

GSA *Matters*

THE GRADUATION 2014 ISSUE

NEWS FOR THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY





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On the cover -

The 2014 Class Gift: "Soaring Eagle," made by designer and alumna Julie Jo Fehrle '85. Following Commencement the eagle was installed on a wall of the gymnasium.

from the HEAD OF SCHOOL



One of the greatest ironies about high schools is that while we are in the business of change, we do not change very quickly. Let me explain. Schools exist to aid, inform, and further each student's academic, ethical, aesthetic, and personal growth. Schools embrace a fundamental mission to assist in a process of informed and directed change that occurs sometimes rather quickly and sometimes frustratingly slowly. Thus, change is not just a sought-after norm but also a hard and fast reality in the lives of students and their teachers.

Yet schools are notoriously slow to change. The organization of a 9th or 10th grade classroom today looks roughly the same as it did thirty and sixty and even ninety years ago. There are—and there were—desks in rows with a teacher in front of the desks. The teacher does most of the talking. That has not changed much at all.

Schools struggle with change for lots of reasons, among them, lack of resources, fear of the resulting adjustments or chaos, failure in leadership, lack of inspiration, or a fierce holding on to traditions and to what is safely known.

Perhaps the single greatest change in the life of a typical high schooler in

School Change

the last thirty years is the integration of technology into his or her academic life. Indeed, George Stevens Academy is poised to make a significant change this September when we join the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) program. As school starts, every GSA student will be issued a very powerful tool—a MacBook Air laptop to keep and use for the entire year.

We are committed to each student's success in every area of endeavor, and that includes preparing students for college or for a work force that increasingly expects sophisticated computer skills. Having a technology-rich learning environment will further support our commitment to individualized student learning. Laptops for every student will enable them to conduct research, download readings, creatively work in groups, write papers, and produce multimedia projects—not just during school hours, but anytime and anywhere. Moreover, we are looking to expand our repertoire of teaching and learning strategies in every classroom as we challenge our students to create, think, design, and author academic and artistic works. We will be partnering with our 1:1 sending schools so that each incoming student will make a smooth transition from 8th to 9th grade.

Everyone here at George Stevens is excited about this innovation in how we teach and learn. There are many challenges ahead of us related to technology. Please stay tuned throughout the school year to see the results.

Paul B. Perkinson

Graduation 2014!

Sunday, June 8th was a beautiful, cloudless, sun-drenched day. Sixty-three seniors processed along Union Street to the bleachers arrayed in front of the Academy Building. The jazz band, led by this year's commencement speaker, Steve Orlofsky, played the familiar strains of Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance*. Following a warm welcome by Head of School Paul Perkinson, Board president Marion Dillon Morris recognized members of the Reunion Class of 1964 who were in attendance. First Honor Essayist Bigo Shen amused the gathered crowds by comparing the innumerable choices graduates now face to the difficulty of selecting just one bottle of ketchup from the linear feet of shelves in a typical supermarket. Salutatorian Joan Liu spoke movingly of how her father has always been near at hand for her at moments of great risk. Valedictorian Loriman Looke meditated on the unexpected ways that preparing for a competitive senior debate became an experience in collaboration and friendship.

Paul Perkinson then introduced the commencement speaker, long-time and beloved music teacher Steve Orlofsky, who spoke briefly, and then serenaded a delighted audience with a solo performance on his saxophone.

Dean of Students Libby Rosemeier '77 announced the names of students who received community scholarships and book awards to support their college endeavors.

Paul Perkinson then announced this year's "Head of School Award," a tradition begun by Paul three years ago. This year's recipient was Roxie Grindle '71, whose work in the school cafeteria over two decades makes her one of the most familiar and cherished members of the school community.

Senior Brionna Blodgett on behalf of the Class Gift Committee presented the class gift (see cover). That committee included Jack Gong, Alex Heilner, Olivia Henriques, Mary Ma, Devon Oppedisano, Cosmos Siebert, Clover Slagle, Cooper Smallidge, and Chelsey Staples.

Paul, Marion, and Assistant Head of School Harearl "Buzz" Moore distributed diplomas to excited students, inviting the enthusiastic applause of parents, grandparents, families, and friends.

Finally, Justin Willis and Philip Shaheen had the last words as Second Honor Essayists. Justin extolled the wisdom of *The Dangerous Book for Boys*, encouraging everyone to learn by taking risks. Philip expressed his appreciation for the sort of inclusive community GSA is—where differences are celebrated and accepted.

The event concluded with the Head of School presenting GSA's newest graduates, who recessed as the band played on...



Where are they off to? See page 5 for next steps!



Valedictorian **Loriman Brigham Looke**
son of Loriman and Lisa Looke, Blue Hill

Mount Allison University, New Brunswick - Politics, Philosophy,
Economics

"I've learned what it is like to have been inspired by good teachers and to have grown up with good friends. I know personally that without the support of my friends and family I would not be standing here today. As I graduate high school, I look forward to the next great teacher, the next great friend. Wherever we go, I know all of us will have a support system to fall back on if ever we need to."



Salutatorian **Jiangqiong "Joan" Liu**
daughter of Hongqi Liu and Silan Jiang, Saxing, China
and host parents Stan and Kathy Pelletier, Ellsworth

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor - Mathematics

"My first year at GSA I initially mistook joining the swim team for a good opportunity to learn how to swim. On the first day of practice, I stood on the edge of the swimming pool and looked down at the water; I felt dizzy. My coach said, "ready, set, go", but I was still on the edge with quaking knees. I thought my teammates would laugh at me and give me a pitying look. Embarrassment, not the water, was going to drown me. But my teammates were not laughing; they were cheering me on, and their spirit dragged me out of my discouraging self-consciousness."



First Honor Essayist **Linfeng "Bigo" Shen**
son of Rulong Shen and Huidi Zhou, Hangzhou, China
and host parents William and Doris Webb, Blue Hill

Cornell University - Fine Arts

"Two thousand years ago, Confucius said, "Life is really simple, but we keep making it complicated." I wouldn't be the first to say Confucius was on to something there. We all want options, choices, and possibilities, but sometimes these options or choices just make our lives much more complicated. Sometimes, not giving yourself so many options to choose from can be a relief. So, when you can, keep it simple, and make things easier."



Second Honor Essayist **Baron Philip Shaheen**
son of Greg and Ann-Margaret Shaheen, Brooksville

University of Maine, Orono - Engineering

"Someone once asked me what I thought made George Stevens Academy a unique place. It is the community. It's the fact that I, as a senior, can be talking with my senior friends one moment and then turn and say hello to my freshmen friends. It's the fact that the musicians are athletes, the athletes are mathletes, and the mathletes themselves are musicians. It's how a group of five freshmen can go up to a person they don't know and invite him to eat at their table."

Second Honor Essayist **Justin Cory Willis**
son of Dana and Cyndy Willis, Penobscot

University of Maine, Orono - Mechanical Engineering Technology

"There is no better way to prepare for life than just getting out there and trying it out...This is one of the biggest lessons I got out of my time at GSA: don't be afraid to try, because everyone gets it right sometimes. And if you don't, you've learned something that will make the next problem that much easier. Embrace the occasional failure, however painful, as it flavors your success. By letting yourself learn the hard way sometimes, you make everywhere a classroom and yourself a perpetual student."



H O N O R P A R T S



Steve Orlofsky— “Mr. O” —delivered the graduation address, a mix of speech and performance. The year marks Steve’s 27th year as instrumental music director at GSA. In 2012 he received the Maine Music Educator of the Year Award and the Blue Hill Halcyon Grange #345 Citizen of the Year award.

Commencement “Notes”

“In graduating, you are about to embark on a long, winding road. You may not know which way to go, you may lose your way or lose sight of your values. Perhaps you’ll try different majors, different jobs. It is okay to change your direction in life. Eventually, you will find your way and figure out what matters most to you. Because after all, as Miles Davis said, ‘Sometimes you have to play a long time to be able to play like yourself.’ ”

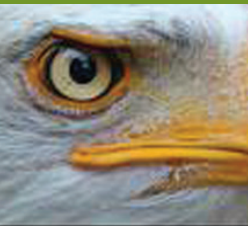
Where Next?

Sixty-three seniors graduated in June. Of these, 72% will attend a 4-year U.S. college or university - 9% will go to a 2-year college - 4% will enroll in a 4-year non-U.S. college - 7% are taking a year off - 3% are joining the military - 5% are entering the workforce. The following institutions accepted one or more graduating students.

Albright College
Allegheny College
American University
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Bard College
Bentley University
Berklee College of Music
Boston University
Brooks Institute of Photography
Bryn Mawr College
California College of the Arts
Case Western Reserve University
Cedar Crest College
Central Maine Community College
Champlain College
Clark University
Clarkson University
Colby College
Colby-Sawyer College
College of Charleston
College of the Atlantic
College of William and Mary
Concordia University
Cornell University
Dalhousie University
Drexel University
Earlham College
Eastern Maine Community College
Eckerd College
Elon University
Emmanuel College
Fordham University
Franklin Pierce University
George Washington University
Hampshire College
Hartwick College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Husson University
Ithaca College
Johnson State College
Juniata College
Kalamazoo College
Lehigh University

Lesley University
Lewis & Clark College
Maine Maritime Academy
Marymount University
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
McGill University
Merrimack College
Miami University, Oxford
Michigan State University
Mount Allison University
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
New England College
New England School of Communications
Northeastern University
Northern Maine Community College
Ohio State University
Pace University
Pepperdine University
Polytechnic Institute of NYU
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Ramapo College of New Jersey
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Rutgers University
Saint Joseph’s College (Maine)
Saint Michael’s College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seton Hall University
Simmons College
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Maine Community College
Southern Virginia University
St. Mary’s College of Maryland
Stetson University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Syracuse University
Temple University
The College of Wooster

The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
The University of Arizona
Union College
Unity College
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Hartford
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Maine
University of Maine at Augusta
University of Maine at Farmington
University of Maine at Presque Isle
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Massachusetts, Boston
University of Michigan
University of New Hampshire
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern Denmark
University of Southern Maine
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Waterloo
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Ursinus College
Utah State University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Washington State University
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Western Connecticut State University
Western Washington University
Westminster College
Wheaton College (Massachusetts)



THE EAGLE'S EYE

American Legion Boys Nation

Senior Jordon Soper of Blue Hill is one of just 98 high school student representatives throughout the U.S. chosen to attend The American Legion Boys Nation. He is one of two delegates selected from Maine based on leadership skills, academic record, and activity at American Legion Boys State. The week-long program introduces participants to the structure and function of the federal government while combining lectures and forums with visits to federal agencies, institutions, memorials and historical spots in and around Washington, D.C.

Jordon (left in picture) arrives in Washington D.C.



Lilla Bowden '04 Memorial Speaker

Maine writer Elizabeth Peavey spoke at a special assembly in May. "The Unlikely Making of a Maine Writer" was part of the Lilla Bowden '04 Memorial Speaker Series. Over the years Ms. Peavey has made numerous guest appearances in GSA's Maine Writers course. "Growing up in Maine, being so anxious to get away, finally achieving that dream—and then, after 10 years of travel, I realized I wanted to come home. And, in coming home, I found my voice as a writer."

The speaker series is named for Lilla Bowden, who graduated from George Stevens in 1904 and died in Blue Hill at age 99 in 1986. Her daughter, Dr. Rebecca Bowden Wanbaugh, graduated from George Stevens Academy in 1941. She is Professor Emerita of History at the University of Presque Isle, where she was also Dean of Women. Along with her late husband, Robert, Rebecca established the Lilla Bowden '04 Speaker Series in memory of her mother.

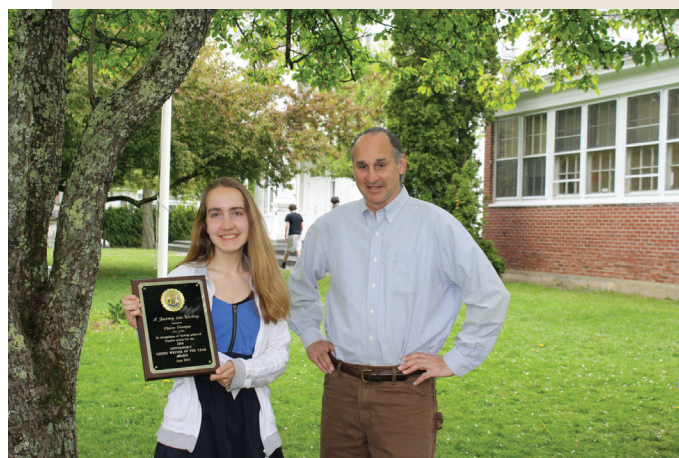
Pictured left: Elizabeth Peavey and Rebecca Bowden Wanbaugh.



Young Writer Claire Ciampa

Junior Claire Ciampa was named a finalist in the Young Writers of the Year competition. Sponsored by the Maine Community College System, with financial support from U.S. Cellular, the award is intended to promote and encourage excellence in writing by Maine high school juniors. Claire's essay, "Monster in the Mirror," can be read online at <http://writing.mccs.me.edu/Page4.htm>.

Pictured right: Claire, with English chair Michael Kazmierczak, holds her award.



Helen Dunn Award

Senior Phoebe Wentworth was the first recipient of an award given in memory of Helen Wolfe Dunn. Ms. Dunn was an educator and a Holocaust survivor who was a frequent guest in Bill Case's Holocaust class. The award was intended to recognize a student in the class who best embodies Helen's intellectual curiosity and passion to improve tolerance and understanding in the community

Pictured with Phoebe and Bill Case is trustee Tyler Knowles.



Summer Speaker Series

The 2014 Summer Speaker Series welcomed six speakers for evening presentations: Carla Guenther of Penobscot East Resource Center, world travelers Leslie Clapp and Blaise deSibour, author Warren Lehrer, climate change expert Paul Mayewski, author Suzanne Massie, and American art historian John Wilmerding. The series also tried a new event: a four-hour morning workshop in modern calligraphy taught by graphic artist Molly Suber Thorpe (*left*). Look for more workshops of various kinds next summer!

MLTI Professional Development

On a beautiful August morning a dozen GSA teachers attended a workshop to become acquainted with their new MacBook Air laptops and the educational applications now available to them for use in their classrooms. All GSA students and teachers will receive a laptop at the start of the school year.

(For more on MLTI read "From the Head of School," p. 2.)



AP Scholars 2014

Fourteen juniors and seniors were named AP Scholars and Scholars with Honors. AP Scholars—students who receive scores of 3 or higher on 3 or more AP exams—were juniors Shuxin ("Sophia") Chen, Alice Dillon, Emma Richardson, Adrian Van der Eb, Chun ("Charcy") Ye, and seniors Xingjian ("Jack") Gong, Loriman Looke, Cooper Smallidge, Nicholas Steenberg, and Tianjian ("Leo") Yuan. AP Scholars with Honors—students who score an average of 3.25 on all AP exams and a 3 or higher on 4 or more exams—were seniors Jiajun ("Johnson") Chen, Yitong ("Ophelia") Pan, Charlotte Reiter, and Linfeng ("Bigo") Shen.

SPORTS ROUNDBUPS

Tennis

The boys team continued its winning ways in Eastern Maine tennis. After finishing the regular season as the second seed with a record of 10-2, the boys went on to sweep fourth-seeded Madawaska in straight sets, winning the Class C regional championship for the 10th time in 12 years. For the fifth consecutive year, they faced Waynflete in the state final match, and for the fifth consecutive year Waynflete won 5-0. Congratulations to seniors Xingjian (Jack) Gong, Alex Heilner, Ed Lameyer, Jinran (Terry) Tian, and Tianjian (Leo) Yuan.

The girls team finished the regular season as the top seed, with a record of 10-2, and cruised through the first two rounds of the post season before coming up against a very strong Van Buren team in the regional Class C title match. They lost 1-4, with Sophia Chen '15 winning at third singles. Congratulations to seniors Maggie Keating and Charlotte Reiter.

Track

The girls team finished first at the Hancock County Small School meet, and went on to a ninth place finish at the Penobscot Valley Conference championship meet. At the PVCs Alice Dillon '15 finished second in the 800-meter run, and Bella Cimenó '17 placed third in the 300-meter hurdles. The relay team of Cimenó, Dillon, Madison Cole '15, and Hanna Jordan '17 finished second in the 4x800 relay. The team did well at the state finals, with Bella Cimenó placing sixth in the hurdles, and Alice Dillon doing the same in the 800-meter.

Congratulations to seniors: Brionna Blodgett, Amy Bolton, Phe Crampton, Abigail Ford, Savannah Leaf, and Chelsey Staples.

The boys team, too, placed first at the Hancock County Small School meet, and followed that with a third place finish at the PVCs, where Erik Taylor-Lash '17 placed first in the 1600-meter race walk. Second place finishers were: Finn Davis-Batt '15 in the 400-meter dash, John Hassett '17 – 1600-meter run, Devlin Valle '16 – 3200-meter run, and Alex Taylor-Lash '17 – pole vault. At the state finals, the team finished solidly in the middle – 15th out of 30 schools. Finn Davis-Batt finished fourth in the 400-meter dash, and John Hassett came in sixth in the 1600-meter run.

Congratulations to seniors: Johnson Chen, Bradley Gale, Stephen Krichels, Devon Oppedisano, Andre Reinero, Oliver Scott, Philip Shaheen, and Peter Zhang.

Baseball

The team finished the regular season in fourth place, with a record of 14-5. In the playoffs, they downed Mat-tanawcook 5-4 in the quarterfinals, and Bucksport 7-5 in the semifinal game. In the regional final they met their match in second-ranked Washington Academy, with a final score of 0-3. Congratulations to seniors Anthony Bi-anco, Finn McMahon-Allwine, Cooper Smallidge, Tyler Webber, and Justin Willis.

Softball

It was a young team this year, with no seniors on the roster. However, juniors Kassandra Rouff, Megan Nowland, and Adreanna Simmons helped lead the team to claim the final playoff spot by finishing the regular season in 10th place, with a record of 6-10. They faced Madawaska in the preliminary playoff game, and held the lead going into the 7th inning, before Madawaska rallied with 5 runs, winning their spot in the quarterfinals, and ending the Eagles season.

Sailing

The sailing team travels up and down the coast competing from Mount Desert Island to Cape Cod during the spring regatta season. In addition to New England Schools Sailing Association regattas, GSA schedules a number of races with MDI, culminating in the Welles Cup Regatta. GSA also hosts the Downeast Regatta in Castine, competing against teams from New England as well as Maine.

This year's Welles Cup Regatta started well for GSA, as they held the lead 2-1 after the first round of three races. MDI rallied on the second day, however winning all three races and thus keeping the Welles Cup trophy for another year.

The Downeast Regatta saw two days of very differing conditions. Saturday the heavy wind was enough to postpone racing after several boats capsized during the second race of the day. Sunday's wind was very light, which did not favor GSA. Yarmouth was the eventual Downeast Champion, winning the Modisette trophy as the top Maine finisher.

Congratulations to seniors Gordon Lameyer, Nicholas Steenberg, Clover Slagle, and Keenan Hilsinger.

AWARDS

Boys Tennis

PVC Class C Player of the Year: Alex Heilner '14

First Team: Alex Heilner '14, Lucas Theoharidis '16, Ed Lameyer '14

Second Team: Tate Yoder '15, Tim Dentino '15, Beowolf Urban '16

Third Team: Nate Boechat '15

Girls Tennis

First Team: Charlotte Reiter '14, Adrian Van der Eb '15, Madison Politte '15

Second Team: Maggie Keating '14

Third Team: Sophia Chen '15

Baseball

First Team: Finn McMahon-Allwine '14

Second Team: Anthony Bianco '14, Kelsey Allen '15

Track

First Team: Erik Taylor-Lash '17

PVC All-Academic Seniors

Boys Tennis: Terry Tian, Leo Yuan, Jack Gong

Girls Tennis: Charlotte Reiter

Outdoor Track: Phe Crampton, Philip Shaheen, Johnson Chen, Peter Zhang

First Team: 1600m Race Walk: Erik Taylor-Lash '17

Second Team: 800m Run: Alice Dillon '15; 300m L. Hurdles: Bella Cimenó '17; 4X800 Relay: Madison Cole '15, Hanna Jordan '17, Bella Cimenó, Alice Dillon; 400m Dash: Finn Davis-Batt '15; 1600m Run: John Hassett '17; 3200m Run: Devlin Valle '16; 4X100m Relay: Cameron Gordon '17, Stephen Krichels '14, Finn Davis-Batt, Ata Bahar '15

Pole Vault: Alex Taylor-Lash '17

Baseball: Justin Willis

Sailing: Nick Steenberg

From Buildings & Grounds: Summer Projects

Last summer, at the direction of the Board of Trustees, the Buildings & Grounds Committee developed a three-year plan to improve the GSA campus, with the goals of making the campus more attractive, safer, "greener" and more cost efficient. Last summer's projects included the removal of the blacktop parking lot between the Butler Building and the McIntyre/Hinckley Buildings and the creation of a landscaped courtyard. This year's projects include painting and refurnishing the cafeteria, installing all-new high-efficiency LED lighting in the gymnasium, and removing and replacing all 71 windows in the Academy Building. These windows are insulated and tightly fitting, replacing old windows that were drafty and noisy, rattling and shaking in even mild breezes. The Academy Building's front door and porch are also being replaced. Additionally, thanks to a generous gift from a loyal supporter, the Faculty Room has been repainted, newly-carpeted, and refurnished.

Current members of the B&G Committee are: Dick Bishop, Margaret Hannah (trustee), Jim Henry (trustee), Fred Heilner, Dan McGraw, Buzz Moore, Paul Perkinson, Steve Theoharidis, and Jon Woodward (trustee).

Head Search Update

A Head Search Committee has been formed to appoint Paul Perkinson's successor (as of July 1, 2015). It consists of Tyler Knowles (Chair of Head Search and trustee), Marion Morris (trustee and past parent), Melissa Mattes (trustee and past parent), Samantha Politte (trustee and parent), Jim Markos (trustee and past parent), Corey Schildroth (faculty and parent), David Stearns (faculty), Rada Starkey (Director of Development), Fred Cole '88 (community member and parent), and John Richardson (community member and parent).

At its July meeting, the board hired Bruce A. Shaw and his colleague Raymond Nance to serve as Head Search consultants. Bruce has taught and led schools in Massachusetts, California, Connecticut, and Minnesota for over 40 years and is highly respected in the educational community. Most recently Raymond served as head of Glen Urquart School in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Broad community input will be sought during the search process, including participation by parents, alumni, and community members.

Tyler Knowles, Trustee
Chair, Head Search Committee

August 2014

HOMECOMING 2014

GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY
Homecoming 2014
for Alumni & Friends
September 26 + 27 + 28

Friday, September 26
10:00 Golden Eagles Reception
10:00 Music by Honors Jazz Combo, Esther Wood Room
10:25 - 11:15 Refreshments, cafeteria
4:00 Girls Varsity Soccer with Dexter
Concessions provided by GSA Parents
7:00 - 10:00 Rec Night for current students, gymnasium

Saturday, September 27
9:00 - 1:00 4 Season Sports & Recreational Equipment Sale, gymnasium
12:00 Boys Varsity and JV Soccer with Orono
Concessions provided by GSA Parents
3:00 - 5:00 Alumni Reception
DeepWater Brewery, 33 Tenney Hill, Blue Hill
Complimentary hors d'œuvres. Beer and wine available.

Sunday, September 28
8:30 - 4:30 Duane B. Gray '64 Memorial Golf Tournament
Blue Hill Country Club
(Rain date: October 5)
8:30 Morning Tournament
Light breakfast and coffee provided
12:00-1:00 Lunch provided by GSA Culinary Arts Program
1:00 Afternoon Tournament
Snacks provided
10:30 TradeWinds Great Pumpkinfest 4K Road Race



George Stevens Academy

SPORTS & RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT SALE

Saturday, September 27 • 9:00 am • GSA Gymnasium

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS

George Stevens Academy is collecting donations of sports, athletics, and recreational equipment and gear. All items, large and small, in good, clean condition, are gratefully accepted. Items may be dropped off at the school's Main Office Monday through Friday from 9am until 3pm and, beginning July 1st, Tuesday through Thursday from 9am until 2pm.

Proceeds from the sale go to George Stevens Academy's 2014 - 2015 Annual Fund.

For more information, to donate items or to arrange for item pickups, contact
Meg Maiden (megmaiden77@gmail.com or 374-2856) or Prudy Heilner (prudy.heilner@gmail.com or 374-5485).

GEORGESTEVENSACADEMY.ORG/4SEASONSALE
FACEBOOK: GSA4SEASONSALE



For Homecoming 2014 information and updates, visit us on the web at www.georgestevensacademy.org/homecoming2014.

Alumni Challenge - You Did It!

A record number of alumni gave to GSA between July 2013 and June 2014. Thanks to our 695 alumni contributors this past year, we surpassed the Alumni Challenge 20% participation goal and reached 21% alumni support! A special thank you to all the volunteers—Class Agents and other dedicated alumni, Development Committee members, Trustees, teachers, and staff members—who committed time and energy to this effort and brought so many alumni together to make it happen.

Fifteen classes earned GSA an additional \$500 each from an anonymous donor by attaining at least 15 contributors. Congratulations to the Class of 2014 for reaching 86% participation in the Senior Class Gift, with 54 contributors! The Class of 2012 had the second highest number of participants, with 23 donors. Our deep appreciation goes to the group of GSA friends who offered the Alumni Challenge and whose generous \$20,000 pledge of support gave incentive for this achievement.

Thank you!

GIVING DAY 2014



On June 3, GSA hosted its first ever “Giving Day” event. We invited GSA community members who hadn’t yet given to the Annual Fund to join in solidarity by making their annual gifts to GSA on the same day.

The gorgeous weather provided the perfect backdrop for alumni, parents, teachers, staff, Trustees, and friends to mingle by the front steps, enjoying Bucklyn coffee and Millbrook Company treats throughout the day. Over 60 supporters stopped by to chat, snack, donate, and reconnect, which made the event enjoyable for all.

Highlights of the day included visits from several young alumni home from college and special efforts made by members of the classes of 2011 and 2012 to reach out and boost their class participation. The Classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013 joined the Classes of 1964 and 1979 in earning additional funds for GSA by reaching a goal of 15 contributors per class.



Photos (left column, from top):

The morning of Giving Day; **Paul Gilden** joins in welcoming supporters; **Ramsay Williamson '12**, **Haley Maiden '12**, and **Grace Bugbee '12** hang out and text their friends in support of the effort; **Lisa Arhontes-Marshall**, one of the many community members who stopped by to support the cause, chats with Director of Development **Rada Starkey**.



(Right column, from top):

David Dillon of Bucklyn Coffee and **Liffey Thorpe**, GSA's Director of Publications and Communications, set up an array of coffee and juice; **Ben Eley** with Head of School **Paul Perkinson** is the 15th supporter from the class of 2013; **Nick Dillon '12** chats with Development Associate **Maggie Overton '77** as he makes his contribution; **Sotherd Steer '12**, and **Schuyler Van der Eb '12** push their class over the 15-participant goal.



REUNION UPDATES

June



(1)

On June 20, the **Class of 1967** held its 47th-year reunion at the camp of Chris Piper Lamb '67 and Jim Lamb in Penobscot. Class Agents Belinda Carter and Chris Piper Lamb report: "We had a great time with 18 classmates in attendance, lots of good food, and great conversation. In 2013, we held our 46th reunion and all decided it was such a good time that we would make it an annual event. The time together is never long enough, so gathering each year is a way to make sure we stay in touch. Our years at GSA were good years (or mostly so), and we were a close class. Many of us have stayed in Maine most of the time, some have returned to Maine in our later years, and many make a return trip to Maine to vacation at some point during the year. Those attending for the first time commented that they had more fun than they had expected. Plans are being made to have more good food, conversation, and hopefully a new horseshoe pit next year. We all enjoyed each other and look forward to the next gathering.

Our class members donated to GSA's Annual Fund in support of the Alumni Challenge; our efforts helped GSA reach its goal and receive the \$20,000 contribution!"

Photo 1- George Gray and Marguerite Hutchins Canary

Photo 2 - Gibb McVay and Priscilla Leighton

Photo 3, left to right: Tom Woodward, John Allen, Norman "Gibb" McVay, Ree Astbury Hamilton, Bruce Grindal, Chris Piper Lamb, Hal Snow, Belinda Carter, Linette Bridges Grindal, John Healey, Claudeane Marks Gross, Marguerite Hutchins Canary, Priscilla Leighton, Ralph Staples, Nanette Snow Beal, George Gray, Linda Nevells Bowden, Winfield Bowden.



(2)

July

The **Class of 1994** had its 20th-year reunion over the July 12 weekend with events on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Organizers Erin Campbell Ellis and Tera Babson Gellerson shared an update: "We kicked off the event with a tour of GSA...it was so interesting to see the changes after 20 years. Many thanks to Bonnie Copper and Roger Bennatti for touring with us and reliving so many memories. The tour was followed up by a night on the town.

On Saturday, we had Family Day in Penobscot. It was great to see not just our former classmates but their families too. We played games, chatted, and had a lobster feed. It was a great day that ended with the Penobscot Days fireworks display. We had 17 alumni plus their spouses and kids attend the events...many from New England and from as far away as Georgia. Some of us met the next day to hike Blue Hill Mountain."

Photos 4, 5, 6, 7: 1994 tour group and Saturday gathering with families.



(3)

Upcoming Reunions

August

According to Class Agent Marge McGraw Longwood, **the Class of 1961** is planning a 53rd-year reunion for August 28, the Thursday before Labor Day. Stay tuned for details! For more information, contact Betty Sylvester Pickering at stephenp1@myfairpoint.net.

September

The Class of 1989 will be holding its 25th-year reunion September 26 and 27 at Nichols Day Camp in Sedgwick, ME. Invitations will be sent with more details. Contact Dawn Bates Nason (207-460-1730) or Jeb Billings (207-479-0227) for more information.

The Class of 1964 will celebrate its 50th-year reunion on Friday, September 26, beginning at noon, at the home of Wayne and Ruthie Clapp Hutchins. As of July, all 32 class members have been located. Tentative "yes" responses have been received from 24 classmates, with 2 others unable to attend. Only 6 classmates have yet to respond!

A mailing will be sent to everybody with details, including times, directions, payment, and opportunities to connect with friends from other classes as part of GSA's Homecoming Weekend. Class members from 1962, 1963, and 1965 are encouraged to visit with Class of 1964 friends at the Golden Eagles welcome on Friday morning, September 26 and/or at the Alumni Reception on Saturday, September 27.

The reunion is being organized by Class Agents Jim Farr and Bernie Gray, together with Sue Woodward Fenders and Linda Gray Rosenberg. Contact Jim Farr at salutme@aol.com with questions.

Photo 8: Class of 1964 members Jim Farr, Bernie Gray, and Judy Austin McKay represented the 50th-year reunion class at GSA's graduation ceremony on June 8.

Keep us posted on your class reunion plans! Email j.traub@georgestevens.edu, info or call the Development Office at (207) 374-2800. Class years ending in "5" and "0": your reunion year is coming up! Let us know if we can help you reach out to classmates or come up with ideas. We can publicize your plans via GSA's website and magazines.



(8)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)

CLASS NOTES

1973

With a thesis entitled “Everyday Stories: Exploring a Storytelling Curriculum in Kindergarten,” **Melissa Brownlow '73** has completed her Master’s in Education from University of Prince Edward Island. She is still teaching kindergarten full-time and will be presenting a workshop on the storytelling curriculum this fall at the PEI Teacher’s Federation Conference.

1982

Leslie Clapp '82 and Blaise deSibour ventured to Madagascar last fall and spent five weeks covering the world’s fourth largest island. According to Leslie, “Pockets of unique ecosystems still exist and harbor some of the most extraordinary creatures you could imagine! Lemurs stole the show, but colorful chameleons, fantastic frogs and gorgeous geckos made quite a hit. There are over 120 endemic bird species and some very strange insects, all of which are highly approachable and make for wonderful photographs.”

They traveled to the spiny forest of the southwest, lowland rainforest of the northeast, montane rainforest of the interior and tropical islands of the north, and experienced the many surprises each area has in store. Leslie and Blaise presented their videos and stunning photographs on July 22 and August 6 as part of GSA’s Summer Speaker Series and will repeat the presentation, “Madagascar - The Eighth Continent,” on Friday, October 17 at 7:00 pm in GSA’s Esther Wood Room.

1991

Jim Begley '91 has taken a full-time position at AV Technik (www.avtechnik.com), a leading production company that handles audio, video, lighting, and staging for live events and concert production.

2000

In May, **Courtenay Pettigrew '00** graduated cum laude from Thomas Jefferson University/Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, with a specialty in Emergency Medicine. She is enjoying her current position as a resident physician at Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno, CA.

2009

Roz Brokaw '09 graduated from Colorado College in 2013, and spent the following year traveling and working as a teaching fellow at the Alzar School, a high school semester program in Cascade, Idaho. She is now working as an Admission Counselor for Colorado College and spends her free time hiking, biking, skiing, and rafting.



Kelly Mirado Cutler '09 moved back to the states from Playa del Carmen, Mexico this past winter and is now living in Manhattan. She is studying storytelling, improv, and sketch comedy at the Upright Citizens Brigade Training Center and the American Comedy Institute. When she's not in class, performing, or attending comedy shows, Kelly is training at IKM (International Krav Maga) New York. In Hebrew "Krav Maga" means "contact-combat." Developed and refined during years of conflict, Krav Maga emphasizes easy-to-learn techniques based on natural instinct that have been battle-tested in real life-threatening situations.

Kelly says she is also a skilled interviewee and enjoys collecting hugs from semi-famous people with her city-smart sassy gal-pal **Sarah Elliott '10**.

2011

Smith College offers Praxis, a funding program for students who participate in unpaid summer internships. This summer, **Annie Ames '11** was able to use this funding to intern at Book & Plow farm, the campus farm of Amherst College. She chose Book & Plow because it offers hands-on learning within the context of an urban, organic farm in the local Pioneer Valley.

When we spoke with Annie toward the end of July, she shared these details of her experience: "Book & Plow has already harvested nearly 6,000 pounds of produce during the 2014 growing season. This produce goes to dining halls within the 5-college system, as well as local restaurants in the Valley. My nine fellow interns and I are, under the direction of our two fearless leaders, responsible for planting, cultivating, weeding, pest management, harvesting, and many other tasks and chores that are all necessary in order to keep Book & Plow growing. The trusty Kubota (right) is used for numerous jobs at the farm."

2012

Maddie Sawyer '12 shares this news on her job working at Bangor Humane Society as an animal care technician: "Basically, what I do is get the animals ready to go up for adoption—this includes vaccinating the animals, drawing their blood, and giving them a full exam to make sure they are healthy. One of my favorites at the shelter is Greta, a one-year-old Doberman mix (see photo) who has been with us for a while."

Alumni, share your news anytime by emailing Jennifer at j.traub@georgestevens.info or by visiting the alumni section of GSA's website and clicking on "Update Your Profile." We send out calls for Class Notes occasionally during the year—to receive these notifications, make sure we have your current email address. We'd love to hear from you and to share your updates with the GSA community!





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"Thank you, alumni and students, parents and grandparents, faculty, staff, trustees, and friends in the community who supported GSA's 2013-2014 Annual Fund. You helped make this day happen!"

