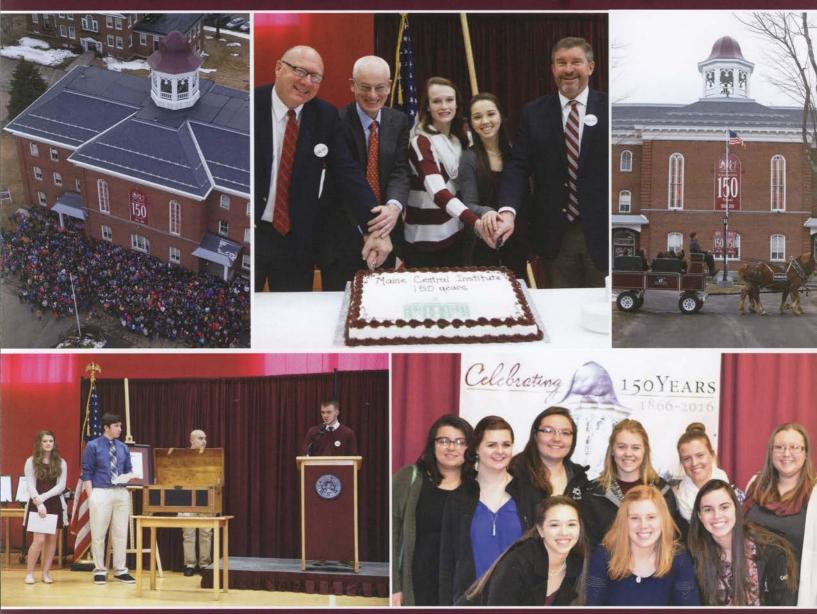
# ALUMNUS

MAINE CENTRAL INSTITUTE 1866 - 2016

Sesquicentennial Issue

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Editor: Jennifer Voter Beane '97 Associate Editors: Oliver Beane, Joe Roberts and Sharon Savasuk

### On the Covers:

**Front:** Perhaps the oldest photo of Founders Hall, dated to approximately 1869. The photo depicts students playing baseball on front campus while others look on from the windows and roof. As the bell for the tower was donated by Henry Lancey in 1877, you will see that the tower is empty (except for spectators!).

Back: The MCI student body in front of Founders Hall circa 1900.



Front cover photo restoration by Wendy McLain

# IN THIS ISSUE

150TH CELEBRATION 6 View photos of the celebration held on Feb. 1, 2016

**C** LONG LIVE THE **KING(SBURY)!** Tanya Kingsbury on her nearly 40 years at MCI



<u>ງຊ</u> School History Learn more about the early years of MCI, the founders and the campus



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Learn more about the "Sesqui" Class of 2016

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FOOTSTEPS IN HISTORY Kenneth Cianchette '42 reflects on his lifelong ties to MCI

REUNION 2016 Make plans for MCI's 150th

**Reunion Weekend** 

celebration!



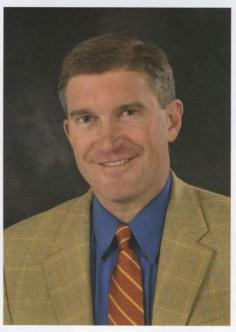
**CLASS MEMORIES** Alumni and friends share their favorite MCI memories

# From the Headmaster

Dear Friends,

We very much hope you enjoy this special Sesquicentennial edition of the *Alumnus*. In it, you'll see a review of some of the key yearly events of what has been yet another outstanding year at the School. However, what we hope will make this a particularly special publication, even a keepsake, are the features celebrating the 150 years of this great old school, how it has changed and grown, adapted and innovated, while still retaining the same core values which remain as strong as the 147 year old foundation of Founders Hall!

You'll also learn that this summer's Reunion is going to be a special one, and I cannot encourage you enough to attend regardless of whether or not you are a member of "the ones and the sixes"! We expect this to be one of the largest reunions ever, so bring yourself and your family and rally your classmates. There will be events and meals on campus from Friday afternoon and late into Saturday evening, including a fireworks show!



As we celebrate the School's storied past and its present health, the 150th also must

inspire us to look ahead into the near and distant future. As current stewards of MCI we all—students, faculty, staff and administration, trustees, alumni, parents and community members—must be thinking of the role we will play to carry on the vision begun by the School's founders in 1866.

On Saturday morning (August 6) of Reunion we will all meet in Parks Gym. First, you will be greeted with a surprise addition to the interior of the space. Next, you will be treated to some speakers and a video which has been created to celebrate the 150th. Finally, you will hear about important plans for the future of Maine Central Institute. So, again, please make sure you look at the full schedule found later in the magazine, plan to be on campus so you don't miss anything, and if you have questions, contact the Alumni Office at either (207) 487-5915 or alumni@mci-school.org.

Until then, I wish you and your loved ones a wonderful summer. I thank those who sent in their reminiscences, the Alumni Association, and everyone who has contributed to this year-long celebration of this milestone in MCI's history.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Hopkins

# MAINE CENTRAL INSTITUTE 1508 IIIIIII

# Celebrating 150 YEARS

On February 1, 2016, MCI students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members celebrated the School's 150th anniversary with a full day of activities. Speakers included Senator Angus King, former Headmaster Douglas Cummings, and President of the Board of Trustees Norbert Young Jr. '66.

The School also received a congratulatory letter from President Barack Obama, a special video from Senator Susan Collins as well as legislative sentiments from Congressman Bruce Poliquin and Representative Stanley Short Jr. Governor Paul LePage declared February 1, 2016 as "MCI Day" in recognition of the anniversary.

#### Other highlights of the day included:

• The MCI Concert Band played the "Founders March" composed by Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair Dean Neal. The march used the melodies of both the School Hymn and the school's pep song.

• The presentation of a time capsule by MCI's Student Council. The capsule included items such as 2015 field hockey and football jerseys from our state and regional championship teams, newspapers from February 1 and an iPad, with campus photos.

· Horse-drawn sleigh rides on front campus.

• A student letter writing and poster contest, with the winners included in the time capsule, as well as a 150th photo contest for faculty, staff and students (see winners on next page).

- Students and staff from Manson Park, Vickery and Warsaw schools traveled to MCI's campus for a photo, taken by drone, of the entire SAD 53 community in front of Founders Hall.
- The ringing of the Founders Bell 150 times.



Norbert Young Jr '66 and Chris Hopkins



Myky Weinstein '19 and Peri Cianchette '18 play the "Founders March" with the MCI Concert Band



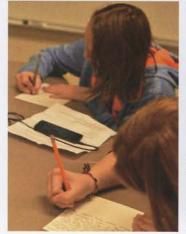
MCI Community Members enjoy horse-drawn sleigh rides on front campus

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Celebrating 150 YEARS 1866 - 2016



Senator Angus King speaks with the community in Parks Gym



Students work on their sesquicentennial letters\*



Eugene Tilipman '16, faculty member Roger Jack and Wayne Jiang '16\*



Students list their favorite things that make MCI special\*

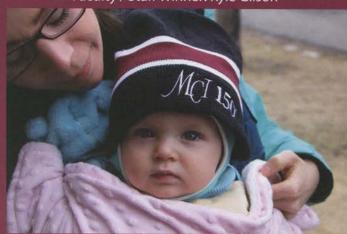


Headmaster Hopkins addresses the MCI community at the end of the celebrations. Photo credit: Kyle Gilson.

Student Winner: Jalen Chen '18

### **150TH PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS**

Faculty / Staff Winner: Kyle Gilson



Celebrating the past, present and future with a member of the Class of 2032

A bagpiper plays as the community gathers in front of Founders Hall for the group photo

Mow to our 2016 Day of Giving donors!

Jason & Alycia Kerr Allen '97 Martinique McNichol Allen '97 Kevin Ames '77 Trudi Bickford Ames '79 Robert Andersen '17 Sylvia Andersen '19 Anonymous Douglas Archibald Michael Archibald '83 Timothy Archibald '84 James Arsenault '59 Yuxin Bai '18 Austin Bailey '19 Phillips Baird '57 Alexis Baker '17 Kvra Baker '18 Joseph '64 & Karoldene Martin Barnes '65 Aaron Bartlett '86 N. Blake Bartlett McKenna Basford '16 Oliver & Jennifer Voter Beane '97 Melanie Bedard '19 Abigail Bernier '17 M. Raymond Berthelette Adam Bertrand '18 Thomas Bertrand '90 Lyford Beverage '61 Delia Young Bickford '60 Julia Bluhm '16 Duncan Boreham '19 Hayden Boreham '17 Frank '55 & Anne McCready Bowen '55 Lancy Carter Bradshaw Mia Braley '19 Beverly Turner Breau '52 Brent Brooks '87 Kenneth & Elaine Brown Kevin Brown '93 Kimberly Paresson Brown '87 Sarah Walsh Brown Stacy Brown '92 Arey Bryant '48 Isaac Bryant '18 Robert Bryant '78 Theo '48 & Shiney Bryan William Bryant '56 Emily Fowle Burdin '08 James Burger '63 Seth Bussell '19 John Buys Hayden Caldwell '19 Douglas & Tania Rogers Carnrick '73 Theo '48 & Shirley Bryant Scott Carter '73

Harvey Chambers '55 Barbara Deane Charlamb '59 Hong Chen '19 Jiedi Chen '18 Sarah Chipman '53 Yuna Cho '17 James '85 & Sheila Christie Helen Esty Cianchette '48 Melissa Cianchette '67 Robert Cianchette '78 & Hillary Ginsberg Deanna Leavitt Clark '60 Nicholas Clark '19 Jeannine Cloutier Teressa Corson '84 Arielle Costello '06 & James Van Deventer Mercedes-Lee Cote '18 Dawn Peterson Cox '68 Donna Cray Heather Gray Csontos '96 William Cunningham '70 Brandon Curry Harley Curtis '19 Irma Cushing Amos Davis '70 Blake Dawes '19 Eric Day Evan Dean John & Tracy Dean MacKenzie Dean Skyla Dean Zane Dean Debra Deckert '86 Lily DeGrasse '19 Faith Delano '17 Abigail DeSchiffart '16 Bridget DeViller '17 Paul & Robin Chaffee Dewkett '84 Jinfeng Ding '17 Michael '84 & Katherine Dow Kimberly Cookson Duncombe '87 Norman Duncombe '18 Destinee Duprey '19 Karla Edney David'70 & Susan Smith England '73 Traci Hanscom Ennis '87 Qi Feng '18 David Fernald '58 Maria Figuereo Jettah Files '19 Erin Filts '02 Ross '78 & Kelly Breau Fitts '79 Lewis Fitts '08

Madison Fitts '18 Laurie Flood-Jensen '87 Sophia Flynn '16 David & Tracye Caldwell Fortin '81 Jared Foster George & Syrena Thompson Gatewood '74 Rebecca Geagan Jake Gehrke '18 Wayne Germany '79 Deborah McCaughey Gerrato '87 Clair Gerry '18 Scott '00 & Abigail Giallombardo Madelyn Kenniston Given '62 Gregory Goetz '17 Carol Rodgers Good '62 Teran Goodridge '17 Tracy Goodridge '84 Richard Gordon '59 Makayla Guerette '18 Suzanne Lynch Guild '81 Shengxue Guo '18 Yizhi Guo '18 Russell '74 & Dena Frost Hall '79 Kenneth Hallee '54 Ciera Hamlin '18 Cassidy Hamm '18 Frank Haseltine '64 Susan Haseltine '67 Jeffrey Hathorn '64 Karen Brown Hawkes '98 Amanda Hays '16 Quanyin He '18 Michael Heath '87 Gretchen Voter Heaton '93 Larry Heim '67 Jacob Hinsch '18 Michael '86 & Michelle Vigue Hodgins '91 Dean Homstead '69 Chris and Suzanne Hopkins David & Susan Hopkins **Richard Houghton** Nicholas Howard '18 William Hovsradt '67 Ziwei Huang '18 Allison Hughes '18 Gregory '94 & Nancy Beverage Hughes '87 Ethan Inman '19 Kasey Inman '17 Thomas Jackson '73 Peter Jason '70 James Jensen '87

Jaime Kearney Kathy Kelley '79 Daniel & Megan Cianchette Kelley '95 George Khvtisavrishvili '17 Dale Kitching '68 Miranda Kuespert '16 Thomas Kuespert '19 Virginia Coolbroth Landry '50 Jesse Langford '17 Kurt Larochelle '19 Cheyanne Laythe '19 Anthony Leahy '18 Jennifer Kuhlmey Lebo '93 Yijie Li '18 Michael & Jessica Libby John Linkletter '17 Martha Lloyd '70 Charles' 48 & Caridad Menendez London '58 Laurie Fitts Loosigian '71 Paiae Lord '18 Celena Lucier David Lynch '71 Michael Lynch '84 David '86 & Theresa MacGown Martin MacGown '78 Seth Mason '17 **Kimberly Mayhew** Autumn Maynard '18 James '69 & Cynthia Maynard Jared '98 & Kelli McCannell Kelly McCormick Jean McGowan '87 Roberta McGuire Roger '70 & Dawn Ann Duplisea McMann '72 Malcolm Meikle '60 Robert Menucci '64 Suzanne Huff Mercier '63 James Meservey '18 Connor Miholovich '18 Edward & Anne Miller Abigail Monteyro '18 Braden Monteyro '16 Catherine Doyle Mooers '53 Clark Morrison '17 Robert Morrison '72 Tessa Murphy '19 Aaron Neron '86 Bradley Newhouse '84 Gregg'81 & Laurie Newhouse Libby Newhouse '09 Natalie Nickerson '18

Aiden Nolan '18 Laura Norris '92 Melinda Huff Nyman '87 David '87 & Cindy O'Brien Margaret Maynard Olson '84 Brenda Hartley Orffer '89 Tao Pan '18 **Beth Paradis** Ryan Paradis '19 Anna Maria Parker '66 David Pattee '59 Alice Shaw Patterson '48 Carter Pearl '17 Jay Pearl Sebastian Peill-Meininghaus '17 Steve & Anna Watson Peterson '81 Hung Hy Long Pham '18 Maxine Piatt '18 Paul Pietranico '88 Thomas Pike '86 Wayne Pinkham '63 Adam & Kirsten Pomeroy Barbara Pomeroy '87 Edward Porter '83 Troy Preble '84 Richard Prone '67 Matthew & Mary Beth RalsIton Bin Ren Ellis Reuter '16 Carter Richmond '17 Lance '86 & Trudy Richmond Katelynn Rines '18 Joseph Roberts Jacklyn Mercier Robinson '70 Lincoln Robinson George & Martha Robison Matthew Rumery '18 Michael '62 & Pricilla Savage Sharon Savasuk Matthew Scott '53 Stephen '66 & Brenda Thompson Seekins '66 Tucker Sharples '19 Evan Shaw '19 Linda Shorey '69 and John Decker Nancy Bertrand Shorey '82 Daniel Shute '19 Domnic Sickles '17 Timothy Simeone '86 & Kim Griffin Matthew Singh '19 Anna Smith '19 Makenzie Smith '17 Mary Lloyd Smith '71 Thomas Smith '64 William Smith '72

Lana Smithner '06 Mimi Sora Beth Staples '82 Brandon Stevens '17 Nikki Stewart '18 Michael '75 & Debra Susi Charlie Swift '17 Johnathan Swift '19 Elspeth Taylor '18 Loretta White Thomas '48 Benjamin Thomasson '13 Eric Thompson '84 Linda Sweet Thornton '71 Li Tian '18 Daniel & Elizabeth Sharples Tilton Nathanael Tilton '16 Dini Tu '19 Mary Laney Turbyne '55 **Daniel Tuttle** James Tyson Judie Mercier Vacchina '62 Caroline Vigue '18 Gregory Vigue '16 Dale & Sheilya Cookson Voter '67 Tammy Thompson Vuocolo '82 Emily Wagner '04 **Richard & Doreen Waite** Angela Waskewicz '19 Liana Waskewicz '19 Jennifer Watson Bonnie McLennan Weatherford '97 Milton Webber '71 Mykayla Weinstein '19 Katherine Welch '16 Elizabeth Coolidge Whalen '48 Liam Whitley '18 Michael Wiers '67 Linda Wiles '71 Clint '86 & Sarah Williams Lisa Desjardins Williams '84 Bruce Williamson '69 Janet Carter Winchester '75 Michelle Witham-Tuttle Daniel Woodruff '84 Martha Young Worley '68 Gerry Wright Wei Xu '18 Kazuma Yamamoto '18 Joo-Ohk Yi '98 Christine & Norbert Young Jr. '66 Haotian Zhang '17 MCI's JMG Club Nolans Hero Foundation

## Athletics @ Maine Central Institute 150th Year Highlights

• MCI Field Hockey won the Class C State Championship with a 2-0 victory over Oak Hill in the State Championship Game at UMaine. Coach Nancy Hughes was named Coach of the Year by Central Maine Sports and the *Portland Press Herald*.

• MCI Football won the Class D North Regional Championship for the second straight year. Fifteen of the twenty-six All Conference First Team (Offense/Defense/ Special Teams) selections were awarded to MCI players. Their 545 points during the regular season and playoffs set a school record for points scored in a season.

• MCI Golfer Eric Dugas '17 finished 3rd in the Class B State Individual Tourney and qualified to compete in the New England Schoolboy Championships at Bretwood in Keene, NH. Dugas was named *Morning Sentinel* Golfer of the Year.

• ZyAnthony Moss '18 won the Class B North 120 pound regional wrestling title.

• Curtis McLeod '16 and Allison Hughes '18 both won KVAC Shot Put titles. McLeod set the conference record with his winning throw.

• Curtis McLeod won the State Class C Shot Put Championship and went on to finish sixth in the New England Shot Put Championships.



MCI Field Hockey Captains Kali Doiron '16, Mikayla Carr '16, Emily McAlpine'16, Taylor Hall '16 and Alexis Caldwell '16 with Athletic Director Jim Leonard and Headmaster Chris Hopkins



Zyanthony Moss '18 takes down his opponent at a wrestling match Photo credit: Josie Libby '19

• Curtis McLeod '16 and Taylor Hall '16 were named MCI Athletes of the Year.

• For the year, 50 MCI studentathletes were given All Academic recognition at the conference and state level. Another 52 studentathletes were recognized with All Conference awards for their performance.



Taylor Hall '16 and Curtis McLeod '16 receive the Athlete of the Year Award at Graduation

# Arts @ Maine Central Institute **150th Year Highlights**

 MCI's vocal jazz groups "Caravan" and "Equinox" earned first and second place respectively in the MMEA Division II State Jazz Choir competition. This is the first time that MCI has had two groups earn first and second place in the same year. In addition, six students were recognized for outstanding musicianship and seventeen students earned soloist recognition for musical excellence.

 In February the Jazz Band and Vocal Jazz "Caravan" groups attended the Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival, the largest high school jazz festival in the United States. "Caravan" earned third place in the Vocal Jazz Class 2 category. This is the sixth consecutive year that MCI has been recognized as a finalist in Vocal Jazz at Berklee.

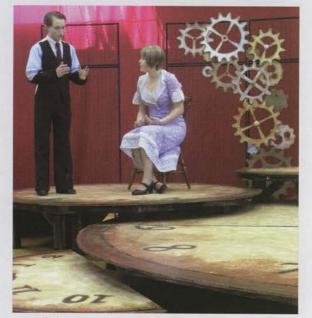
· Eighty-five students traveled to NYC in April, where MCI had five ensembles perform in the Big Apple Classic. The judges chose to recognize two instrumentalists for the entire festival; one was Sydney Morton '18 for her work in the Jazz Band. The judges also chose to recognize two vocalists from the festival and both were from MCI: Curtis McLeod '16 and Lily Miller '19.

· The MCI Drama Team won the Class B Central Maine Regional Division competition in March and went on to be runners-up in the Class B State Finals, earning an alternate position to the New England Championship Competition. The team competed in the championship in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, and was commended on their production of These Shining Lives

by Melanie Marnich. The judges' comments included: "Such was the actors commitment to dealing compassionately with the cold business central to this script that the story was raised from being a mere history lesson to an artistic, even touching portrayal of the past. We were honored to let you turn back the past for us, illuminate the past for us, and let those lovely people live again for just a few minutes in our ever-unfolding present."

 Bossov Ballet Theatre performed their annual production of The Nutcracker at the Waterville Opera House in December, followed by their Spring Showcase in May. The Spring Showcase featured Chopiniana as well as the premiere of a new ballet, The Ugly Duckling. The Ugly Duckling, based on the fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen, was created and choreographed by BBT Artistic Director Natalva Getman. BBT also completed their first-ever audition tour in Massachusetts and New York in February, garnering several new students for the fully enrolled Summer Intensive program.

 The Visual and Performing Arts Honors Society inducted 35 new inductees, including 5 students recognized in more than one discipline. There were also 3 students who were recognized with new honors in a second discipline.



Ellis Reuter '16 and Mikayla Carr '16 in MCI's production of These Shining Lives



Hannah Holtsclaw '16 as the Ugly Duckling in Bossov Ballet's Spring Showcase



Pencil drawing by MCI art student Kevin Shen '19 SUMMER 2016 11

# **Graduation 2016 in Photos**

Congratulations to our newest alumni!





2016 Valedictorian

Abigail DeSchiffart



u home a ain.'

Senior Class President Hannah Holtsclaw hands the gavel to rising Senior Class President Carter Pearl '17



Salutatorian Gregory Vigue with Nick Hubel during Greg's salutatorian address



Graduation speaker and former MCI Headmaster Douglas Cummings talks with Debra Susi



Faculty Cup recipient Mikayla Carr and Masters Cup recipients Logan Rollins and Greg Vigue



Class Marshalls Amelia McCannell and Logan Rollins



Fifth generation MCI graduate Dillon Fitts receives recognition from Headmaster Hopkins



Anna Liu, Linh Ho and Xantal Dufrasne receive awards from Dean of Academics Heidi Cook

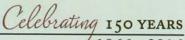


Maria Martinez Noya, Jorge Miralles, Juan Garcia Bango Roig and Leone Sbernadori gather before Graduation

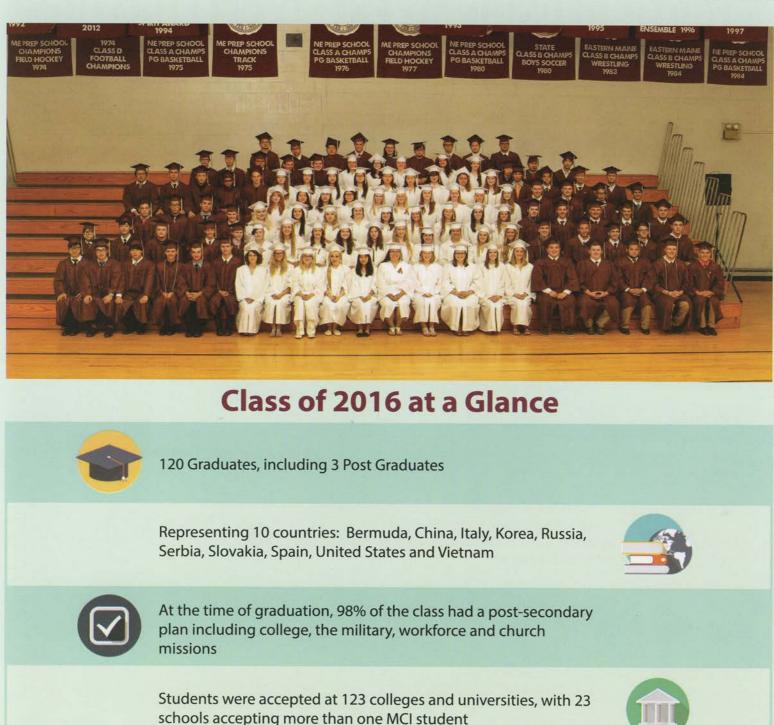


Admissions Associate Maggie Ren says a tearful goodbye to a student after Graduation

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1866 - 2016





Popular intended areas of study include business, computer science, education, engineering, finance, history, nursing, pre-med, pre-vet and psychology

Students will attend college in 19 states, Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah and Vermont as well as Madrid, Spain



# **150TH REUNION WEEKEND CELEBRATION** August 5 - 7, 2016

This year's Reunion Weekend will be packed full of activities unlike any other, with special events in honor of MCI's sesquicentennial.

Even if it is not your Reunion year, please make plans to return to campus for this grand celebration! We hope that all alumni will participate in what is certain to be a once-in-a-lifetime, fun-filled extravaganza!

# **Schedule of Events**

### Friday, August 5

JW Parks Golf Course, Pittsfield, ME 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Alumni Association Golf Scramble Come join MCI alumni and friends for an 18-hole golf scramble. Space is limited and reservations will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. You can arrange a foursome or we can match you. Spouses and friends are welcome to play. Prizes will be awarded. This event will take place rain or shine. \$40 per person, includes cart rental.

Front Campus (under the tent) **Opening Reception & Dinner** 5:30 - 7:45 p.m. Enjoy our popular international tapas and other food stations including chicken and beef teriyaki, lobster and pulled pork sliders, Cajun shrimp, arancini and assorted salads (vegetarian/vegan options available). Cash bar. Dinner is served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Early Bird Discount\* \$15 per person / Regular Price \$20 per person.

8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Alumni Association presents the "Summer Sno-Ball"

Front Campus (under the tent)

Did you miss attending the Sno-Ball when you were a student or maybe wish you could go again? Now is your chance! Join your friends and classmates at the annual Alumni Summer Sno-Ball. Cash bar. \$5 per person.

### Saturday, August 6

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

**Registration**, Historical Displays and MCI Bookstore

Savage Family Dining Room

Savage Family Dining Room 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. **Reunion Brunch** Enjoy a relaxing full brunch as you gather with your friends and classmates. Hot and cold offerings including fresh fruit, waffles, eggs, home fries, sausage and pastries (vegetarian/vegan options available). Early Bird Discount\* \$10 per person / Regular Price \$15 per person.

(207) 487-5915

Sesquicentennial Celebration with Parks Gymnasium 11:00 a.m. 150th Commemorative Gift Celebrate MCI's 150th anniversary with student performances, speakers and a special 150th video! A 150th commemorative gift will be given to all attendees. Free Admission.

Register Today! D www.mci-school.org/reunion

Complete the registration form in this magazine!

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Celebrating 150 YEARS 1866 - 2016









### Saturday, August 6 (continued)

1:00 p.m.Reunion Luncheon / Class Party Kick-OffFront Campus (under the tent)What would Reunion be without the annual luncheon under the tent on front campus? Get together with your friends and classmates for a wonderful meal<br/>featuring prime rib and stuffed scallops (vegetarian/vegan options available). Early Bird Discount\* \$20 per person / Regular Price \$25 per person.

3:00 p.m. Class Parties for years ending in "1" and "6" Reunite with your friends and classmates to reminisce and reconnect! Check with your Class Agent or call the Alumni Office at 207-487-5915 for party locations.

 5:00 - 8:30 p.m.
 150th "Reunion Fest"
 Parks Gymnasium / Front Campus

 Gather your friends for the 150th Reunion Fest! Enjoy a concert with Rex Fowler '66 and Anna Maria Parker '66 from 5:00 - 6:15 p.m. before participating in lawn games, a street dance (with DJ) and sampling from food trucks on front campus! Cash bar. Food truck prices vary.

8:30 p.m. Fireworks End the day with fireworks on MCI's back campus!

**MCI Back Campus** 

### Sunday, August 7

10:00 a.m.Alumni Association Annual MeetingKinney Conference RoomAll alumni are welcome to attend the Alumni Association Annual Meeting.Come and learn more about what the Alumni Association has accomplished over the<br/>last year and vote for the Executive Committee officers.

 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Alumni Association Classic Car Show
 MCI Front Campus

 View some amazing cars under the trees on MCI's Front Campus and enjoy live music by the Steve Dunphy '96 Combo. Contact MCI Alumni Association President

 Milton Webber '71 (identities.bymawebber@yahoo.com or 207-416-5125) if you would like to register a vehicle. There is a \$10 registration fee per vehicle and

 prizes will be awarded!
 Free for spectators. Food truck prices vary.

### **On Campus Accommodations**

MCl is pleased to be offering rooms in Manson Hall for alumni and friends who would like to stay on campus on Friday and Saturday night during Reunion Weekend. The rooms will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be two twin beds in each room and bedding will be provided. Towels, toiletries, fans, etc. should be brought from home. Please note that there is no smoking on campus or in any MCl building and that the rooms are not air conditioned. For more information and / or to reserve a room, please call the Alumni Office at (207) 487-5915 or email alumni@mci-school.org. \$35 per person / night, \$50 per couple / night.

\*Early Bird Discount: Register by Friday, July 22, 2016 to receive the Early Bird Discount.

Currently the longest tenured faculty member at MCI, Tanya Kingsbury has been witness to five Headmasters, changes to the campus including the construction of both Wright Gymnasium and the Chuck & Helen Cianchette Math and Science Center, and numerous students filling the halls and classrooms.

After growing up in Virginia and Pennsylvania, Kingsbury received her Bachelor's Degree from UMaine Orono. While perusing the classified ads in the local paper, she came across a job posting for a Spanish teaching position at MCI. "I came and interviewed here and Dick Walker said, 'you were hired because the only other person who applied for the job showed up in cut off shorts and a tank top.' Honest to goodness, I think he was serious at the time when he said it. There were not a lot of Spanish candidates floating around Central Maine, so I was just at the right place at the right time."

Since that day in 1980, when Kingsbury began her professional career at MCI, much has changed. In her thirty-six years, she has not only taught Spanish, but has served on numerous committees, acted as class advisor, run both the Spanish Club and Spanish Travelers, was the Gifted and Talented program coordinator, was the varsity cheerleading coach, organized and ran the first Homecoming competitions and has been both the Chair of the World Languages Department and the advisor for the Student Council for over twenty years.

### What are the most significant changes you have experienced with your teaching at MCI?

Education has evolved and the knowledge and information about what makes good or effective language learning has changed over the years. I really believe that when I was hired, I heard the message 'do what is best for your students.' If that is the directive, it gives you so much leeway. I redo my curriculum all the time to make it better for the students. I can go to Heidi [Cook, Dean of Academics] anytime and talk pedagogy, I can go to my colleagues, there are always those discussions going on. Obviously there is the good press on technology, and it is enhancing

# Long Live the King(sbury) Tanya Kingsbury reflects on her nearly 40 years at MCI

my classroom, but not changing the underlying philosophy of "do what works for the kids at MCI." That is the most important thing.

If you had to choose, what do you think makes MCI special? One of the things I respect most about the school is that we give students true responsibility, we don't micro-manage their lives. If they make a mistake, we hold them accountable, but we give them enough leeway so they learn from their experience. I remember I visited a school during an accreditation visit and the student that I was talking with said, "we have so much responsibility here." She followed that up immediately with, "You can't believe how many rules we have to follow." And I thought that is just the opposite at MCI. Really when you think about it, we have very few rules. It is just this culture of responsibility and respect. Look at the freedom we give kids and look at how successful overall they are. I really really like that our kids are treated as young adults.

The second thing that I think makes MCI special is that we just really have a great student body, and maybe it goes hand in hand, but I love this area, I love the fact that we are an inclusive school, I love our diverse population. Certainly we have some traditions, but we are not afraid to change. I really think we are an introspective school, constantly looking at what will better serve our students.

I also love the professional freedom, I could go on and on, I love this school! The creativity, the license I'm given in my classroom, as long as I can justify it academically, the professional respect we are given. Another favorite thing about my job, is that I'm the only Spanish teacher. Not that I have a problem with having another colleague but it means I get those kids as freshmen and I work with some of them through to their senior year and, talk about building relationships, watching those kids grow, that is a gift.

#### What are your favorite traditions here? My first thought is senior projects and

Manson Essays. They are at the heart and soul of what we do at MCI. I have so much respect for Ron [Bessey '62] and his work with the senior projects because that was not a popular idea when it was proposed. I can't think of a life lesson that is more valuable. Of course, both my kids went through that process and I watched them grow during that time. Manson Essays are the same. And of course Winter Carnival because I think it is important for a school to be able to say to kids that getting together, enjoying each other's company in healthy competition and just having fun is a valuable life lesson. You just can't beat all the activities and I loved it when I was class advisor. I'd actually be out there before the kids, sitting in my car waiting for them to show up. I'd be like "where have you guys been? We have snow to sculpt!" They'd be like, "we were up to 12 o'clock last night, Mrs. K," and I'd say "well, yeah, so was I! Let's go!"

What are some of your favorite memories? How much time do you have? I remember the first time I wore jeans and I had a student look at me and say "you wear jeans?" You often forget what it is like when you are the teacher and the students don't realize that you are a normal person. I was riding to an away basketball game once and I had my headphones on and you know when you can tell when someone is talking about you? I asked two of my cheerleaders, "What are you girls talking about?" They responded, "Ms. K, we are just dying to know what kind of music you are listening to." It happened to be Phil Collins and they were like, "You listen to Phil Collins?" Yeah, I'm really not from Mars, you know? It just made me laugh.

I won't go into all these, but the most important are those notes or recognitions or kind words when kids are leaving your classroom, there are just so many nice kids. We are so blessed. I always say I always get the best kids, I don't know why that is. You know, just today leaving class I had two students say "thanks Ms. K that was a good class."

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I lived in the dorm for five years with just a great group of kids. They were just so sweet with my son. My daughter was just an infant when we moved out, but my son just loved the dorm girls. Boy, did I cry that first year at graduation, it was like losing your kids. At that time there were eight, I think, in the dorm and they were at my house all the time because there were no cell phones. It was my phone that they used when their parents called. I've had residential kids who've lived with me for a whole school year and I've had host students who became part of my family. So those are certainly good memories.

Nobody does graduation like MCI. I don't know how many other schools' graduations I've been to, but we do graduation right, we really do. There have also been some beautiful, powerful graduation speeches by our salutatorians and valedictorians. Sue Petela [Hodsdon '90] and Bradley Martin '03 are two that come to mind.

Thinking of your students over the years, what would you say is one thing that you hope that students got from either their time at MCI or from you? I think one of the things I say to my students, that I feel very strongly about, is that if that is your piece of work, you should be so proud to put your name on that. It is yours. It belongs to you, and I think we encourage that at MCI, in a lot of ways, to always do your best. You are being held accountable. It makes a difference. I would like my students to say "she is a great teacher and I learned from her," but I would also like them to leave and say "she really cared about me." Some of my students will never ever use their Spanish after leaving my class. I want them to leave feeling that, no matter what their grade was in their class, that I had respect for them as human beings. No matter what their behavior was in my class, I want them to know we are all in it together. So, just leaving MCI knowing that life isn't about what grade you got, it is about the person you are and the decisions you make. Kind of cliché, I know, but it is true.

Jane Woodcock Woodruff'64's family has longstanding ties to MCI, starting with her grandmother in the late 1800s. "When my grandmother went to MCI in 1899, she would have been considered from away," stated Woodruff. "She was from St. Albans and she came here to better her education because she was a teacher. We have a picture of her as a student at MCI in some kind of drama production or recitation contest." Woodruff graduated from MCI in 1964 and her four children, Daniel'84, Scott'86, Vaughan'92 and Dana'97, are graduates as well.

With her family ties, it is no wonder that Woodruff is interested in the School's history. However, Woodruff began researching one of MCI's most famous benefactors, Dr. John C. Manson, by happenstance. "I'm on a news e-letter from Maine Humanities. Information came in about a grant opportunity. I think because we were working on the planning for our 50th anniversary for the Class of 1964, I contacted Jared Mc-Cannell '98, who was in the Alumni Office at the time. The grant required that there be an educational facility, a library and the historical society working together. I work with Heart of Pittsfield and I'm always looking to bring groups together, so this seemed like a great opportunity." Woodruff and her team received the grant and began working on a year-long collaborative project, Local & Legendary: Maine in the Civil War.

"We were trying to find out the impact of the Civil War on Pittsfield, and I was thinking, oh wouldn't that be great if we could link Dr. John C. Manson with Fredrick Law Olmsted. Manson Park is an Olmsted brothers designed park and Fredrick Law Olmsted is known as the father of landscape architecture."

John Colby Manson was born in 1830 in Meredith, New Hampshire. He graduated from the University of the City of New York Medical School (now New York University) in 1853, and, according to the Pittsfield Town Register of 1904, was "the first regular physician to locate in

# "Local & Legendary"

allow barnend

Jane Woodruff '64's Quest to Shine Light on One of MCI's Legendary Families

Dr. John C. Manson, surgeon in the Maine 24th Infantry Regiment, 1862. Photo credit: Maine State Archives.

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Pittsfield" around 1855. Manson married Mary Ann Lancey, a native of Pittsfield, and in March of 1860, they welcomed their daughter, Kate, who would later go on to attend and teach at MCI. They added to their family on March 22, 1862, with the arrival of their son, John William Manson.

In September 1862 Dr. Manson began serving in the Civil War as a surgeon with the 24th Maine Regiment, which left Maine for New York City in October 1862. "While at Camp Pierrepont in East New York (now Brooklyn), Manson wrote to Governor Washburn of the deplorable camp conditions and of his concern for the health of the men, since he was responsible for their medical needs. Three weeks later Manson was honorably discharged for medical reasons."<sup>1</sup>

Olmsted, who was head of the Sanitary Commission for a couple years during the Civil War, possibly met or perhaps corresponded with Dr. Manson. "I could place these two men in the same month in the same general location, but I couldn't connect that they ever met," said Woodruff.

After being discharged, Dr. Manson returned home to Pittsfield and continued serving as the town's doctor. He was a well educated man, especially for his time, and clearly valued education. He served as a trustee of MCI, and in 1871, made his most lasting contribution to MCI with the donation of funds for what would become the renowned Manson Essay Competition. According to minutes from the Board of Trustees, the money was to provide a \$10.00 prize (roughly equivalent to \$200 today) each to the boy and girl student for original compositions rendered orally.

Dr. Manson's son, John W. Manson, "made this prize permanent in 1921 when he gave the school a \$1000 bond, the income of which was to be used for the same purpose, in memory of his father."<sup>2</sup>

Like his father, J.W. Manson was active



John W. Manson

and well known in the Town of Pittsfield. He graduated from MCI in 1877 before going on to receive his bachelor's degree from Bowdoin College in 1881 and his law degree from the Boston University Law School in 1884. Immediately upon his graduation from Boston University, Manson returned to Pittsfield where he began practicing law.

Manson became an MCI trustee in 1905 and served on the Board for many years. He supported the School financially, including a gift of \$5,000 for Alumni Hall in 1928. In addition to practicing law, he served as the president of the Pittsfield National Bank for over twenty-five years. Manson was also a member of the Maine Legislature in 1903 and 1904 and was the president of the Somerset Country Bar Association and a director of the Maine Bar Association. Manson was also one of the founders of the Sebasticook Power Company, which was the first power service for Pittsfield and was the company which built the power dam between Pittsfield and Burnham.

Upon his death in 1941, MCI received one-fourth of his estate, which went towards the School's endowment. In addition, Manson's home was given to MCI,

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serving as the residence for the School's headmasters. In 1926, Manson had donated land to the Town of Pittsfield for the Mary Ann Lancey Manson Park, in memory of his mother. In his will, Manson provided a trust for the maintenance of the park stating, "I desire it to be improved, beautified and, if necessary, enlarged, to be used somewhat, not principally, as a sport field to which the students of Maine Central Institute shall be welcome; to be used especially as a garden, walk, and playground for all the people who desire to use it..."<sup>3</sup>

While less known than her father and brother, Dr. Manson's daughter, Kate, and her husband William A. Lancaster provided significant financial support to MCI. After her husband's death, Kate Manson Lancaster continued to send money to the School for scholarships to help women who wanted to further their education.

Though Woodruff was disappointed to not be able to tie Dr. Manson to Fredrick Law Olmsted, her research brought to the forefront an incredibly important family in MCI's history. "To me, the most important thing for MCI alums to take away from the history of the Manson Family is the impact of the Manson Essay," Woodruff stated. "There is just a sense of ongoing, evolving history, that is still being written and I think that is seen in MCI's traditions. The Manson Essay ends up being a connection across generations. We have a commonality of experience that you probably wouldn't get in many places."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maine State Archives, https://www.mainememory.net/artifact/100904 <sup>2</sup> From Kemp Pottle's "The History of Maine Central Institute" <sup>3</sup> www.pittsfield.org

Kenneth Cianchette '42 was born in Pittsfield in 1924. When he was about two years old, his family moved into the house that is now MCI's Ralph and Edna Cianchette (his parents) Alumni/ ae and Development Center. Raised on MCI's campus, Cianchette has been witness to nearly a century of the School's history.

One of Cianchette's earliest memories of MCI took place in 1927, when the boys' dormitory, Cedar Croft Hall, burned beyond repair during the winter break. "I remember getting up in the middle of the night and watching the boy's dormitory burn," stated Cianchette. "I would have been 3 or 4 years I remember them building the old. new dorm [Alumni Hall, completed in 1928]. I was on campus all the time and remember watching them scooping out the cellar with a team of horses. They used a large metal scoop pulled by a couple of horses. They could lift the handles up and fill it with dirt and take it out, dump the dirt and go back for another load. That's how they dug the basement for the building."

"I watched them build [Parks] Gymnasium. I guess Founders Hall and the girl's dormitory [Weymouth Hall, completed in 1911] were the only buildings I didn't watch them build," mused Cianchette. "I was amazed because the brick that they lined the interior [of the gym] with cost 25 cents apiece and I thought that was a lot of money to pay for a brick!"

Because of their close proximity to campus he and his six siblings "were there for everything that went on." This of course included mischief, both at home and on campus. At their home, Cianchette and his siblings "would climb out the bedroom window where the eve slopes and it went all the way around the house and we would play tag on it. My mother didn't like it but she was too busy to interfere too much. It wasn't really the best thing for us kids to do, but we never fell off." On campus, Cianchette liked to play on the tennis courts located in front of Weymouth Hall. "There were two courts and they were clay. Some of us kids would use them before they were dry and it was a maintenance nightmare. It would leave footprints and they would have to get rid of the tracks. As I got older, I played tennis, but when we were little kids we just walked on them and fooled around."

The Maintenance Department at the time consisted of two men who "took care of everything" including recreational activities. "In the winter time they used to set up a trestle out on the back slope of Weymouth Hall so they could ski," said Cianchette. "It would increase the amount of vertical grade so that you could ski down the slope and it would carry you back up."

As Cianchette grew older and attended MCI, he gained a new appreciation for

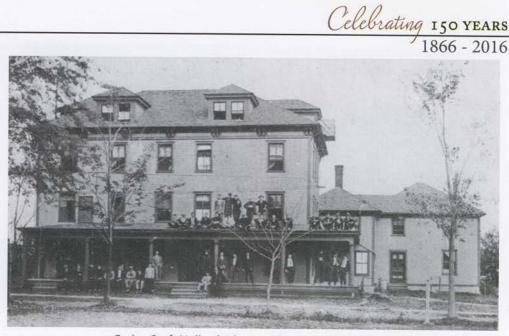
# Footprints in History Kenneth Cianchette's Lifelong Connection to MCI

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the faculty and staff. "I have a talent for memorizing poetry and I attribute that to the English teacher that we had, Lucille DeReynolds. She used to make us memorize everything, we couldn't read reports. We also had prize speaking and she made sure it was all memorized, no notes. Poetry comes easily to me and I think it's because of her. I had a brother who was very good at public speaking and Ms. DeReynolds used to always embarrass me when she called on me, she would preface it with 'now I expect a lot from you because of your brother.' There were quite a few teachers at MCI who made a difference in my life. Sanger Cook lived across in the house on the corner. He was an English teacher and we used to play checkers with him when classes weren't in session."

Cianchette also became involved in football, which years later would prove to have a significant impact on MCI's campus. "My brother and I played football. I was about 16 and wound up at practice on a Friday and the field was muddy. We would run down from Parks Gym and dive into the first puddle and roll all over. It didn't work well for me, I was sitting on the bench after that. I was determined to fix that field after that," he stated. "Where they built the football field, there was a frog pond that had been created from where they mined the clay for the bricks for Founders Hall (the Institute Building). So that hole, being big and clay, filled up with water and kids would go down and catch frogs and pollywogs."

The football field not only was in close proximity to the pond, but had significant drainage issues. "I remember JR Cianchette was in the road building business then and they got him involved in building a football field. He had the earth moving equipment and they told him to level the field and he took them literally and he leveled the field. It was all in this area of clay and they made it absolutely dead level. And they built a line track and covered it with cinders



Cedar Croft Hall, which served as MCI's first dormitory



Cianchette's childhood home, now MCI's Cianchette Alumni/ae and Development Center

and that track was also dead level."

Keeping his promise to himself, Cianchette worked to repair the original practice field, and later was part of the concept to bring other teams' competition onto campus.

The field was "where the practice field is now. [Because it] was dead level, there were always puddles on it during the spring. Paul Legge was the science teacher and they decided to drain it. So they had some people dig a trench by hand with shovels about 10 inches wide by 10 inches deep on every 10 yard line and they filled them with gravel and rocks, but it still couldn't function because of it being dead level. It caused a problem when I went to fix the field, having to get rid of all those rocks."

During MCI's 150th year, the school celebrated the opening of the MCI Fields Complex with soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse fields on campus, located near the original practice fields. The concept of playing home games on campus rather than in Manson Park was borne in part from Cianchette more than 65 years ago. "It was when they had just built the library [in the late 1950s] and I was out there and I was helping to do some drainage and grading around the library. Somebody said, "That's where we should be playing football, down there on the practice field instead of at Manson Park. And

so he said he would donate \$25,000 towards fixing the football field."

Cianchette discussed the opportunity with MCI's Headmaster at the time. The Headmaster asked, "can we fix it?" I said, 'you tell him to send the money and we'll fix the field.' So, I got a lot of donations from other people and I got equipment donated and did the drainage. We reshaped the field, put a crown on it and put under-drain around the outside edge of it. We left it crowned and then put six inches of sand and then top soil on it. It could rain on a Friday and it would be dry by Saturday to play a game. There was a big difference. That was a lot of work but I enjoyed doing it and I got a lot of people to help." Cianchette's refurbished practice field, still located behind the library but now behind Wright Gym as well, was once again refurbished in the summer and fall of 2015, and will serve as the football practice field in 2016. Cianchette approves of the new MCI Field Complex, which takes advantage of one of the best views on campus. "I've been down there watching football games on the bleachers on the west side, with the trees turning color and the buildings on the hill, all as a backdrop for the football game. It was just like a Norman Rockwell picture."

After MCI, Cianchette worked for his father's construction business for a short time before leaving Pittsfield to serve in the US Army during World War II. He was discharged in 1946 and returned to his home, where he founded Cianchette Brothers, Inc. (now the Cianbro Corporation) with three of his brothers. He invented the Chinbro Pipe Grab and the Chinbro Beam Clamp, as they were marketed originally. They are now standard pieces of equipment in the construction industry.

Cianchette has served the Pittsfield community in a number of ways, including working as both a Pittsfield selectman as well as the director of



The MCI tennis courts in front of Weymouth Hall in 1930



Kenneth Cianchette and MCI classmate Percy Almonte in 1941

MSAD 53 (Pittsfield, Burnham and Detroit). He was also proud to have his five children, Eric '68, Jane '69, Jon '76, Ann '79 and Jean '83, graduate from MCI. Specifically, he points to his daughter Ann's experience at college. "You were much better prepared to go to a college after MCI," he said. "There was no comparison to other high schools. MCI kids had much better opportunities. I remember when one of my daughters went to Dartmouth College and she was in the dorm with two other girls that both came from big schools in Massachusetts and they were all straight A students. My daughter told me that they got homework assignments and the other girls didn't know how to do it. Ann said, 'Oh, that's easy. Here's how to do it. That was how I was taught to do it at my high school."

Cianchette, now 91, resides in North Yarmouth, Maine. Although he doesn't make it to campus as much anymore, the school is still close to his heart, and he and his family have left footprints of a different kind all over campus.

# Celebrating 150 YEARS

# Maine Central Institute: The Early Years'

#### Inception

**A**Pottle stated in his 1961 "History of ister and soon began working at the Free Maine Central Institute," the History of Will Baptist Church in Augusta, Maine. MCI might properly begin with the Free Will Baptist Movement. Brought to New In 1854 the Parsonsfield Seminary where England in the late 1700s, the Free Will Oren B. Cheney was once a student, teach-Baptist movement became a defining in- er and principal burned under mysterious fluence throughout MCI founder Oren B. circumstances. Rather than rebuild in Cheney's life.

Hampshire, the son of Abigail and Moses than previously furnished" (Cheney 85). Cheney, who were well known abolitionists. His father was a paper manufacturer Though Cheney felt that Pittsfield was an and also a conduction on the Under- ideal location, the committee responsible ground Railroad.When he was thirteen for choosing the location of the school years-old, Cheney attended the New ultimately voted for Lewiston. Cheney Hampton Institute, which was five miles became principal of the new Maine State away from his home. During his time Seminary, and in 1864, a new "charter there, Cheney was taught by prominent was received from the Maine Legislature, Free Will Baptist, Hosea Quinby, who lat- conferring college privileges and rechriser convinced Cheney to attend Parsons- tening the institution as Bates College" field Seminary, a Free-Will Baptist school (Cheney 143). on the western border of Maine. After attending both Brown and Dartmouth Soon Cheney recognized the need for a Universities, Cheney began working as a "feeder school" for Bates and wrote to the teacher, principal and Maine State Legis- Rev. Nathaniel Weymouth, "We need a

s former MCI history teacher Kemp lator. In 1844, he was ordained as a min-

the same location, Cheney "became impressed with the need of a more centrally Cheney was born in Holderness, New located and higher institution of learning



Founders Hall circa 1875



MCI Founder Oren B. Cheney

school east of the Kennebec river; there is a multitude of students, and others will soon step in to occupy the ground if we do not. I want the school located in Pittsfield. Hope you will take hold of the matter in great earnest, as I have no doubt you will, and will carry the question at your town meeting next Sunday ... " (Pottle 7).

Pittsfield was a strong choice for the school as the town had been experiencing a boom of construction and industry beginning in 1855 when the railroad station was opened. As Sanger Cook stated in his book Pittsfield on the Sebasticook, "Like a huge artery pulsating with life and strength, the Penobscot and Kennebec brought new vigor and spirit into the civic life of Pittsfield. What had been a rather sleepy and listless community turned into a bustling village... The record shows that within fifteen years following the advent of the railroad, a fitting school destined to become known throughout New England was founded, churches were built, a modern hotel was constructed, a race track was established, old industries were expanded and new businesses begun" (Cook 37 & 38).

To test the idea of opening a seminary in Pittsfield, Cheney "visited the place and found the sentiment so favorable to his

purpose that he raised in the vicinity of twenty thousand dollars\*\* for carrying out the plan." (Cheney 145). Soon, Cheney and other Pittsfield-area residents petitioned the Maine Legislature and, on February 1, 1866, were granted a charter to establish a school, which would ultimately become Maine Central Institute.

#### Academics

Classes for the fall term began on August 30, 1866 and consisted of thirty-two females and fifty-one males. There were two fields of study available, college preparatory and a ladies course. First year classes consisted of Latin grammar and reader, arithmetic, elementary algebra, United States history, and physiology. English classes cost \$4 each term and languages (Latin, Greek, French and German) cost \$4.50. In 1870 the Normal Department (teacher training) was established, and by 1875, there were five courses of study: college preparatory, normal, classical (replacing the Ladies Course), scientific and music. According to the 1870 school catalog, study hours took place from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and again from 1:30 until 4:30 p.m. Students were expected to study in the evenings from 7:30 p.m. until "the time for retiring." Trustees from MCI continued to work closely with Bates College and by the late 1880's MCI announced in the catalog that "all Maine Central Institute graduates could enter Bates without examination."

MCI's proud public speaking tradition began soon after the founding of the school. Within the first year, male students had organized the Amicinian Society, a literary group which met to debate controversial issues of the time. In 1873, female students organized their own version, the EBB Society. There was stiff competition between the societies and "accounts of the time indicate that candidates from each group often debated at joint meetings" (Pottle 12). Though the exact date of establishment is unknown, by June 1871, John C. Manson, a trustee and local doctor, established the Manson Essay prize. In 1872, a prize of \$10 (roughly \$200 today!) for best original declamation was instituted, and in 1900, alumni established an Alumni Prize speaking contest.

According to minutes from a Board of Trustees meeting, in 1909 MCI and the town of Pittsfield established the first contract "whereby the students of high school age could attend Maine Central Institute, and the town would pay for the tuition in one lump sum" (Pottle 36).

#### **Student Life**

Most student extracurricular activities revolved around sports, student societ-



Powers Hall set up for a reception in the early 1900s



The cover of the June 1888 issue of *The MCI* ies and "sociables" or receptions. Because dancing was strictly prohibited, the sociables usually involved games and were often held in the "Upper Chapel," which was later renovated and renamed Powers Hall.

MCI's first student-published magazine, The MCI, was printed for the first time in 1888 and continued to be printed until 1943. The magazine was published three times each year and contained "examples of literary work, school news and an alumni section. The magazine was, in effect, the yearbook for the school until The Trumpet was established for that purpose in 1913" (Pottle 18). Though music courses, including piano, organ and voice lessons, were given in the 1870s, student groups didn't appear on campus until the early 1900s. The women's glee club and school orchestra were formed in 1907 and the MCI Band was added in 1908.

Baseball appears to be the first sport introduced to MCI's campus. Though there is not a record of the date of the first baseball game, a photo dated to approximately 1870 shows students playing baseball in front of what appears to be the newly completed Founders Hall. Tennis was introduced to campus in 1893 when trustees built two clay tennis courts on the

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area that is now in front of Weymouth Hall. Football was introduced in 1899 and, though it is hard to imagine today, practice sessions were held on the third floor of Founders Hall when the weather was inclement. "Track was introduced as a varsity sport in 1902 and basketball followed in the winter of the same year" (Pottle 24).

#### **Post-Secondary**

By 1900, over 600 students had graduated from MCI. The first graduate, in 1869, was Maria Simons from Pittsfield. According to the sketches of graduates compiled by alumni in 1897, Simons "taught in both public and private schools in the state... Afterwards was Preceptress at Maine Central Institute for eight years, closing her work in the school-room in 1891."

The first published account of graduation exercises at MCI was in the local newspaper in 1883. "Eight musical selections were interspersed among the nineteen speeches made by the graduating class. The exercises began at 10:00 AM and continued through the afternoon. The oldest graduate was twenty-nine; the youngest was sixteen" (Pottle 24). Most alumni between 1869 and the early 1900s either became teachers (often at MCI), lawyers



An early photo of MCI's Band

or doctors. As is no surprise, many went on to attend Bates College.

When Oren Cheney passed away in 1903 at the age of 87, he was recognized as one of the foremost leaders in the Free Baptist Association. He had served as a teacher and principal at three academies and was the first president of the board of trustees at both Bates College and MCI. Cheney was instrumental in founding seven educational institutions and clearly had a passion for education. As Rev. Thomas H. Stacy said of Cheney in an 1898 article published in *The Morning Star* newspaper, "The spirit which made him a pioneer among our people in getting an education for himself made him a pioneer in securing the opportunities for an education for others." The work that Cheney and the other founders and leaders of MCI began in 1866 set the stage for 150 years of tremendous growth and change.

\*The story of the life and work of Oren B. Cheney, founder and first president of Bates college by Emeline Cheney. If you would like to read more about Oren Cheney, the book is available online through archive.org.

\*\* Equivalent to over \$300,000 in today's dollars.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to the late Kemp Pottle for the work he did for his graduate thesis, which included a history of MCI. Much of the information in this abbreviated history came from his work.



MCI's first football team

Celebrating 150 YEARS

## The Founders of MCI

In addition to Oren B. Cheney (see page 23), there are seven individuals credited with the founding of Maine Central Institute. These men, church leaders and business entrepreneurs, were instrumental in the early development of the School. From requesting MCI's charter from the Maine Legislature, to garnering popular and financial support from the people of Pittsfield, to designing and building Founders Hall, all the individuals gave their time, wisdom and often personal resources to the School.



#### **Rev. Ebenezer Knowlton**

The Rev. Ebenezer Knowlton was born in Pittsfield, New Hampshire in 1815. Like Oren Cheney, Knowlton was a founder of the Maine State Seminary (Bates College) as well as MCI. Knowlton was ordained in 1848 and covered a territory in eastern and central Maine. He was Speaker of the Maine Legislature in 1846, and a United States Representative from 1855-1857. He was a trustee at both Colby College and Bates College. Knowlton was an original member of MCI's Board of Trustees and helped to get the charter for Maine Central Institute passed by the state legislature.



#### **Going Hathorn**

Going Hathorn was born in 1806 and settled in Pittsfield in 1832. By 1866, Hathorn was one of the wealthiest men in Pittsfield, with interests in real estate as well as grist and woolen mills. Hathorn was an original member of the Board of Trustees and donated the property that Founders Hall now sits on. He was very involved in the building and design of Founders, up to and including selling the bricks for Founders to the School. Hathorn Park in Pittsfield was established as the town's first park in 1920 as a result of a gift from Hathorn's estate.



#### **Rev. Nathaniel Weymouth**

The Rev. Nathaniel Weymouth was born in 1818 in Gray, Maine. His mother passed away when he was four weeks old and his father moved to Pittsfield, where he had a farm on the Pittsfield-Burnham line. Weymouth was educated at local village schools as well as the New Hampton Theological Seminary in New Hampshire. He was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister in 1857 and had pastorates in Plymouth, Exeter, Burnham Village, Unity and Herman. Weymouth was instrumental in garnering popular support for MCI from the people of Pittsfield. He was one of MCI's first trustees and provided significant financial support to the school.



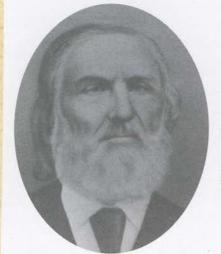
The Reverend Lot L. Harmon was born in Madison, New Hampshire in 1826. He was a student at both Parsonsfield Academy and the Bangor Theological Seminary, and was ordained in 1857. He worked as a pastor in Cape Elizabeth and Bath, Maine before he entered the Bangor Seminary and was responsible for preaching in Pittsfield, North Bangor and Veazie. Harmon assisted in getting the charter of Maine Central Institute passed while in the state legislature and was also an original member of the Board of Trustees.

Rev. Lot L. Harmon

Aura L. Gerrish was born in Nottingham, New Hampshire in 1837. He attended Nottingham Union Institute and graduated from Bangor Theological Institute in 1866. After graduating, Gerrish immediately became the pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church in Pittsfield. He served as the President of the Board of Trustees from 1867 to 1876 and remained a member until 1881.



#### Rev. Aura L. Gerrish



The Reverend William Stinson was born in 1803 in Richmond, Maine. Around 1842, Stinson moved to Pittsfield and he was ordained in 1857. He was very involved in the fundraising for the school and twice gave his entire savings to keep the school going. At the end of his life, Stinson gave the remains of his money to MCI and lived with Jesse Connor and Connor's wife until he passed away in 1886. Stinson Avenue, which runs between Alumni Hall and Parks Gymnasium, was named in his honor by the Town of Pittsfield.

#### **Rev. William Stinson**

Jesse C. Connor was born in Pittsfield in 1824. His father had started the first store in town, and Connor followed in his footsteps as a successful businessman. Connor, like Weymouth, was an original member of the Board of Trustees and worked to gain both popular and financial support from the people of Pittsfield. He was converted into the Free Will Baptist faith by the Rev. William Stinson and they remained close friends throughout Stinson's lifetime.



Celebrating 150 YEARS

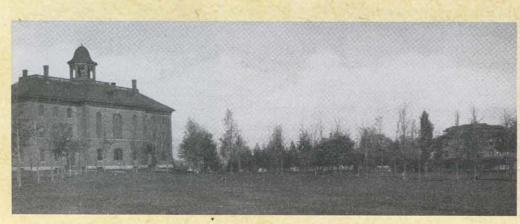
### "From a Sheep Pasture" Campus Growth from 1866 - 2016

#### **Founders Hall**

C ince the founding of MCI in 1866, O the campus has grown tremendously. When the school first opened, accommodations for the 83 students were poor. Lectures were held in private homes, public halls and in the village schoolhouse, which stood where the First Baptist Church is today. The campus was literally in a sheep pasture. Today's picturesque tree-lined campus consists of six classroom buildings: the Chuck and Helen Cianchette Math & Science Center, William H. Powell Memorial Library, Weymouth Hall, Founders Hall, Joseph R. Cianchette Hall, Ruth Cook Music Building, as well as two gymnasiums and four residence halls. Approximately 450 students, about 50 full-time teachers, a number of part-time teachers including many of the administrators, 30 coaches, some of whom are faculty or administrators, an administrative staff of 11 and a support staff of about 30 people working as administrative assistants, food service workers and maintenance and/or custodians are on the MCI staff.

Actual construction on the campus began in August 1868, when the cornerstone of the Institute Building, later named Founders Hall, was laid. Two years and \$40,000 later, the first floor, consisting of six large rooms, was completed in late 1870. In the next several years, 'water closets' replaced the original privy and the second and third floors were completed; the huge fourth floor remains unfinished to this day but provides access to the impressive bell tower atop the lofty and elegant brick building.

By 1900 wood stoves in the classrooms were replaced with steam heat, running water and electric lights were installed and Llewelln Powers, an MCI trustee and later governor of Maine, had donated money for remodeling the upper chapel. When the renovations were completed the chapel was christened Powers Hall to honor the key benefactor. From 1868 to 1958 the originally named Institute Building served as the only classroom on MCI's campus. Today Founders



Founders and Cedar Croft Hall circa 1900 Courtesy of the Pittsfield Historical Society



### Aline drawing of Founders Hall circa 1890, used in the school catalog

Hall houses magnificently restored classrooms, complete with oak wainscotings and arched window-surrounds that are probably more beautiful than the original Victorian structures. The Academic and Business Offices are also located in Founders Hall along with a Bossov Ballet Studio. During the 1998 Campaign for MCI, classrooms in Founders were named to honor large donations: Crystal-Lynn May Brooks '89, Sara J. Cowan '33, Tillson and Ruth Thomas Memorial Classrooms, also a classroom named for Chartwells Food Service and another for Jeffery Hazell'79 and James Hachey '79.

In 2004, a complete makeover of the rifle range in the basement of Founders Hall was mandated by the school's insurance company. Much of the old facility was sheathed in steel, and then covered in plywood. This extensive work was largely funded by alumni and local organizations so that the 70-year-old tradition of award-winning MCI rifle teams could continue.

#### 1900s-1930s

In 1903, MCI purchased a boarding house from Benjamin Bowden, added another story to it, named it Cedar Croft Hall and used it as a girls' dormitory; Maine Central Institute then began its tradition of being a boarding and day school. Male students lived off campus in private homes and some students commuted daily by train.

Major changes came about from 1900 to 1930. Enrollment at the school before and during World War I increased dramatically and it became necessary to provide more space for residential students. In 1911 a new girls' dormitory was erected and later named Weymouth Hall. The construction of the new dormitory made it possible for male students to board in Cedar Croft Hall until 1927 when the wooden structure was destroyed by fire during the winter vacation.

Immediately thereafter, a campaign was initiated by the alumni to raise money to build a new boys' dormitory. The drive was successful and in October 1928, the doors of Alumni Hall were opened. At a ceremony held at MCI's 1987 summer reunion, Alumni Hall was rededicated and named Stanley/Alumni Hall in recognition of former Headmaster Edward Stanley.

That same time period, which also saw a significant increase in enrollment, witnessed the expansion of MCI's sports programs. Realizing the need for a proper athletic field, Mrs. William Hunnewell donated a field to the school in 1915; however, it was sold just a few years later. It wasn't long before George M. Parks, a distinguished alumnus of the Class of 1885 and devoted trustee, contributed a large sum of money for the development of an athletic field, complete with a cinder track. The same field is used today for football and gym classes. Mr. Parks' largest gift to MCI came at his death in 1934 when he left a bequest to the school for the construction of a gymnasium. Completed in 1936, the George M. Parks Gymnasium continues to serve MCI's students today.

#### 1940s - 1960s

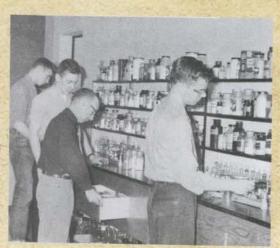
In 1944, the John W. Manson House was donated to the school through the will of J.W. Manson. For more than 70 years, it has served as the residence of the Headmaster.

During World War II, enrollment at MCI plummeted because men were in the service. Campus expansion was delayed until the 1950s, when three classroom buildings were added. One, a WWII surplus Quonset hut, was purchased from the government in 1950 and transported to MCI to be used as an industrial arts building; it was razed in 2000 to free the site for the construction of the new math and science building.

A major new building constructed at MCI, in 1958, was the J.R. Cianchette Hall of Science that housed the home Economics and Science departments. Funds for the project came primarily from alumni and also from the Town of Pitts-



In the 1936 *Trumpet*, there is a quote which states, "In the heart of every student and alumnus of MCI, there has been a wish - that wish has been fulfilled, for on the campus of MCI now stands the beautiful Parks Gymnasium, a gift of the late George M. Parks."



MCI teacher Paul Legge (third from the left) in the Cianchette Hall of Science, which he designed, in 1958

field. In 2002 the building was renamed Joseph R. Cianchette Hall, honoring the man who was the largest contributor. Today that building houses MCI's IT Department, two art rooms, a ballet studio, drama rehearsal, costume storage and set design spaces, the piano and choir classroom, Jobs for Maine's Graduates and a Human Development classroom.

After much careful planning, The William H. Powell Memorial Library was constructed in 1959. In 1950 Mrs. William Powell had donated funds to MCI to build and furnish a library "of substantial construction" as a memorial to her husband, the late Judge William H. Powell, Class of 1885. The William H. Powell Memorial Library was the most generous gift the school had ever received to that point, providing students with a beautifully equipped library as well as additional classrooms. The Hazel Monteith Earle Memorial Language Laboratory is located in the world languages department in Powell Memorial Library.

As the postgraduate program became more and more popular in the late fifties, the demand for boarding space began to increase, and the campus continued to expand significantly through the next decade. Two new dormitories were erected: Rowe Hall in 1961 and Manson Hall in 1966. Another great addition to the school came in 1962 when Johnson W. Parks, nephew of George M. Parks, donated the Parks Homestead, a 200-acre farm on Hartland Avenue, to MCI. Within a year, plans were made for a golf course to be developed on the property. In 1966, the Johnson W. Parks Golf Course was opened to the public. The course has been recognized by the National Golf Foundation as one of the finest nine-hole courses in New England. MCI sold the golf course in 1996, but it continues as an integral part of MCI life. The golf team practices and plays home matches on the lush green fairways.

MCI's music program also received a boost in the 1960's when the school purchased a machine shop from Cianbro Corporation and converted the building into a music center named after Ruth Plummer Cook, who was a renowned music instructor at MCI for many years.

#### 1970s - 1990s

In 1980, the MCI Commitment Fund was initiated. MCI's largest capital campaign to that point resulted in the completion of the Wright Family Gymnasium and the renovation of Weymouth Hall. In the fall of 1987, the Wright Family Gymnasium opened and continues to serve as one of Maine Central Institute's most outstanding athletic facilities. Wright Gym became a reality due largely to the great contributions of the Perley Wright family, especially brothers Clifford '38 and Carl '43, the Cianbro Corporation, many donations from alumni and friends and the local community.

In 1988, MCI's dormitories were renovated; this process has been ongoing ever since. In 2003 and 2004 entire suites in Stanley Alumni Hall were gutted and restored. In 2009 and 2010 the apartments in Rowe Hall, Manson Hall and Alumni Hall were renovated as well as some renovations to the Shorey House. In 2003 an additional wing of dorm rooms for boys was added in Manson Hall. The four dormitories, Nye Hurd Honors Dorm, Stanley Alumni, Manson and Rowe Halls, each have a full-time residential director and three other dormitory supervisors in residence. Weymouth Hall, once a dormitory and dining room, now houses the offices of the Dean of Students, Director of Residential Life, Director of Athletics and Activities, the Lorine L. Cummings Wellness Center, other classrooms and the MCI Bookstore.

In 1992, the former Bryant House on the school campus was renamed the Cianchette Alumni and Development Center, in honor of its long-time residents, Ralph and Edna Cianchette and their children. Contributions from individuals and business associates of Ralph and Edna's children (Carl'37, Norris '40, Clair '41, Kenneth '42, Ival '44, Marilyn '47, and Alton



The 1986 groundbreaking ceremony for Wright Gymnasium



A fall sunset on the back side of the Chuck Helen Cianchette Math and Science Cente

'48) resulted in the gift to MCI of the Cianchette Alumni and Development Center which serves as a meeting place for alumni, friends and other guests of the school as well as offices of Admissions and Alumni and Advancement.

#### 2000s

A fund-raising effort, The Campaign for MCI, was instituted to raise money for the construction of a desperately needed new classroom facility, significant improvement in technology and to fund an endowment to support increased compensation for faculty and staff. Personnel at MCI had, for a number of years, been on a salary scale well below the average of other schools in northern New England.

The centerpiece of the campaign was the 26,000 square foot, three-story Chuck & Helen Cianchette Math & Science Center, which was completed in the winter of 2001. Funds were raised from alumni and friends of MCI, from foundations and from corporations, particularly those that had ties to Chuck Cianchette '48, wh was tragically killed in a plane crash i early 2000. The Cianbro Corporation wa also a significant contributor to this proj ect and their gifts-in-kind in his memory were significant. On the Gregg '69 and Elaine Patterson floor at the top of the building there are four large classroom/ laboratories: the Blair Libby '46 Chemistry Lab, the Paul Legge Physics Lab, the Frank Haseltine '40 Biology Lab and the E. Robert Kinney '35 and Family Gen-

eral Science Lab. The Carl '43 and Rita Wright floor is at the entry level of the building. The Alumni Conference Room, Office of the Headmaster, the CM Almy Computer Lab and another computer lab, as well as three science classrooms are on this second floor. One of these classrooms is named for Herman G. Cowan '35, the elevator was donated by Edwards Systems Technology, exterior lighting was donated in memory of Roderic Smith and the display case was given by the Class of 1948 in honor of classmates Chuck and Helen Cianchette. The first floor, the Michael '62 and Priscilla Savage Level, houses six math classrooms and the Meridian Lodge Teachers Workroom. Rooms on this level are named for Earl A. Gordon '21; Jennifer Archibald Williams '81; the Class of '52 and Robert '52 and Rae Jean Knowles; the Class of '62; Thomas '64 and Sally Savage; Caro Springer Prince 1905. The large square building is a traditional style with red and white brick facings and a hip roof that echoes the one on Founders Hall.

In early 2005, Maine Central Institute purchased the Shorey House and apartment building at 76 and 78 South Main Street, just across from Manson House, residence of the Headmaster. Complete renovations of both structures were completed in 2006 by MCI's maintenance staff. A senior administrator and his/her family live in the main residence and a number of faculty and staff live in the apartments. Purchase of this property enabled MCI to increase the number of adults on campus who have supervisory duties in the dormitories.

In October of 2007 the Trustee Memorial Student Center was completed. The Trustee Memorial Student Center houses the Alice Shaw Patterson '48 Student Lounge, Savage Family Dining Room, Recreation Facility, Kinney Conference Suite, and the Hazell Dining Servery. The dining room seats 250 people and is also the location of many events and gatherings. The Nye Hurd House was also completely renovated and now houses the International Student Program Coordinator and serves as an honors dorm.

The roof and bell tower of Founders Hall underwent a complete renovation in 2009. Great effort was put into maintaining the historical accuracy of the tower, with the reconstruction based on the oldest known photo of Founders. In the spring of 2016, the School began the process of restoring the ornamental windows on Founders. The work is being completed by a local Maine company, which specializes in window restoration projects.

In 2013, a new greenhouse was built after receiving a STEM4ME grant from the Maine Community Foundation. The structure, located near the Ruth Plummer Cook Music Building, is portable,



Celebrating 150 YEARS

1866 - 2016

Workers remove one of the ornamental windows on Founders Hall, beginning the restoration process

and thus can be repositioned to maximize solar power or moved to another location on campus. Maintained by MCI science classes, it enables the School to extend the growing season for the garden by starting seedlings earlier in the spring.

Starting in 2014, a generous anonymous donor provided funds to begin construction on three new athletic fields. Located to the south of the football and track fields, the new MCI Fields Complex allowed all outdoor field sports teams to practice and play games on campus for the first time in the School's history in the fall of 2015.



A panoramic view of the 2015 state championship field hockey team playing on the new MCI Fields Complex

#### **CLASS MEMORIES**

#### Class of 1946

**Stan Wyman** submitted his memories: 1945-46 was a transitional year at MCl, indeed, for our nation. There were many and varied changes in the lives of everyone between December 7, 1941 and the spring and summer of 1945. Our country became embroiled in World War II on that fateful December 7, was in bitter conflict in Europe until the spring of 1945 and in the Pacific until August of that year.

Gasoline and many food products were rationed. There was no manufacturing of automobiles or household appliances and many other commonly used items were in short supply. There was no Interstate 95. All traffic and transportation through central Maine between Bangor and Waterville travelled through Main Street, Pittsfield. Shopping trips to Waterville or Bangor were infrequent, if not rare. Most consumer requirements were available in the many stores on Main Street. There were at least two stores in each category including pharmacies (with soda fountains), restaurants, department stores, hardware stores, ladies apparel, men's clothing, a shoe store and several grocery stores (before the supermarket era).

There were many changes at MCI during the war. Personnel changes included some very popular and long time teachers and coaches. Sanger Cook left, became a state legislator and later authored the book. Pittsfield on the Sebasticook. Roy Sinclair became a state senator and sponsored the Sinclair bill which created the regional public schools in Maine. The male student boarding program was eliminated for part of the war. The boys dorm was occupied by the Navy V5 Flight Training Program which also used the Parks Gym and the local airport for training purposes. The graduating class of 1944 included only 7 boys. Fourteen other local boys from that class were already in the military services. There were some MCI alumni who forfeited their lives for the freedom which we all enjoy today.

Most young men were drafted or

enlisted into the military at age 18, and many enlisted at 17, before completing high school. There were women military services, the WACS, WAVES and Woman Marines but they enlisted and were not drafted. The World War II draft lasted until December 31, 1946 and some members of the 1946 class went into the service before graduating, but a multitude of men who had served earlier were discharged after August, 1945.

The clouds of war were lifted during the 1945-46 school year and a sort of resurrection took place. Some of the teachers and coaches who were at MCI during that era continued on for many years and are among those in the MCI Hall of Fame. The student population became larger than the pre-war years largely due to the many veterans who were completing their high school education or were returning for post grad refresher courses. Extracurricular activity programs which had been eliminated or diminished during the war were reactivated and some new ones were established.

The male athletic program was reactivated, an ice hockey team was sponsored for the first time, and the Outing Club was formed. The football team became the mythical State Prep School Champions by beating our arch rival, Higgins Classical Institute, 44 to 0 on Armistice Day. They were previously unbeaten and unscored upon. The basketball team won the State Prep School championship by beating Higgins at the University of Maine State Prep School Tournament.

The 80th year in MCI's history was an exciting time to be a student and left those of us who participated with many lifetime memories.

#### Class of 1949

**Brian Hanson** writes that his favorite memory is working as office monitor and bell ringer for Principal Howard Niblock during 1948 and 1949 school years.

#### Class of 1953

·Although Sarah Chipman has

many fond memories of her years at MCI, one of them is the four years she spent as a violinist in the school orchestra. The group was under the directions of Mr. Norbert B. Noyes, an accomplished musician and congenial instructor. Adding to her interest was that three of her classmates were also violinists: Priscilla Foss Rende, Kaye Doyle Mooers, and Gloria Beattie McNichol. The group rehearsed every Monday evening in Powers Hall, where they prepared for special events and two major concerts: the annual Christmas concert and the spring Pops Concert, which was followed by a formal dance. The orchestra also played for senior marching at Class Day and Commencement. In those days the music was "The Triumphal March" from Verdi's Aida rather than Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" that is popular today. Although she never developed into an accomplished musician, the experience in the orchestra gave her a background in classical music, an understanding of concert etiquette, and the musical ability to play for another four years in the orchestra at the University of Maine.

Matthew Scott's most important year at MCI was 1953. They were required to write an essay for their English class and were graded on the composition. This was called the Manson Essay. He had no idea on what to write as he considered himself a poor English student. So he selected a title, "Wildlife Conservation." He grew up in a family of hunters and fishers and knew a lot about the Maine woods and waters but writing was not his best subject. The title of his essay was not considered popular, and in those days it was all done in pen and longhand. He did not type. To this day he wishes he had kept the document because he became a biologist for the State of Maine after obtaining a degree in Wildlife Management from UMaine Orono. Little did he realize that some of his references would become reguired textbooks and reading for his wildlife courses. What a tale he could have told had he known what the future held for him! However, he does suppose and perhaps can confess that the Manson Essay helped him more than what was required of him to graduate from MCI. The four years at the Institute certainly prepared him for college academics. That, of course, was not realized by him at the time. So he gives many thanks to MCI for providing the foundation for his 38 year career as a biologist for the State of Maine. "The teacher at MCI who influenced me the most was Mr. Paul Legge. He stressed the physical sciences which were the basics for me to become a professional biologist. I give all credit to him for inspiring me and providing the basics for advanced study at the University of Maine at Orono. had the opportunity to do a lecture for his class back in the mid 1960s. It sure was a pleasure to meet with him again at my old alma mater."

Cynthia Brown Johnson sent this special event: In 1949 several friends and Cynthia went to activities at MCI. One of the football players was Richard Johnson. They all thought he was a handsome young fellow. He had a girlfriend, Alice Loane '50, who was really cute. They sang a duet in a variety program and they all thought they were made for each other; and they were! In 1951, Richard's handsome brother, Arthur Johnson '51, attended MCI and his roommate, Ed Ausplund, introduced Arthur and Cynthia. The rest of the story is: Richard and Alice are married and live in CT and Art and Cyn were married for sixty-one years in December, 2015. Thank you MCI!

If **Charlene Hunt Call** was to pick a special teacher during her MCI years, it would have to be Miss Blood, her shorthand teacher. Shorthand was her favorite subjed and maybe that was because she liked Miss Blood so much. The oter teachers she had: Mrs. Coolidge Mr. and Mrs. Earle, Mr. Kinnane and Miss MacDougall were all excellent. The Headmaster, Mr. Howard Niblock, she felt was an exceptional person and Headmaster.

Joyce Hunt Rowe's memory is similar to that of her sister, Charlene's. She mentioned that they

only did their junior and senior year at MCI and felt it was a very good school and she enjoyed the same teachers as her sister.

Elizabeth Gagne Calise said that she is eternally grateful to MCI and its marvelous and dedicated teachers for providing her with the educational foundation and direction that gave her the "wings to fly" in life. She said she had been so blessed throughout her adult life and it all began at MCI. In particular, Beverly Cushman and Nellie MacDougall, were instrumental in setting her off on a successful course in life. These two teachers convinced her mother to give her a college education at a time when many girls were not given that opportunity.

MCI was also about forming special friendships and she is so thankful to a special friend, **E. Louise Kellis** '52, who mentored her throughout her years at MCI, teaching her the importance of homework and encouraging her to participate in extracurricular activities. The lessons she learned from these activities, such as hard work, teamwork, and putting yourself out there, were critical to her future success.

With this strong foundation, she went off to the University of Maine, where she was given even stronger wings to begin her journey in life. These wings gave her the opportunity to work and live in Europe for two years and to have the courage to then go teach in Korea for the U.S. Government. It was in Korea that she met her American husband who brought her back to New York where they lived for the next thirty years. They raised two wonderful, successful daughters who have given her six grandchildren.

She feels she has been fortunate to live a privileged life and to have traveled to over 115 countries around the world, yet her time at MCI remains as some of her most cherished memories.

William (Bill) Sullivan spent 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years living in the men's dormitory while at MCI. One of his last-



Norbert B Noyes, taken by Kaye Mooers on her graduation day in 1953

ing memories till this very day was the dorm master, Mr. Maurice Earle. He described Mr. Earle as sort of a scrawny man with a very raspy voice; this was because he was an avid smoker. However, he was gifted with a commanding presence and when he called a dorm meeting and was speaking; you could hear a pin drop. "Our dorm was filled with many great athletes doing a PG year, Korean War veterans getting acclimated to academics again and the usual assortment of young men trying to mature and develop better study habits. Mr. Earle was the smallest person in the dorm, but when he spoke, you listened." Why? Bill says because they were raised in a time when you were taught to respect your elders. He feels this wonderful trait seems to have vanished somewhere in the last two generations. He said they had their share of laughing and good times, yet he frequently thinks about Mr. Earle. (General Patton had nothing on him!)

Dave Fenderson's fondest memory of MCI: It was the first day of football practice and while Dave had played with or against many of the candidates for the team in 1952, he was awestruck just to be with them. Guys like Joe Vachon from Thornton Academy, Jug Merriman from Bangor, George Pierce from Portsmouth, NH, John Minott from South Portland, Thurlow Cooper and Bob Pickett from Cony and others. This was truly an all-star team which went on to win the Maine Prep School Championship under an excellent coach like Nelson Corey....truly an honor he says he will never forget!

Catherine (Kaye) Doyle Mooers' memories were many and as much as she enjoyed the academics and loves being Class Agent, Mr. Norbert B. Noyes seemed to keep popping into her mind. Why? He was the main reason she played the violin in the orchestra, sang in the chorus, was chosen for the Kennebec Valley Orchestra and played in the band. She had no formal training other than what she learned in the boiler room at Pittsfield Grammar School and from her late sister, Dot, when she was very young. After playing in the orchestra for a while, she wanted to be in the band. She had her brother-in-law's trumpet and had taught herself to play. She took it to Mr. Noves and asked to join the band. He sat down at the piano and played the scale and then told her to play it. She did and she was in! However, she had to walk four miles home many times when rehearsals made her miss the bus. She said that was a good time to practice the music in her head. Kaye said Mr. Noyes was not only

proficient in his profession but he was kind, gentle and understanding. She thanks Mr. Noyes for believing in her and for giving her the musical background that helped her put on musicals with her second grade class, sing in a church choir for over 50 years, be a member of the BOMBS, the Bank of Maine Bicentennial Singers, who put on concerts throughout Maine. A side effect of being part of the musical experience at MCI was making lasting friendships which continue today, and the only down side to playing the violin was that Mr. Noyes was always making her cut her fingernails!

**Priscilla Foss Rende** has one lasting memory that has never gone away over the years. She was in the Kennebec Valley Concert in Skowhegan on a very snowy night and by the time the MCI bus headed for home, it had gotten really bad out. She noticed someone had gone off the road and then saw her parent's vehicle parked and she thought they were the ones involved. She had the bus Celebrating 150 YEARS 1866 - 2016 driver stop the bus. She ran from the bus only to discover it was not her parents but that they had stopped to see if they could help the car in trouble. The moment of

momentary horror has stayed with

#### Class of 1960

her over the years.

Marilyn Nash writes, "I had a fabulous high school career, with many great memories.

First of all, some memories are not of the classroom. I lived to play field hockey and cried whenever we lost. I also loved trucks, so when I saw our janitor, Mr. Morgan, through a window of Alumni Hall; I commented on his beautiful red truck, then promptly drove it a few feet and onto the main highway, then up the middle drive. The next day, we all waited for my name to be called to the Dean's office. Sure enough. Another time, we were decorating for a dance, and there was a truck outside the gym; I got a bunch of kids on the back, and we drove around the track - just before a track meet. I never smoked or did drugs, but I was a brat, nevertheless.

I was the editor of the school paper, and I wrote the "Mickey's Minutes" column; I recall that it was a column dispensing advice, some of which was to the lovelorn - and I hadn't even dated, as of yet! I worked at the Bijou Theatre concession stand 'til 9 every weeknight, and the dorm students would stop by and ask for the same advice; I just hope that all those folks didn't listen cause I sure as heck did not know what I was talking about...

The teachers were great; Mrs. Earle with her suits and pearls teaching Latin; Mr. Legge getting me to take physics; I hated it; I was the only girl, and everyone else seemed to be taking world history. I had to take geometry twice because I was so busy daydreaming out of the second floor classroom; Mr. Spear taught that class, and such a gentleman he was. Mr. Lewis was the English teacher, and I had a daily competition with another student to see which one of us got the A

#### **CLASS MEMORIES**

that day. Mrs. Pottle was so trim and crisp, and Mrs. Sinclair with her color wheels - oh, my. Mr. Bartlett was great, too.

I realize that for many, high school was not a great experience, but for me, it was my life. I was one of ten kids, and MCI was my world. Thank you so much, MCI!"

**Glennis Brown Fields** sent the following memories: "We stood outside Parks Gym after graduation exercises in a big circle and passed the diplomas around until we got our own and dropped out of the circle, then the bell was rung. Mr. Legge holding forth in the chemistry lab, Mrs. Earle's little smile when she was pleased!"

#### Class of 1961

Julianna Armstrong Getts writes, "Playing field hockey in the fall, traveling with the team to different schools. Enjoying Mrs. Earle's Latin class – it was challenging but rewarding and helpful in my nursing career. I am so grateful for living in Pittsfield and being able to go to an exceptional school. The campus and buildings are so picturesque in any season."

#### Class of 1963

Janet Viger Bryant sent in the following: "How can I decide on just one? Each year at MCI holds special memories. I can't so here goes:

Freshman year: The first I AM/YOU ARE dance, lots of new faces and potential new friends like Anne W, Eric J and Earle T.

Sophomore year: Understanding teachers who helped me after I returned to classes after missing 4 weeks due to rheumatic fever with only 2 weeks left before finals.

Junior year: Going to the Sno-Ball and Jr/Sr Prom with John M. Decorating for the Prom (Theme: Bon Voyage) in the morning and afternoon with most of the girls in curlers then that night in formal gowns with guys in suits.

Senior Year: Time spent with Anne W and Marcia S, double dating, lunches at Thrifty's, Humphrey's, the Lancey House, or Marcia's. But most of all I remember a feeling of a supportive family because the teachers cared about us not just as students but as people and they gave me the feeling that I could succeed in life. It is because of these dedicated teachers that I became a teacher.

Since 1963: All the reunions in the years ending in 3 or 8, I went to them all and each one was better than the previous one. As we got older we grew closer as a class. I hope to see lots of the Class of 1963 this summer and again in 2018. Best Class Ever!"

Pat Rodgers Skaling: "I love traditions, and two of my favorite memories of MCI were the ringing of the bell after our athletic victories - just like the boys - and serving cookies and punch to the visiting field hockey teams and officials after every home game. Still in our tunics and hockey cleats, we gathered in the Home Ec room in the Science Building, where Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Sinclair made sure we were appropriate hostesses, no matter what had taken place on the field - a genteel approach to competition and an MCI tradition!"

Marcia Sprague Hodson: "It goes without saying that the education level at MCI was superior. My educational experience there was partly responsible for my becoming a teacher and spending 35 years in that profession. I have a memory for three of the years of attendance. My freshman year my Latin teacher, Mrs. Earle, asked my good friend Bonnie Jean Cyr and me to participate in a one act play production that needed 2 people that resembled each other as the play was about twins. What fun! My junior year I was selected to present an essay I had written at the Manson Essay Competition. Though I didn't win, the experience could have no substitution. My senior year, we students were allowed one day to teach a class for one of the teachers on campus. I chose to teach for one of the algebra teachers I adored. The courses we had studied, the teachers who had taught us, the experiences we had shared and the friendships we had made are all a part of the won- derful memories we have of being students at MCI."



Bonnie Hart-Vierling '67 exploring in Baxter State Park

#### Class of 1964

Tom Pickford writes that his favorite memory is playing basketball for the PG team with coach Len MacPhee and teammates **Don Bouchard** and **Don Fate** -- the tourney at Boston College, and losing in the finals to Worcester Academy.

Barbara Vigue Day writes, "One of my funny memories was the day my wrap-around skirt stopped being a wrap-around! I was seated in Mr. Remick's business math class, not patiently waiting for the end of the class to finish. In the fraction of a second it took the bell to ring and register in my brain, my feet beat it out of there. I just ran into one slight flaw in my getaway plan! The only button on the back of the wrap-around skirt had hit the metal bar on the side of the desk. So, without warning, I stood up, stepped forward, and down went the whole skirt! Recalling the whole embarrassing scene, standing there in my half slip in the middle of the aisle, I turned around and saw the shocked look on Glenn Critchley's face. Glenn remained a true gentleman. Standing there on top of the wayward skirt, he stepped aside and kindly asked 'Barbie, want your skirt back?' With a borrowed safety pin, and my fashion choice for that day taking a severe hit, off I went. Lessons learned; gentlemen do exist, and don't leave home without a safety pin and a slip!"

Jane Woodruff writes, "Our freshman year at one of the regular Saturday night dances, some students were doing the limbo. I believe Mrs. Earle, the Latin teacher, was the chaperone. Monday morning there was a school-wide announcement stating that the Twist and all other exhibitionist dancing was prohibited."

Tom Smith writes, "Upon arriving at school in 1963 and wanting to 'learn the geography,' I took a walk down the hill at the end of Rowe Hall. To my pleasure, I found that one of the utilities had left a coil of black coated wire in the road ditch. Bonus! I could run that wire out my dorm room window to a tree and attach one end to my radio to make an antenna for better radio reception. Thus, upon returning to my room at 26 Rowe Hall, I ran the wire out my dorm window to a tree in front of the dorm. All was well My roommate, Dave Mendenhall, had arrived on campus with a new pair of fashion jeans and was feeling quite cool sporting his new pants about campus. Having worn those jeans several times, Dave felt he should wash them. The laundromat was downtown. So Dave, being resourceful, washed them in the bathroom sink to save the walk to town. Then how to dry them with no dryer in the building? Hanging them on a hanger from the dorm room sprinkler head didn't seem prudent. But that radio antenna out the window might be just the place. On the wire they went. Not long after the pants went on the makeshift clothesline did Mr. White, the Dorm Master observe the "flag" hanging out in front of Rowe Hall for everyone to see. Mr. White was not happy with the scene. Instruction was given for immediate removal. And the were"

#### Class of 1965

George Slade writes, "Having a tended only one year in 1964-& I didn't feel really involved in th MCI community. That said, I ap preciate the year that I spent i Pittsfield. Looking back, it contrib uted to my overall growth and de velopment. Like any experience one can draw on the events of the course of a year to carry on in life While a member of the finance committee in the town of Bourne (MA) I had the remarkable coind

dence of serving with two other MCI graduates from later classes. I also crossed paths with Barry Clifford, the renowned underwater explorer who successfully located and excavated the remains of the pirate ship Whydah. I read with sadness about the passing of Willie Stewart and Dan Webster."

#### Class of 1966

Vicki Boetsch-Harriman's memories are, "Continuing my athletic career under the guidance of Tookie Russell. I loved field hockey and track. As a freshman, she encouraged me to gain weight (I weighed only 98 lbs.) I didn't make the team because of that that year, but tried out again the next year. I ended up as a senior on the All Star Field Hockey team. I continue to consider myself an athlete with many accomplishments, thanks to Tookie Russell!"

#### Class of 1967

**Timothy Fahey:** "I was a player on the prep (5th year) basketball team, and we had just beaten Univ of Maine Frosh Team by 15 points or better. When other players and I came out of the gym after the game, a crowd of fans were still waiting for us. There were many in that crowd from the town as well as students. I was touched to realize we had given the fans so much pride."

Randy Charlton: "I had only been in my dorm room for half an hour in Weymouth Hall as a post graduate when Norbert Young, Sr. knocked on my door. He was the cross country coach and I was surprised to receive such a warm welcome so soon after reporting. I was the top runner from my high school with many course records and Coach Young told me we were expecting Steve Loveless, the Vermont State Champion and Barry Riley, the Maine State Champ. Wow! It looked like it was going to be an amazing season.

Coach Young was an exceptional coach. The most unusual part of his style was that he would gather us at our daily workout run, tell us what he wanted us to do, and then leave! Coach Young was a very se-



1967 Freshmen Girls Campus Capers: Dawn Martin Madeiros, Bonnie Hart-Vierling, Joan Coawery, Linda Dow McDade, Britta Hamilton, Janice Stewart, Bretta Hamilton, Lorna Bubar White, Linda Mitchell Lambert.

rious man. I never saw him laugh. I saw him smile a few times. He was all business and knew we would follow his orders to the T, even without his presence.

We were having a perfect season, winning every meet. Then the day came for a meet against North Yarmouth Academy. For the first time, when Coach Young gathered us all together before we lined up for the starting gun, he had a worried look on his face. He actually had a tear in his eye and told us this was going be a very difficult race. He actually told us he had money bet on us! They fired the gun and we were off. I know we were all running like we were trying to outrun an avalanche and we were running for our lives. I didn't know how we were doing, but it was looking pretty good as we made the 90 degree turn for the last 100 yards of the race. As usual, Barry Reilly was in the lead, then Steve Loveless. then myself. I took a look as I went through that 90 degree turn and all I could see was MCI runners behind me! The last guy on our team beat NYA's number two man! Our whole team placed ahead of their second fastest runner! We won the State Championships that year.

Coach Nobby Young was quite a character. As it turned out Coach Young had a real personality conflict with NYA's coach. This was a race meant to punish NYA's coach. I know all of MCI's team members that ran for MCI that fall of 1966 will enjoy remembering that race. I hope any other alumni out there will enjoy this Norbert Young story. I hope all the other alumni out there look back at MCI with as

many great memories as I have. GO HUSKIES!!!"

**Bonnie Hart-Vierling** writes "I have so many wonderful memories of MCI. I love the winter carnivals and the great sculptures and a tug of war in the snow with our classmates. My fondest memory was Mrs. Sinclair (the dean of girls) giving me great advice and to believe in myself. She was a special lady. Anyway, I am retired and living with my wonderful husband in Florida.

**Lorna Bubar White** has many fond memories of being at MCI. Years spent at MCI helped her to become very successful in her life. She enjoys being a substitute at MCI now and loves the kids, faculty and staff. She still has her hair salon part time.

**Richard Prone**: I have a few memories that stand out during my PG year at MCI. The first is all the friends I made, especially in Weymouth Hall and the Prepper basketball team. We lost the championship game to North Yarmouth Academy, 91-87. I am saddened that PG basketball has been discontinued. Coach Dave Lahait taught us discipline and teamwork, and it stayed with me forever.

The second was building a twostory spray painted gorilla for winter carnival, a picture of which ended up on the front page of the *Bangor Daily News*. The third indelible memory I have is meeting **Jean Hammond** (Now Jean Watts) and her wonderful family on Greeley Street. Many a weekend night, when I was invited to Jean's house

### Celebrating 150 YEARS

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for dinner, I'd stay right up to a few minutes before curfew time. My watch was set exactly to Dorm Master Dave Mosher's clock -- he called it the "Bible" -- in the back entrance. One night, a huge, slow moving freight train blocked my path to the residence hall. After the caboose went by, I did a sprint over the athletic fields and up the hill. If one of my friends didn't open the door for me, I probably would have gone through it. There stood Mr. Mosher looking at the clock, and -- with a wry smile on his face -- said "Pretty good, Mr. Prone; 35 seconds to spare." The penalty for being late was being grounded for the next two weekends. Thanks MCI-- I learned a lot academically. with many life lessons along the way; can't ask for any more than that.

#### Class of 1968

Robert Brown writes, "In 1968 MCI started its first lacrosse team. There were two players on that team, Alex Luria and Bob Shortle. Alex would sometimes get mad at Bob because he thought he didn't make a big enough effort to get open, and he would yell at him saying "move around Shortle." But it sounded more like "moo aroun Shorey." About halfway through the season, the team was getting on the bus after an away game. Bob Shortle was holding everything up because he was still out in the parking lot kissing his girlfriend. Everyone on the bus opened the windows and started hollering, "moo aroun Shorey."

#### Class of 1969

**Dean Homstead:** "Whether arriving at school in the morning or just changing classes, Iva Cregnole was always in the school store with a bit of wisdom or humor to share with us. She was an incredible person."

Beverly Deane Knowles: "Mrs. Earle, our Latin teacher. She truly loved the subject she taught. She challenged students to study hard, to expand their knowledge and to become life-long learners."

Christopher "Kip" Boetsch writes, "I was a "dormie" in the new dorm

#### **CLASS MEMORIES**

my junior and senior years, and had the best education available, with many good faculty members to push me onward. The dorm masters back then were super! And do not forget Headmaster Ed Stanley, who helped the four Boetsches' education and future to become successful and be able to attend MCI. I want to thank them all, from the bottom of my heart, for steering us all in the right direction. Mr. Lyford Beverage was my dorm master, and his dog Dormy was our dorm dog, who would roam the halls during evening study time (master and dog) checking on us. I remember posting a math problem on the dog's back and Dormy would show up a half hour later with the problem solved, with Mr. Beverage in tow. Not good ... busted!

Mr. Richardson allowed me and my roommate, **Rodney Clark**, a weekend pass under his supervision to visit the University of Maine. He was sort of prepping us for life on a college campus, proving we had to be on our best behavior. After 49 years, Rodney and I still see each other once a year, with either me going to Canada or him coming to Maine. Rodney has become very successful in the restaurant business, and the fine dining of oyster at Rodney's Oyster House in Toronto, Calgary, PEI Canada.

After throwing our hats into the air and departing MCI, I attended Calhoon Marine Engineering School in Maryland (1970 - 1973) and received by Marine Engineering degree. I began shipping the 7 seas. My class trip was going to Vietnam on ammo cargo ships. I was away from home over a year. I have sailed on many types of vessels, from a rusty reserve government ship, C-3, T-2 tankers, fishing boats, container ships, chemical carriers, all the way up to high tech L.N.G. state of the art - over 100 vessels to be exact, scrape yards to shipyards, war zones to resort zones it's sure been an adventure.

Working up through the ranks from 3rd engineer to Chief Engineer (USCG) license unlimited horsepower, steam and diesel, gas turbine. When they reflagged my ship and crew and took the American flag down, I decided to hang it up and came ashore in 2000-2007 to work as a stationary engineer in Rockland, Maine on the pier – surrounded by water – wouldn't you know! Following that work I left the working waterfront and headed for the woods to work as a maintenance manager at a large saw mill 2007-2008.

Well, they ran me through the mill there, and it was the "call of the sea and back to the working water front", to end up working for the good old State of Maine on the newest ferry boat, moving people safely to and from the island off the coast of Maine, where I am presently working. I love the fact that I am still sailing on the sea and can sleep in my own bed at night.

I have two wonderful children and one grandchild to be very proud of; one a doctor and the other, of course, an engineer who is flying the world wide and drilling for oil. When I am not on the water, ferry boat or my little aluminum fishing boat on Round Pond, I am usually cruising around on my Harley or tinkering on old cars in my shop. I still run into some of my good old seafaring buddies from the past and swap sea stories - even my former dorm master, Mr. Beverage, on North Haven Island! It's a small world at times.

I want to thank Maine Central Institute staff and faculty for getting me on the right track – and all the best to MCI and grads, and one particular person who was the school nurse back in 1969, Hilda Buker, may she rest in peace – a wonderful, loving person. I will be at the 150th Reunion with my roommate – me driving a 1962 corvette and Rodney, a 1946 Ford pick-up. Watch out Pittsfield!

#### Class of 1970

David England: "My most memorable moment at MCI was when I first saw the love of my life. I was a senior and also the bell ringer. Before I rang the bell for the start of the first afternoon class, I used to wait in the south hallway of Founders Hall and look out the window of the doorway before going down stairs to the boys locker room to ring the bell. One beautiful fall day Marcia Bickford and I were standing by that door. I was looking down the walkway that led up to Founders Hall from the Bryant House. There she was, walking up the walkway on her way back to school from lunch. I looked at Marcia and asked her who that cute blond was. Marcia turned and looked out the window and said. 'Surfer, you better stay away from her. That's Susan Smith [England, Class of 1973]. She's Rod Smith's daughter and she is only 14.' Well it was love at first sight."

Bill Cunningham writes, "Some of the most memorable lessons I learned while at MCI were not in the classroom, but learned on the five mile MCI Nordic race course that wound through the woods and fields off outer Hartland Avenue. I was a cross country skier for four years on the MCI Ski Team under the direction of Mr. Boulrisse. The many practices and races on this course showed me time and again the importance of teamwork, working hard and when body and mind were both exhausted, to somehow find a burst of inner strength and determination to not give up and to finish the race. Since then I have used these valuable lessons repeatedly over the years to help me overcome challenges I encountered in my education, my career, and in my life in general. In my mind, I still hear Mr. Boulrisse yelling 'Get the lead out!' whenever I start climbing up a steep uphill while out cross country skiing on the local snowmobile trails. Because of this, I automatically put on a burst of speed and run up the hill and get to the top with a smile on my face thinking about him, my teammates and my ski team days at MCI."

Wendy Murdock Esposito's favorite memories are Winter Carnival snow sculptures, playing field hockey, cheering, burgers at the Huskey Hut, and close friends.

Martha Lloyd says her favorite memory is the spring senior prom

in 1968. The theme was "Love is Blue," and the gym was beautifully decorated – just a magical evening.

#### Class of 1971

Milton Webber writes, "I have soooo many memories of school that it would be IMPOSSIBLE to key in on one.... However, all of my sport memories, the "LIVE" dances with the Moondogs and Barracu das, pulling the school bell rope Winter Carnivals (sculpturing and broom hockey), and hanging out with the best buddies in the world would be but just a few..... How can I pick?"

#### Class of 1973

Thomas Jackson writes: "As a 'City Kid' I had never heard of the game of lacrosse, let alone seen a lacrosse stick or a game. Basketbal was the city game and football was a close second. At MCI, we sup ported one another on and off the field. My first lacrosse game ever I saw Mike Ames do things with that stick and ball that shocker and amazed me ... I've told him it is one of my greatest sports mo ments, and I remember it like it wa yesterday."

Sue England writes: "As a child, have wonderful memories of at tending numerous Pops concerts Campus Capers and Sno-Ba events with my father and mothe To a little girl, those times seeme almost magical. While the Pop concerts and Campus Capers wer a thing of the past by the time l at tended MCI, certainly all the schoo activities and Winter Carnive events were a high point for me.

I also have fond memories of Par Gym. As children, my sisters and always thought of it as 'Dad's gy since that was where our dad spe a good deal of his time. As a child spent many happy hours bouncir a basketball in Parks Gym or kic ing a soccer ball around Manso Park while tagging along with m dad. Later as a student, certain playing sports was a highlight fi me during my years at MCI. Thele sons learned on, as well as off, th playing field were some of the be life lessons I would learn.

Celebrating 150 YEARS

Lastly, the friendships I made at MCI were special. Each new school year at MCI brought new friendships. I shared great times with great friends. Certainly meeting my husband was a special moment too!"

#### Class of 1974

Susan Cianchette Koch writes, "There were so many little things like coffee houses, Winter Carnival, cheering practice, bus rides to games, the breakfast club, and so much more. But, I would have to say the best memory was the sense of community, trust, and respect between faculty, staff and students. I knew at the time that it was different from the experience at other schools, but didn't realize until later how truly wonderful it was. I am thankful for my years at MCI.

#### Class of 1976

Don Hallenbeck writes "Memories of my days at MCI are mostly from my days as the person taking the movies for the varsity football team. I remember walking thru Manson Park several times during football season and seeing the old port. camera tower with one or more of the jacks kicked out from under the trailer or when MCI borrowed scaffolding from Cianbro, finding braces missing or in the spring when we were cleaning the pool, finding braces there. I also remember one time when we were headed out for an away game, the team had to walk around a VW bug parked across the path from the locker room and a couple of guys got on the front and back bumpers, picked it up and moved it out of the way. I remember filming from the top of the school bus in a misty day at Boothbay High and the hot dog vendor with his mobile cart. The other memory of MCI is from the baseball team with Coach Mosher. At an exhibition game in Waterville, Mike Susi '75 thought he broke his bat. He didn't, and I still have that bat at home in my closet."

#### Class of 1979

Kathy Kelley writes, "There are so many great memories, it is hard to pick just one. The best memories are the ones that we continue to make each and every time we get to meet, years after we graduated from this wonderful school. The camaraderie and loving friendships still exist and pick up from wherever we left off. The education of respect, honesty and 'always do your best' rings so true in life and is exemplified by the many graduates who have gone on to big things in their lives. On a regular basis, I refer to the Mr.(s) Dana, Lewis, Slagle, Mosher and Haseltine - "isms" to make decisions, speak, or problem solve."

#### Class of 1980

**Susan Foley Perry** writes that her favorite memory of MCI is living in the dorms and the warmth of the dorm parents. She remembers the female teachers taking turns sitting in the lounge on Saturday nights so that the dorm parents got a break.

#### Class of 1986

John Reid writes, "Since eighth grade I've always known that computers would be in my life one way or another and taking that typing class got rid of the "hen pecking" I was doing, enabling me to program in basic much faster. That feels like a lifetime ago. I don't think that I ever got the chance to thank Mr. Element (algebra teacher) at the time for allowing me access to the mainframe computers and really keeping me interested in computers. I was able to program a way to solve for the "quadratic equation" and "solve for X" and could see how the future of computers was beginning to take shape. I even got to program a game or two on my off-time. Later I got the chance to take the computer class with Mr. Stilphen on the old TRS-80 learning the structure of a code which only left me wanting more.

If it weren't for Mr. Smith I may not have had the opportunity to go on to college as his advice was always welcomed if only mostly followed. It was he and his wife that stood in for my far away aunt and uncle for my confirmation and kept me involved with our local church, St. Agnes. Mr. Anderson who made history come alive, although he did go on too long about the Vietnam War if I remember correctly. Art class giving us the time to draw and listen to music. Mrs. Kingsbury and spending many hours in Spanish class. If only I could have retained more of it now living in Lawrence, MA.

There is helping to build snow sculptures and tug-of-war and the Sno-Ball that we can never forget. How brave **Craig Dionne** and his entire family were, making us understand that life is short and your faith can be tested, enduring through it, you can still be king. Remembering dress down Friday's spending that quarter to wear blue jeans. And either hanging out down by the bookstore/commissary or getting the opportunity to be off campus."

#### Class of 1987

David O'Brien writes, "One of the funniest moments I can remember at MCI was in 10th grade chemistry class with Mrs. Wratten. She was one of the nicest teachers I ever had. I never saw her get mad, ever. Anyway, we were working with phosphorus, which ignites in open air, so the brick of phosphorus was submerged in kerosene. We would all shave a tiny piece off and put it into another solution to work with, so that it didn't explode. However, one of my classmates or a group of them decided to grab the entire brick with tongs and pull it from the kerosene. At which point it started to spontaneously explode. So, the young man decides to run across the lab with the brick in tongs and screaming for someone to open a window. The whole time phosphorous flares are exploding off the brick like roman candles. Someone did open the window and he threw the entire brick of phosphorous out the back window of the lab, where it continued to explode. The rest of the class ran to the classroom side and proceeded to open the windows and hang out the windows for fresh air. That is the side that faced the office by the way, so when the headmaster showed up, he informed us he saw students hanging out the windows and smoke pouring out of the windows with them. The entire time,

1866 - 2016Mrs. Wratten never got upset or raised her voice and to this day, I remember one thing very clearly: As she was calmly standing there directing us on what to do, (me being the class clown) I said, 'thank goodness phosphorous smoke isn't poisonous.' I will never forget her response. As calmly as teaching any other day, she looked at me and said, 'Why young man, phosphorous smoke is extremely poisonous.' At which point I proceeded to go hang out the window with my classmates. I don't know if this story is publishable, but it was a unique moment at MCI. Plus, I think the use of phosphorous in

P.S. – No, I wasn't the one that pulled the brick from the phosphorous..."

chemistry class was banned after

#### Class of 1988

that...

Loren Lavallee Martin writes, "It is difficult to narrow it down to one favorite memory, as guite honestly, I have many. I credit MCI and the many great teachers I encountered for who I am today. I came to MCI my sophomore year a pretty troubled teen banished to Maine to live with her grandparents. I met and made great friends that I will treasure forever. The teachers I encountered were second to none. They prepared me for the real world and the curriculum was on par, and in most cases, surpassed that of college classes I later went on to take. All that said, some of my fondest memories were made in Mr. Veilleux's class. His nature trips complete with foraging for mushrooms and witty phrases to help us remember birds and bird calls. I still say them today, "Here Kitty Kitty", "Zoo Zee, Zoo Zoo Zee." His classes were fun and memorable and made a lasting impression. Truly one of a kind!"

#### Class of 1995

Ashley Poulin enjoyed being on the Track and Cross Country teams, as well as the Outing Club and Science Club.

Michelle Brooks Poulin has fond memories of being in the Outing Club. Michelle is married to Ashley Poulin. They have two children

#### **CLASS MEMORIES**

that attend MCI. Ophelia is in her junior year and River is a sophomore.

#### Class of 1996

Ricky Haynes wrote, "I would have to say my favorite high school memory was of going to the cafeteria and getting a lunch of french fries and BBQ sauce. You never knew who was going to be there, but you always knew you were going to run into friends."

#### Class of 2009

Nick Miller says that his favorite memory is Friday night football.

#### Class of 2018

Ray Berthelette sent the following information and picture about his late son, Nolan Berthelette. Ray had several favorite MCI memories of Nolan including the following: "Several MCI community members walked in the KAT Walk Karo 5k in Portland, Maine on September 13, 2014 in honor of Nolan. The amount of support from the community and MCI was amazing! A school bus filled with students, teachers, and coaches pulled up to the race and immediately caught the eye of everyone there as we all were dressed in orange. We had the largest group in the history of their race at 16 members. We also raised over \$10,000 for the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, more than any single group had ever raised!" Ray was also proud that Nolan was able to practice and perform with the MCI Combo Jazz 2 group while still in eighth grade and was happy about the first of two undefeated football seasons for the MCI Huskies. "The amount of support and love which the team has given us has been tremendous!"



MCI football captains take the field with Coach Bertrand in 2008. L-R, Tom Bertrand, Andy Shorey '09, Shawn Bennett '10, Brandon Wilson '09, Nick Miller '09



MCI students and supporters after the KAT Walk Karo 5K in honor of Nolan Berthelette.

In Memoriam

The Advancement Office was notified of the passing of these members of the MCI family:

Mary Alice Conroy Crabb '36 Margaret McInnis'36 Hilda Gerow Powers '38 Stanley Ames'45 Marion Luce Norris'45 Nedra Hammond Swartz'45 Philip Riley'46 John Luke'47 Cecil McLaggan '47 Sewell Millett '47 Marilyn Whitman Small '47 Dorothy Menendez Russell '48 Rodney Spaulding '59 Raymond Crosby '49 Maynard Dahlgren '49 Robert Simpson'49 Ada Young Sirois '49 William Zoidis '50 William Anderson '51 . Paul Currie'51

Sally Cianchette Dwinell '51 Jean Tilton '51 Shirley Fields Libby '52 David McDonough '52 Nadine Whitaker Cooper '53 Marilyn Langley Butler '55 Orlando Bates '56 Spencer Havey'56 John Tibbetts '56 Clarke Conlon'57 Robert McGinnis '58 Dana Barnes '60 Neal Cobisi'61 Dennis Fernald '61 Tyler Dunning '61 Gary Jordan '62 Philip Baker'63 Arthur Hicks'63

Roger Eastman'63 Christine Chase Spooner'66 James Homstead '66 Barry Reilly'67 Jeffrey Andrews '68 Brik Hamilton '71 Marlin Smith '71 Paul Booth '72 Clifton Connolly'78 Brian Leavitt '78 Walter Hunt '78 Mark Bickford '84 Randall Shaw'86 David Oviatt '87 Normand "Bub" Bouffard Jr. '89 John Stockbridge '93 Jenna Murdock Reese '00 Kayla Fletcher '15 Adrien Badger

Leon Gorman Anne Kaan Aimee Lasco Norma Littlefield Ralph Martin Stephen Spencer Jane Merrill Thomas

Our deepest condolences go out to the families and friends of those who have passed on. The Advancement Office tries its very best to record accurately the names of the alumni/ae and friends who have passed away. Please contact our office at (207) 487-5915 or alumni@mci-school. org about the passing of alumni/ae or friends of MCI.

The Cover of the 100th Anniversary issue of the Alumnus magazine, published in June 1966

men ALUMNUS

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