bananas. Drinking water can sometimes be an issue, however rain collectors donated by New Zealand and Australia are a major help. Most but not all homes have running water, if not in their houses at least in their yards. I am very lucky to be living on a main island in a larger village because I have running water, access to landline telephones, electricity, and a flush toilet. Some volunteers placed on outer islands, many only accessible by boat, have none of these amenities available to them.

that what they do have—a roof over their heads, water to drink, and plenty of food—is more than what many people in the world have and for that they are extremely grateful. I have already learned one very important lesson during my time here in Tonga and that is to be thankful for what you have and don't worry about what you don't have!

If you would like to communicate with Sarah about life in Tonga, or simply send her greetings, you can email her at [sarahlarosa@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahlarosa@hotmail.com). The school Sarah is teaching at is in need of books and school supplies (markers, pencils, pens, paper, etc.). If you are interested in helping out with this, please contact the Alumni Office for details. ❖

Another aspect of Tongan living that is drastically different than that of Americans is their view of money. It is practically unheard of for Tongans to save money for their own use. At the end of the week whatever money a family has earned working at their family store or selling vegetables or woven goods at the market is all given to the church. The people here are extremely generous and share what little they do have with others, whether family, friends or complete strangers. Tongans invite you into their homes at all hours of the day and night to share their food and stories with you. There is not much personal wealth here, but the people realize



Preparing lu: Fish (lu ika), chicken (lu moa), lamb (lu sipi), corned beef (lu kapa pulu), etc., is combined with onion and coconut milk in banana leaves and then cooked in the underground "umu" while at church. Tongans have been cooking this way for hundreds of years!



Sarah (third from right) with first homestay family after church in Tonga.

# AROUND TOWN—

## GILBERT COMMEMORATIVE CLOCK PROJECT

**W**insted's *Friends of Main Street* is sponsoring a project to place a Gilbert Commemorative Clock in downtown Winchester (exact location to be determined; photo at right is a sample of what the clock will look like). The clock will stand approximately 16 feet tall, will have two backlit dials and will play carillon music. "Winchester" will be inscribed on the top, along with the town's incorporation date of 1777. The clock face will be a replica of a Gilbert clock.

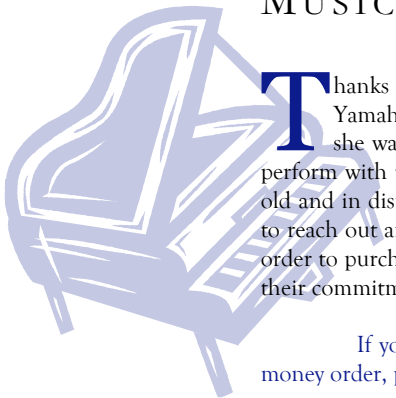
Donors to the project of at least \$100.00 will receive a cast miniature of the clock, including a plate engraved with the donor's name or that of a friend or loved one. Donors who give \$1,000.00 or more will be listed on a Plaque of Honor which will be affixed to the actual clock when it is permanently placed in Winchester.

If you would like to participate, send your check payable to Friends of Main Street, along with your name, address, phone number, and inscription (exactly as you would like it engraved on your miniature), to:

Friends of Main Street  
P.O. Box 18  
Winsted, CT 06098



## MUSIC TO OUR EARS—A NEW PIANO FOR GILBERT?



**T**hanks to a generous pledge by Cindy Eseppi Rines '81 and her husband Jeff, we are on our way to purchasing a new Yamaha digital piano for the school. Cindy has been a part of the Gilbert music program for many years. As a student, she was an accompanist and a member of the chorus. She continues to work with Gilbert's choral groups as well as perform with the Alumni Band each year. The current piano—the one Cindy used as a student more than 25 years ago—is old and in disrepair. Cindy's high regard for the Gilbert School music program and her passion as a musician prompted her to reach out and make this pledge for a new piano and to ask fellow alumni for support. Approximately \$2,000 is needed in order to purchase the new piano. We extend our thanks to Cindy and Jeff for spearheading this effort and we are grateful for their commitment to the music program.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help purchase the new piano, you can send a check or money order, payable to The Gilbert School, to:

*The Gilbert School, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 200 Williams Avenue, Winsted, CT 06098*



## GILBERT DECA GOES TO THE BIG E

*DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) students experience marketing and promotion in the real world when they visit the Big E exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts. Students choose one product that is being promoted at the fair, write a one-page paper when they return from the trip and then spend class time discussing their experiences. Faculty member John Dombrowski uses this opportunity to bring theory and practice to the discussion table in the classroom.*



### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue & Gold Golf Tournament

Monday, May 14, 2007

Oak Ridge Golf Club

Feeding Hills, Massachusetts

For details, call Mike Gamari at (860) 379-3721



### Gilbert School Talent Show

Friday, May 18, 2007

for the benefit of the Drama Department

Alumni are welcome to participate!

For details, email drama director Dea Simpson at [simpsond@gilbertschool.org](mailto:simpsond@gilbertschool.org)

## HOMECOMING 2006

Homecoming 2006 boasted the largest crowd ever as we recognized five alumni for distinguished accomplishments and honored the school's founder on the approaching 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. The Alumni Band, with special performance by Cindy Eseppi Rines '80 and the *One More Time* jazz ensemble, wowed the audience once again—our thanks to Mr. Ed Keeley and the many talented musicians who take time out of their busy schedules to come back to their alma mater to entertain us.



## The Alumni Band



## 2006 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS –Presented at Homecoming



*Eugene A. Scalise '42*  
*The Gilbert Heritage Award*

Upon graduation from The Gilbert School, Gene went on to serve in the military for more than 30 years, retiring as a Colonel from the United States Air Force. While serving as Captain with the Connecticut Air National Guard in August of 1955, he established base headquarters at Central School in Winsted and

coordinated the rescue, recovery and relief efforts of the devastating flood of that year.

Gene's connection to education includes his previous service as a high school teacher and vice principal in Glastonbury and as deputy executive director of the Connecticut Education Association. Gene was a Gentleman Farmer in Vermont and owned Deerwood Farm in Chester. He is currently a real estate agent—and according to his son Robert, who nominated him for this award, “imparts so much helpful information to his clients that they always end up buying much more than just a house.”

In nominating his father, Robert wrote that he immediately thought of his dad after reading the criteria for the award. “As I was growing up, Dad was my role model for the kind of person I hoped to

become in life. As I now travel through middle age, he still is. Dad is the most ethical person I know. He's always done it the right way. And I've learned from him that it's often difficult in life to do just that.”

In addition to being a leader in his high school days, he was an athlete, an artist, and a musician. His classmates know they can count on him to this day when it's time to start planning their Gilbert reunions—which have occurred every five or ten years since 1952. Gene created a website to commemorate those reunions and to keep the class connected, which is updated frequently. You can access it through a link on the Gilbert School website—it's really a treat to see and to hear, as you'll be serenaded by music of The Glenn Miller Band when the site opens!

The Gilbert Heritage Award is presented for lifetime personal and professional accomplishments and for representation of the traditions and the heritage of The Gilbert School. We are honored to recognize Eugene A. Scalise '42 as the first recipient of this award. ❖





Brandie A. Schieb '97  
Young Alumni Achievement Award

Brandie received her baccalaureate degree in 2001 from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, where she also earned a license to operate a 1600 Ton Coast Guard vessel and was Valedictorian of her class.

While a student at the Mass Maritime Academy, Brandie received many awards including the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Award for supporting officials and media during the John F. Kennedy, Jr., search and rescue effort off Martha's Vineyard. At the time, she was an intern for the Coast Guard at the Otis Air National Guard Base in Massachusetts. Brandie also served an internship with the National Marine Fisheries Service in Woods Hole. Among her duties there, she worked as a scientist on board ships from the fleet of the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration.

In 2001, Brandie joined the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency as a marine analyst and her duties included Watchstander on the World Wide Navigational Warning Service, a 24-7 operation which alerts mariners worldwide of ships in distress and hazards to navigation. In 2006, she received a master of science degree in strategic intelligence from the Joint Military

(Continued on page 13)



Ellen Barrett Cunha '62  
Distinguished Professional Achievement

Ellen Barrett Cunha graduated from The Gilbert School in 1962, received her baccalaureate in special education from Southern Connecticut State University and has done graduate work at both CCSU and the University of Connecticut.

It was while she was a student at Gilbert that she became interested in special education—Gilbert had created its first special education class mid-way through her four years. As Ellen states in her professional biography, she was “hooked academically and emotionally” after having tutored special education students during her junior and senior years at Gilbert.

Following college, she served two years with the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Again quoting her biography, she wanted to “see the world and make a difference in someone’s life”. She did indeed do that during her years in West Africa. She taught 6<sup>th</sup> grade at a school funded by the Holy Ghost Fathers from Ireland, started a C.A.R.E. lunch program, and tutored eighth graders for entrance exams into secondary school. She also started a preschool program and taught English as a second

(Continued on page 13)



James L. Glynn '26  
W.L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Community Service

(Given posthumously; pictured above in 2003 with daughter Deborah Glynn Jones '70)

James L. Glynn was a graduate of the Gilbert School class of 1926, Yale University Class of 1930 and the New York University School of Law in 1939. He served two terms in the Connecticut House of Representatives and one term in the Senate. He was Town Attorney for Winchester for more than 30 years and Judge of Probate Court for 8 years. He served on the Board of the Winsted Savings Bank and was a corporator of Northwest Bank for Savings. Mr. Glynn was active in his church and with the Kiwanis Club and Knights of Columbus, having served as President and Grand Knight, respectively.

Attorney Glynn volunteered with the “Winsted Loves to Read” program at Batcheller School and was a founding member and president of the Northwestern Connecticut College Foundation. He served as chairman of the Safety Commission and also the Soldier’s Monument Commission.

For exceptional service to the betterment of life within his community, we are pleased to

(Continued on page 13)



Lisa Mangione Brochu '84  
Outstanding Athlete Award

As a student at Gilbert, Lisa was always active in sports. She earned eleven varsity letters—three for volleyball, four for basketball and four for softball. She was captain of the volleyball team her junior and senior years and captain of the basketball and softball teams her senior year. Lisa was awarded the Kolakoski Memorial Trophy by the Berkshire League for outstanding senior girl basketball player. She also earned All State honors in volleyball, basketball and softball during her senior year.

Upon graduation from Gilbert Lisa went on to Springfield College (Massachusetts), where she majored in physical education, graduating in 1988. She played basketball at Springfield for two years, spent a semester of her junior year at Chelsea School in Eastbourne, England, where she was a member of the volleyball team, and played volleyball back at Springfield during her senior year. Lisa received her master’s degree in physical education from Central Connecticut State University in 1996.

Lisa began her professional career in 1988 at Winsted’s Hinsdale School and is currently teaching physical education at the town’s Batcheller School. She coached junior varsity volleyball at Gilbert from 1989 to

(Continued on page 13)

... for meritorious service, noteworthy civic and philanthropic endeavors and exceptional personal or professional achievement...

## REUNIONS

35<sup>th</sup>—Class of 1971

Gilbert's Class of 1971 held their 35<sup>th</sup> reunion on October 14, 2006 at the Knights of Columbus with 85 people in attendance. A fun filled night was had by all with music provided by "The Boomers," featuring one of our own alumni, Roger Sprong. The night was filled with laughter, great food and great entertainment! Our guests for the evening included Mr. Cox and Mr. Schroeder, both of whom said a few words to make us laugh. A letter from Mr. Lanigan was also read and he mentioned looking through the yearbook and remembering the "kids" of '71. Steve Price was the roving videographer for the evening and he has put together a wonderful website of photos. Anyone wishing to view these photos can go to the Gilbert School website and click on the Class of 1971 reunion link or go to: <http://familyfunabilities.com/gilbertreunion/index.htm>.

Two classmates came from California and one from Guatemala to attend our reunion! At the time of the reunion, we had eight or more couples who have been married for more than 30 years and we even have one classmate who is the father of a five-month-old! Between the hors d'oeuvres, the buffet and the desserts, we feasted the entire evening!

As part of our reunion activities, we held a silent auction to raise money towards a class gift to Gilbert School. We had 26 items to auction and this included handmade things such as a uniquely designed quilt, a knitted baby afghan, homemade wine, a one-hour massage and many other items to bid on. When the evening was over, not only did we have a great time but we were able to donate \$1,200 to Gilbert. This money will be used to fund two \$500 scholarships, courtesy of the Class of 1971, and the balance has been donated to the Gilbert alumni office as a way of saying thank-you to them for all their help in putting this reunion together.

Thanks again to all alumni who made this event such a success!

—The Class of '71 Reunion Committee





# 55<sup>th</sup>—Class of 1951



*...We realize we can't live those days over  
But wouldn't we love to try?  
For it's not easy letting go of the past  
And it's painful to say good-bye.*

*So as we sit here and call to mind  
Those precious early years  
Let those faces pass in front of our eyes  
And their voices ring in our ears.*

*Let's recall them now, as they were then  
As our eyes mist up with tears  
For we did not know then as we do now  
We were privileged to be one of their peers...*

*Excerpt from a poem written especially for the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
by Clarence "Bucky" Barrett '51*



## ALUMNI NEWS



## 1929

*Lois Pond Johnson*, currently recuperating at an area rest home, sends regards to her classmates. Lois' daughter, Beryl Johnson Reilly '54, notes that her mother is "very proud to have graduated from Gilbert. Her prized possession is her school ring, which she still wears occasionally." Thanks for keeping in touch, Beryl, and best wishes to Lois from The Gilbert School community.

## 1931



In a recent letter from *Eleanor Woodworth Raymond*, she writes, "I'm 93 this year (2006). I moved to Rice Lakes, Wisconsin, in 1990 to be near my daughter Jane after my husband Edwin passed away in 1986. Here at the Manor I keep busy with knitting and all activities. The picture is from our "Special Olympics" in which I was a participant—bowling and frisbee in addition to other events. I took second place in the spelling contest. I earned 3000 hours of volunteer help at the local hospital with the Auxiliary, knitting baby items for the newborns and tending the information desk to help visitors." We thank Eleanor for keeping in touch with her alma mater and extend our best wishes.

## 1937

From *Catherine Dew Geer*, "I graduated St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in 1942; married Ray Geer in 1944; two children, Ray, Jr. and Mark; retired Waterford Town Clerk (1966-1972); spending winters in Texas."

## 1944

*George Goetz* is proud of his grandson Michael and granddaughter Drusilla, both serving with the United States Army.

## 1949

*Eleanor DiMartino Pratt* and husband Ken celebrated 50 years of marriage by taking their family of twelve on a Western Caribbean cruise aboard the *Freedom of the Seas*. Congratulations to Eleanor and Ken!

## 1952

*Fouad Ferris* writes, "...still employed as director of human resources at the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services."

## 1958

Kudos to *Larry Hannafin* who won his 20<sup>th</sup> Golf Championship at the Norfolk (Connecticut) Country Club in September. Larry has been involved with the game for more than 50 years, starting out at the club as a caddy.

His championship wins span four decades.

## 1962

*Jeanne A. Kent '62* and graduate of the Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford, has retired from teaching and is on to another career. She is now selling her arts and crafts online. You can visit Jeanne's site at: [freewebs.com/morningstarstudio](http://freewebs.com/morningstarstudio).

## 1964



Classmates *Phyllis Shaffer Wong* and *Sue Roberts Rouleau* reminisce in Sue's classroom at Gilbert. See related story on page 2.

## 1965

*Robert Peetz* has been in law enforcement since 1972 and writes, "...am currently a professor of criminal justice at Midland College in Midland, Texas. I am a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy, hold a master's degree in criminal justice, and prior to my law enforcement career I was in the U.S. Army attaining the rank of Captain, Field Artillery." A speech given by Robert, "The Courage to Police", has been included in the *F.B.I. Law Enforcement Bulletin* as "notable" and is published on their website. It can be viewed at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) under Reports and Publications, *Law Enforcement Bulletin*, October 2006 issue. Robert gave this speech at the graduation ceremony

for the 75<sup>th</sup> session of the Odessa College Police Academy in Pecos, Texas.

## 1971

*Nancy (Kemp) Zepke* was recently hired by A2Z Home Medical Supplies to run their Glastonbury store as an assistant manager. Nancy lives in Glastonbury with her husband Bruce and daughter Julie, who is attending college at Rochester Institute of Technology.

## 1975

Congratulations to *Kirk Gustafson* on his 25<sup>th</sup> year as senior propulsion engineer with the Federal Aviation Administration in Boston, Mass.

## 1984



Congratulations to *Nanci McBrearty Pelati* and husband Thomas who welcomed their first child, a son, Wyatt Thomas, into their lives on July 10, 2006. He weighed 8 lbs., 6 oz., and was 20 1/2 inches long! Best wishes to all!

## 1986

Congratulations to *Amy Tresky Haddad* who received an invitation to compete in the Arnold Fitness Classic (the All Star Competition of Fitness) in Columbus, Ohio in March. She is one of fifteen international competitors to be invited. Amy has competed in the Fitness

Olympia (the Super Bowl of Fitness), Europa Fitness, and numerous other fitness competitions. She has modeled for New Balance catalogue, has appeared on Studio 10.tv (St. Petersburg, Florida), and has appeared in *Flex*, *Oxygen*, and *Women's Fitness* magazines. Amy, a single mother of two children, is a physical therapist in Sarasota, Florida. Congratulations, Amy!

## 1988

*Andrea Bissett Hinde* married Jim Hinde in 2002. They have two children, Nathan Joseph and Caitlin Rose.

## 1990

*Joan Wadsworth Selleck* and husband Scott proudly announce the birth of their son Gustav Franklin "Gus" on March 13, 2006. Congratulations!

## 1991

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, *Katie Cull Tatar* and husband Chris welcomed the newest addition to their family, Cody Joseph. Cody joins two older brothers, Jacob (age 6) and Zachary (age 5).

Best wishes to *Kimberly Gee* on her recent engagement to Daniel Graffeo of Tewksbury, Massachusetts. Kimberly and Daniel are planning a September 2007 wedding.

## 1992

Congratulations to *Timothy Barber* on his recent appointment as a member of the Board of The W.L. Gilbert Trust Corporation.

Congratulations to *Ruthie*

*Ursone Napoleone* and husband Tony on the birth of their first child, Marco Antonio Napoleone, on November 13, 2006!

## 1993



*Corey Fields* has made it a personal goal to skydive in all 50 states—and met his goal this past summer by adding Maine as the 50<sup>th</sup> state in which he jumped! Corey learned to skydive in 1994 and has now jumped in Puerto Rico as well as the 50 states. Perhaps he'll start working on adding countries or continents to his list next!

## 1995

*Tonia Trieschmann Munroe* and husband Keith gave birth to a boy, Kaiden Alexander, on May 27, 2005.

## 1996

*Rebecca (McDonald) Encao* writes, "On October 28, 2006, I married Anthony Encao in Colebrook, Connecticut. Bridesmaids included *Jennifer*

(Continued on page 12)

### IN MEMORIAM

Michael R. Bardino '74

October 3, 2006

Richard Beebe '34

November 29, 2005

Anita Casagni Belli '61

October 24, 2006

Ruth Avery Calder '40

September 12, 2006

Virginia Jasmin Case '44

December 15, 2006

Kyle D. DeMars '79

February 27, 2007

Marguerite Wheeler Fancher '42

February 6, 2007

Lillian Fratini '50

October 10, 2006

Louise Brooks Hamilton '51

February 16, 2007

Robert S. Jarvis '52

November 21, 2006

Virginia Anstett Jespersen '66

January 19, 2007

Priscilla Gibbs Johnson '41

December 9, 2006

Sylvia E. Kimberly '37

November 30, 2006

Edward Lafranchise '46

September 4, 2006

Lois Meyer Lefebber '50

October 23, 2006

Keith H. Millard '43

November 14, 2006

Elaine Nardi O'Connor '37

September 20, 2006

Carole Manchester Pillay '52

October 21, 2006

Mary Cronnelly Poole '41

August 22, 2005

Stanley R. Poucher '38

September 13, 2006

Robert J. Ransford '59

September 9, 2006

Paula Holmes Rice '51

January 13, 2007

Norman E. Rogers '44

February 14, 2007

Teresa Carlino Smith '52

October 5, 2006

Michael F. Sullivan '60

January 29, 2007

Julie Valenti Sultaire '53

February 7, 2007

Paul H. Wabrek '39

April 23, 2006

Hilda Jackson Wiggins '47

August 7, 2006

Joanne Carey Williams '43

January 4, 2007

**Concerning Items in Alumni News:** Items included in the *Alumni News* section of the *Yellow Jacket* are submitted directly to us by alumni or are gathered from public sources such as local newspapers. The purpose of *Alumni News* is to pass on good wishes, thoughts and news of your classmates and to recognize accomplishments. If you prefer that we do not include you by name in future issues, please notify the Office of Development & Alumni Relations in writing.

## ALUMNI NEWS

(Continued from page 11)

*(Bazzano) Archer '96* and *Jennifer Leighton '95*. My cousin *Donna (Asselin) Winn '84* was my Matron of Honor. Anthony and I honeymooned on the island of O'ahu, Hawaii. Anthony is a member of the Air Force and while on his second deployment to Iraq last year he was given an assignment to Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi, where he is to be an instructor. We moved to Gautier, Mississippi, at the end of November. I am currently working as a college professor for Bladen Community College in Dublin, North Carolina. When we moved from North Carolina, all of my classes were changed to online classes. In addition, my first textbook is currently in the editing phase and will be published in 2007." The Gilbert School community congratulates and extends best wishes to Rebecca and Anthony.

*Aaron Fields* married Carol Disco in July of 2000. They have three

children - Samantha Emily, born March 8, 1994; Aaron Jr., born January 21, 2004; and Mercy Caroline, born March 13, 2006. Congratulations to the Fields family!

## 1998



*Diana Britton*, daughter of Walter & Roberta Britton (Winsted, CT) and David Collum, son of Barry & Linda Collum (East Hampton, NY) announce their upcoming wedding.

Diana graduated from The Gilbert School and Saint Joseph College (West Hartford, CT), where she received a BA in English. She is currently pursuing a BFA at the University of Hartford / Hartford Art School (West Hartford, CT) and remains an active member of the Winsted Area Ambulance Association. David is a graduate of Sacred Heart University (Fairfield, CT), where he also received a BA in English.

The wedding will take place at the Connor Chapel of Our Lady, on the campus of St. Joseph College, on August 4, 2007. Congratulations to Diana and David!

*Dongngan Truong* graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in May, 2006. She is now working on her pediatric residency at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford.

## 2000

On August 11, 2006, a son, Logan Wilford Paul Archambault, was

born to *Shawna Anstett Archambault* and her husband Justin, of Vernon, Connecticut. Congratulations!

Kudos to *Gary Cook* who received a master's degree in physician assistant studies from Philadelphia University in August of 2006. Gary was the recipient of the Program Director's Award for Clinical Excellence and is employed at Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia in the cardiac-thoracic surgery department.

## 2001

Congratulations and best wishes to *Rachel Gabelmann* and *Jeremy Decker '98*, who were married on July 8, 2006. Rachel graduated from UConn - Storrs in May 2005 with a BSN and is working as an RN at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington. Jeremy graduated from ECSU in May 2004 with a BA in History and is working at The Hartford in Simsbury, Connecticut. ❖

## BIRTHS

Tony and Ruthie Ursone Napoleone '92  
Son, Marco Antonio, born November 13, 2006

Tom and Nanci McBrearty Pelati '84  
Son, Wyatt Thomas Pelati, born July 10, 2006

Justin and Shawna Anstett Archambault '00  
Son, Logan Wilford Paul, born August 11, 2006

Chris and Katie Cull Tatar '91  
Son, Cody Joseph, born October 14, 2006

Scott and Joan Wadsworth Selleck '90  
Son, Gustav "Gus" Franklin, born March 13, 2006

## MARRIAGES

Rachel Gabelmann '01 and Jeremy Decker '98  
July 8, 2006

Rebecca McDonald '96 and Anthony Encao  
October 28, 2006

## ENGAGEMENTS

Diana Britton '98 to David Collum  
Kimberly Gee '91 to Daniel Graffeo

Join classmates for the  
Spring Alumni Gathering

Sunday, May 6, 2007  
Warner Theatre  
Torrington, CT

Pre-Show Reception  
and  
Matinée Performance of  
*The Sound of Music*

Call or Email the Alumni Office for  
details. Tickets are limited and available  
on a first-come, first-served basis.

(860) 738-9439

[gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org)

## CORRECTION:

*Elinor Rowley Gimbel*, Class of 1953, was incorrectly listed as deceased in the 2006 Alumni Directory. We regret this error and extend our apologies to Elinor, her family and her classmates.



## 1986 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VOLLEYBALL TEAM GATHERS TO MARK 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

**Seated:** Cindy Fixer '78, Stephanie Jones '07, Alesia Vaccari '02, Audra Vaccari '04

**Kneeling:** Monique Parks '98, Alison Jones '04, Erin Keefe '05, Ashley Baril '04

**Standing:** 1986 State Champions Darlene Williams '87, Jen Clauss DiVita '89, Carol Daukas Mierzwa '88, Sue Holcombe '87, Joyce Gallo '87, Ann Lallier Travaglini '88, Allison Fixer Wheeler '88.

*Cindy Fixer is head coach for the current volleyball program at The Gilbert School.*

*Thinking about playing next year?*

*Email fixerc@gilbertschool.org for additional information.*

The 1986 State Championship Volleyball Team gathered along with other alumni on the day before Thanksgiving to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gilbert Volleyball's first title. Lots of memories were shared through scrapbooks and stories. The players learned the rules changes from the younger alums and played as a team with those rules against the players of other years. The group won bragging rights as they took one game when the rules were changed back to the traditional side of scoring and conservative ball handling rules.

*(Continued from page 7)*

Brandie A. Schieb '97

Intelligence College in Washington, DC.

Currently, Brandie's assignment with the NGIA is as liaison to the Military Sealift Command, which is a contractor for the Navy. Brandie spends much of her spare time as a volunteer for her church, and traveled with a group last year to Cologne, Germany, as part of World Youth Day.

Due to a volunteer commitment, Brandie was unable to attend the Alumni Awards ceremony. Her parents, Hank and Michele Schieb, accepted the award on her behalf in recognition of Brandie's outstanding personal and professional successes. ❖

*(Continued from page 7)*

James L. Glynn '26

recognize his accomplishments and honor the memory of James L. Glynn with the W.L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Community Service. Representing his family to accept the award was Mr. Glynn's granddaughter Melissa Jones, third generation Gilbert alumnus and member of the Gilbert School Class of 2004. ❖

*(Continued from page 7)*

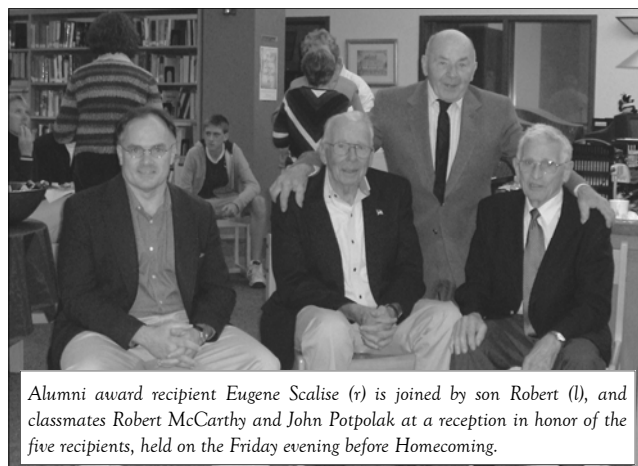
Ellen Barrett Cunha '62

language a few evenings a week.

Upon her return to the states, she continued her teaching career in California and later returned to Connecticut. She worked as a special education paraprofessional in Vernon for 6 years, for the Capitol Region Education Council at Rockville High School for 6 years, at EastConn for 2 ½ years and Glastonbury High School for 12 years. She is currently teaching at the Hebrew High School of New England in West Hartford.

Ellen has been nominated for several awards and was most recently named Teacher of the Year in 2000 from the Hartford Association for Retarded Citizens. She has coached swimming, basketball and track and field for Special Olympics.

In her nomination, Ellen's sister Martha Barrett Sevigny '61 wrote that "Ellen continues to give and it is always from the heart." We are pleased to honor Ellen with the Gilbert School Distinguished Professional Achievement Award in recognition of her outstanding career accomplishments, commitment to professional excellence, leadership in her chosen field, and respect among her professional colleagues. ❖



Alumni award recipient Eugene Scalise (r) is joined by son Robert (l), and classmates Robert McCarthy and John Potpolak at a reception in honor of the five recipients, held on the Friday evening before Homecoming.

*(Continued from page 7)*

Lisa Mangione Brochu '84

1999 and coached boys volleyball at Northwest Regional 7 for two seasons (1997 and 1998). She remains active in sports by playing softball in the women's league in Winsted each summer and assists her husband Jerry Brochu '81 in coaching their three children, Alec, Austin and Ali, in sports.

The Outstanding Athlete Award is given to Lisa in recognition of exceptional character and sportsmanship during her years as a student on a competitive sports team at The Gilbert School. Her positive attitude and team approach were evident and respected, not only within the competition venue, but also in the classroom and greater community. ❖



Sisters Martha Barrett Sevigny '61 and Ellen Barrett Cunha '62



Eugene '42 and Eleanor Blueher Scalise '43.

*Let us hear from you!*

Whether you've recently married, celebrated an anniversary or an addition to your family, received a promotion, changed occupations, started a business, written a book, won an award—or just want to send greetings to your classmates—let us know!

Fill out this form and mail it to the Alumni Office, submit online at [www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org) or send us an email! We—and your classmates—would enjoy hearing from you!

Photos for publication in the Yellow Jacket are always welcome!

 Calling all alumni! Send us your news for the next issue of the *Yellow Jacket*!

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Office of Development & Alumni Relations, The Gilbert School, 200 Williams Avenue, Winsted, CT 06098

## UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Class of 1957 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion      Saturday, October 6, 2007
- Classes of 1961 & 1962 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion      Date TBD
- Class of 1982 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion      Saturday, November 24, 2007
- Class of 1997 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion      Date TBD
- Homecoming      Saturday, October 13, 2007
- Blue & Gold Reunion      Friday, May 4, 2007
- Spring Play—*The Dining Room*      April 27 & April 28, 2007
- Spring Alumni Gathering      Sunday, May 6, 2007
- Spring Concert & Donor Thank You      Tuesday, May 8, 2007

*For event details and more, visit us online: [www.gilbertschool.org](http://www.gilbertschool.org)*

### Register for The Gilbert School Online Alumni Community Today!

More than 6,000 alumni receive news from The Gilbert School and are listed within the Alumni Community on our website. Post your email address there and send messages to your classmates, post and read class notes, find out what's happening at your alma mater. Use your alumni ID number located above your name on the mailing label of this newsletter and register today.

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Winsted, CT 06098

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Email: [gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org](mailto:gilbertalumni@gilbertschool.org)

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