

The Anchor

GRACE - ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL
SPRING 2012



ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

INTERNSHIP PROJECTS HELP
8TH GRADERS BUILD SKILL SETS

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PLUS:

A NEW DAY AT THE LIBRARY
SCIENCE LAB RENOVATION
CLASS OF '12 LEGACY STUDENTS

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SPECIAL FEATURE:
THE FASHIONABLE GERBER GIRLS



from the head of school:

ONE OF MY FAVORITE GSL traditions is the post-game tunnel. I was first introduced to this many years ago when my children began playing recreational sports for Grace-St. Luke's Church. Win, lose, or draw, at the conclusion of each game, the parents would assemble into two lines,

face each other, and reaching out, join hands to form a human archway. The kids would complete their post-game handshakes with their opponents and then start running for the tunnel, to be celebrated by their parents for their hard work on the field or on the court. I thought it was a wonderful way for parents to recognize their children's accomplishments.

As I have watched a wide range of GSL sports this year, I have noticed a growing trend with this tunnel. Our students have adopted the tradition and made it their own. On all the playing fields and gyms, I've seen GSL students of all ages spill out of the stands following an athletic contest and link hands to form a tunnel for their classmates, friends, siblings, and fellow Lukers. They've embraced this tradition eagerly, and it makes me proud to see such school spirit and genuine affection across all grade levels. It's not something anyone told them to do; it is a spontaneous, impulsive gesture that celebrates what they feel for their friends and this special school.

This type of ownership and leadership abounds at GSL. Our PK-8th grade configuration is key to providing a safe space for students to have the freedom to learn, play, grow, and explore. Beginning with the discovery, play-based curriculum at Miss Lee's, students are encouraged to take charge of their learning. What may look like

chaos is actually students, guided by their teachers, pursuing learning across a wide range of topics. From letters to numbers, they are making sense of the world around them. As they come into the Lower School, programs like the inquiry-based FOSS science curriculum continue to foster creative problem-solving. The global studies program in third and fourth grade encourages more ownership by giving students the chance to select different cultural topics and conduct their own research. In Middle School, student responsibility and accountability continues to be developed, culminating in the Eighth Grade Internship Project you'll read about in this issue.

Just the other day, a young alum stopped by campus and we had a chance to catch up on her classmates and their exploits of the past year. I pulled out an old buzz book and as we went down the class roster, it was clear that all of her classmates had gone on to find their niches in high school and were thriving in their new environments. When you've been nurtured at GSL—by the post-game tunnel, a challenging curriculum, a caring teacher—your future is a bright one.

Thor A. Kvande

THOR A. KVANDE
Head of School



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ABOUT THE COVER:

The Eighth Grade Internship Project: a signature GSL experience designed to give our "senior" students a chance to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills in real world business settings. This program, now in its fifth year, has allowed more than 100 GSL students the chance to create their very own three-day internship and get a glimpse of a career they might end up pursuing professionally. It is a confidence-builder, a game-changer, and perhaps more than anything, a memory-maker. Ruthie Harwood is pictured on the cover of this issue during her internship at Alchemy Restaurant.



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Grace-St. Luke's' mission is to prepare boys and girls to become creative problem solvers, confident lifelong learners, and responsible citizens in their communities and the world.

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(Back row l to r): Father Richard Lawson, Rinnie Wood, Corinne Wilson, Head of School Thor Kvande, Preston Wilson, Director of Development Denise Taylor, and Head of Lower School Andy Surber; (front row): Happy first graders enjoying the new science lab!

Family Gift Helps Transform Lower School Science Lab

By CARRIE SARACINI, *Communications Intern*

After years of planning and several months of hard labor, Grace-St. Luke's School proudly opened a beautiful, newly renovated Lower School science lab this fall, a project that was made possible by one very special GSL family. In late October this family, led by its matriarch—gracious former GSL grandparent, Corinne Wilson—gathered in the newly renovated science lab to see the transformation and witness some science experiments in action. A classroom of first graders, both shy and excited, gathered around Mrs. Wilson and her adult children, Preston Wilson and Rinnie Wood, thanking them enthusiastically for the generous contribution that made the renovation possible.

The Wilson family has a long legacy of involvement with the GSL community that spans more than 50 years and three generations. Corinne and her late husband Paul Preston Wilson moved into Midtown in 1961 and became new members of Grace-St. Luke's Church, with Corinne serving as soloist in the church choir. Paul dedicated countless hours to the school and church, serving as President and Treasurer of the School Board, as well as in many other capacities including Senior Warden and Treasurer of the Church Vestry. Their two children Preston and Rinnie attended GSL through 6th grade (its final grade level in the mid-60s). Years later, when they started their own families, they sent their children (Warren, Marynelle and Lulu Wilson and Jenna and Margaux Wood) to GSL as well.

Corinne's gift, given in memory of her husband, reflects her dedication to the school and church community. "Over the years, it seemed natural that we give our time and talent wherever we could," she explains. "After Paul died in January of 2006, we wanted to choose something to honor him that revolved around education, since that was so important to him. The science lab renovation seemed perfect, with hands-on learning as the focus."

The transformational remodeling of the lab began early last summer with removal of the well-used and well-worn old workstations. The updated classroom was redesigned to allow for greater flexibility, with new workstations and lab experiment areas arranged around the perimeter of the room and foldable, roll-away tables that can be used in the center for group instruction. According to Head of Lower School Andy Surber, the more flexible space encourages movement and better integration of 21st century skills, without the limitations of a fixed classroom structure. "The room also got a new Smartboard and an iPad cart, technology designed for video simulations (virtual frog dissections, for example!) and other online learning tools," Surber adds. "We just love our new lab. These enhancements have really enriched our students' classroom experience."

Thanks to the Wilson gift that made remodeling possible, in addition to generous design support from parent Derrick Choo, millwork support from parent David Rhea, and installation work from GSL facilities director Dennis Cain, the project culminated in the creation of a wonderful new learning environment for GSL's students. On the day the Wilsons visited to see it all, GSL Church Rector Rev. Richard Lawson blessed and dedicated the room, as GSL's first graders excitedly explored their technology-rich, thoughtfully designed new learning environment.

For Corinne, the gift was a meaningful way of contributing to the community where she has spent so much of her life. "Grace-St. Luke's School was such a wonderful place for our children and grandchildren," she says. "Being church-oriented, smaller than many schools, coed, and in a beautiful neighborhood, all make it special. Everyone in our family, as different as we are, benefited from our time at Grace-St. Luke's, and we still enjoy watching the students coming and going, as we come and go. All of our grandchildren live out-of-town now, so coming back to Memphis is filled with lots of memories of their time at GSL."



ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Eighth graders build skills and explore career pathways during annual internship projects.

By MARCI WOODMANSEE, '83, *Director of Communications*

Many businesses today offer internships—highly sought-after openings that in the best-case scenarios, lead to future permanent employment. These coveted positions aren't offered to just anyone. Graduate students secure these internships. College students may get these internships. Sometimes, even an over-achieving high school student may find such an internship.

But a Middle School student? Unheard of!

Except for Grace-St. Luke's Middle Schoolers, that is.

In the past five years, since the inception of Grace-St. Luke's unique Independent Internship program, 100+ businesses in and around Memphis have hosted more than 150 students in bona fide, three-day internships. This signature GSL experience has given eighth graders the chance to work in business places across the city and even outside of Memphis. Places like Ardent Studios, Medtronic, The Orpheum, Coca-Cola, Outdoors, Inc., The Memphis Zoo, Playhouse on the Square, Martin Music, Central Animal Hospital, The Stovall Collection, and Action News 5.

GSL's eighth graders have worked at financial firms, law firms, and architecture firms. In doctors' offices and advertising agencies. At bakeries and restaurants. And they have absolutely loved it. This real-world experience is a defining moment for many of them as they head into their final months of school at GSL.

Of course, it requires a certain leap of faith for an organization to agree to host a 14-year-old in the workplace for three days. Fortunately for GSL, the feedback from the business community has been extremely positive, and the program continues to evolve and grow thanks to the support of the many mentors who have hosted GSL students.

"When we hear things like, 'Your student had more initiative than some of our regular employees,' or 'Our GSL intern didn't want to leave when it was time to go!' we feel very good about what this program is accomplishing," says Thor Kvande, Head of School. "It's a culminating experience that builds on the comprehensive foundation we work so

hard to provide here, and we believe it offers invaluable lessons that will serve our eighth graders very well down the road."

By all accounts, the businesses who host GSL's students enjoy the experience and are well aware of the program's long-term benefits. At the Orpheum, Lindsay Krosnes, Manager of Education and Community Programs, says they try to expose interns to multiple aspects of operations to help them understand the whole picture. "We are always enthusiastic about encouraging students of all ages to learn about the business of theatre. We think The Orpheum is an amazing place to gain such experience," she explains. "They get to see the behind-the-scenes preparation of bringing productions to the Orpheum. The students are always eager and energetic, not to mention smart. Our intern Virginia Strother was very mature and did a great job."

Martin Music owner Eric Martin, an '83 GSL alum and mentor since the inception of the program, has a similar perspective. "Kids who are into guitar get to see not just the retail side, but the personalities of the musicians who come into our store," he explains. "We have some well-known players who are recognizable famous people to them, but they find out that these are some of the most normal, laid-back people around and not unapproachable artists. It's a nice reality check. The other thing I enjoy is seeing the interns' reactions when they see a really high-end, professional guitar or piece of equipment; it reminds me of the first time I went into a music store and saw something and thought, 'This is the coolest thing ever!' It's nice to remember those moments and recall why you got into your business in the first place."

The students admit that while going in on the first day can be a bit nerve-racking, the overall experience is definitely worth it. Henry Guinn, who interned at Martin Music, said he loved being around the customers and cool employees. Ruthie Harwood, who interned at Alchemy restaurant in Cooper-Young, said that working in the kitchen was fun, hostessing was harder than she expected, and that it was exciting to learn how to wait tables. Wilson Pisahl loved watching how dogs interact and play together at Dogs Rule. Aynsley Hartney helped



Opposite page, left: At Martin Music, Henry Guinn learned the importance of customer relations from business owner and GSL '83 alum, Eric Martin.

Opposite page, right: Virginia Strother got a chance to envision her name in lights during her internship at The Orpheum.

Top row, left: Wilson Pisahl enjoyed taking care of dogs during his internship at Dogs Rule.

Top row, right: Eli Weinberg took care of a variety of different animals at the Memphis Zoo.

Middle row, left: At the Stovall Collection, Anna Wright learned about stationery design.

Middle row, right: In her internship at Animal Health Center, Wesley Richards worked with animals who needed some tender loving care.

Bottom row, left: Elizabeth McIntosh learned about both baking and retail during her internships at Gigi's Cupcakes.

Bottom row, center: Alex Mansour takes care of business during his internship at Red Door Wealth Management.

Bottom row, right: Molly Cline found out what it takes to produce a magazine during her internship at *Justine*.



design a tool at Medtronic. Tucker Comes loved working in Ardent's famous Studio B. His Ardent mentor Dan Russo echoed the thoughts of many of the other mentors when he said: "I think this program is great; I wish I'd gotten to do something like this when I was his age!"

It takes a great deal of courage for a young teenager to go into an adult workplace and find a way to contribute and make a positive impact during a three-day internship experience. GSL's students get countless opportunities to exercise their developing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in real world business settings. They get the chance to see what goes on behind the scenes in the workplace. They get a meaningful glimpse of a career they might decide to pursue. They meet adults who may be able to mentor them later as they journey from high school to college and beyond. The experience builds confidence and makes memories.

Jennifer Karnes, an '86 GSL alum and her husband Steve, owners of Central Animal Hospital, have hosted interns for the past five years and

have a great perspective on the long-term benefits of the program. As Steve Karnes puts it: "I think it gives the students an opportunity to broaden their horizons beyond what their parents, family, or friends of family do. The world of work is so large, it's mind-boggling; but this is a great opportunity to see what people do on a day-to-day basis.

"I hope it gets them thinking about more than the job—what is the environment like? What type of people do you want to work with? Do you want to work primarily with people or computers/numbers? All of these things will determine how much they enjoy the work they do."

Thanks to the Karneses and the scores of local businesspeople who have been willing to take a chance on a bright 14-year-old, many other GSL eighth graders will have the opportunity to answer these questions in their own internships in the future.

Here's to the Internship Project's first five successful years, and many more to come!



Where it all began: Alumnae Robin Gerber and Annie Griffin on the porch at Miss Lee's Preschool during a recent visit to GSL.

Always in Style



Alumnae Annie Griffin and Robin Gerber make their mark in the fashion industry with their very own couture line

Grace-St. Luke's prides itself on providing a foundation for success for the students who come to school here, and it is always exciting to see our alums go on to pursue their dreams after leaving the GSL nest. One special success story we are pleased to feature in this issue involves two talented sisters and a family with a long legacy at GSL. Annie Gerber Griffin ('98) and Robin Gerber ('01), daughters of Memphians Meg and Charles Gerber, are very busy in Atlanta these days running their own contemporary clothing line, the Annie Griffin Collection. Annie, 27, is the designer and Robin, 24, is the marketing whiz; under their leadership, the line is being carried in more stores every year and continues to grow in sales and popularity.

Fashionable women of the world, take note!

The Gerber sisters (along with brothers Charlie and Jack) started at GSL in Preschool and continued here through Middle School, where their keen design and sales skills undoubtedly began to flourish. The *Anchor Magazine* staff had a chance to catch up with the sisters during a recent visit to Memphis to find out a little more about how they got started and what's coming up next.

Anchor: Tell us a little bit about your life after GSL.

Annie: After GSL, I went to Hutchison for high school where I focused a lot on art under instructor Gwen English (GSL parent of fifth grader Connor Homayouni). I went to college at SMU in Dallas, TX.

Robin: After finishing high school at Hutchison, I went to college at the University of Georgia, where I majored in psychology. During college I worked for a boutique in downtown Athens and realized I had a passion for sales. After graduating I moved to New York to intern at KCD Worldwide, a leading fashion PR firm and production agency.

Anchor: How did you begin to get interested in fashion design?

Annie: I received my BFA at The Meadows School of Art at SMU with a concentration in painting. After graduating, I began working with an interior designer. I simply loved working with fabrics and couldn't get my mind off of the exploration of clothing design, so I decided to go to SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design) to try my hand at fashion design. A year later in 2009, I started my venture into fashion.

Robin: I started to partner with Annie while I was still living in New York, and we actually started our showroom in New York's garment district then. But it was going to be easier for us to join forces in the same city, so I ended up moving to Atlanta last year.

Anchor: Tell us about the launch of the Annie Griffin Collection and what was involved in getting established in this industry.

Annie: The business started out very small in 2009 with a collection of about seven pieces, and the hardest part for me was trying to take on all the different aspects of the business. Accounting, sales, marketing, and manufacturing were a bit daunting for one person! Finding a manufacturing facility in Atlanta was a huge challenge, so the obvious next step was New York. Up until our most recent line, that's where all of our pieces were manufactured, but in November we headed to China and found a great production team that we are now working with. There was and still is a huge learning curve in creating a business. I'm fortunate to have friends and family with business experience, and I have relied on their expertise.

Anchor: What is it like today?

Annie: It's fun and creative when it comes to designing, but from the drafting table to meeting with storeowners, it can be tedious and hectic. I'm incredibly fortunate to have Robin as a partner and in charge of all sales. We also hired Shanna Skidmore who heads

all operations and shipping. This allows me to focus on what I love and do best, which is design. Our team consists of a designer, an accountant, an operations/shipping manager, a sales director, a few amazing interns, and several sales reps in different territories.

Robin: I came on board full time in January 2011 and took over responsibilities for sales and marketing; I also attend all of the trade shows.

Anchor: Are any other family members involved?

Annie: Our dad has been a constant means of support. His sound business advice has been an enormous help, and our mom has helped with the publicity.

Anchor: At what moment did you realize, "This is it! This is something I can do successfully."

Annie: When you're a young designer, every season is trial by fire. The proof comes from every single order we receive. Now that we have reorders flooding in each season, I feel my work is being validated.

Anchor: What has been the most exciting accomplishment to date?

Annie: Every goal we reach is hugely exciting. Our first runway show at New Orleans Fashion Week was probably the most thrilling moment I can remember.

Robin: We just finished a fashion week in Birmingham and have been asked to do one in Jacksonville. And, of course, the first-ever Memphis Fashion Weekend in March is featuring our line!

Anchor: Which stores are now carrying your clothing line?

Robin: We sell to Isabella and Oak Hall in Memphis; they received the spring line in February. We are currently in more than 150 stores nationwide, and we sell online at www.anniegriffincollection.com.

Anchor: Can you think back to anything at GSL that helped spark your interest in art, design, or fashion?

Annie: I really loved all of my art classes at GSL. The teachers were all so encouraging. They entered my art into shows, which is something I never would have done on my own! I especially remember Mrs. Glueck's art class and loving it. It inspired me to focus on art during high school at Hutchison.

Anchor: What do you remember most about the GSL experience that was especially important or meaningful?

Annie: I think the overall size of GSL was great for me. Dad calls me "the reluctant artist," so receiving a lot of individual attention from my teachers really helped build my confidence. I do remember an after-school art class in the second grade, and the instructor told me I had a great sense of color. Color is one of the driving forces in my designs.



Walking the runway! An exciting moment at the end of fashion week in New Orleans.



Anchor: Do you stay in touch with any classmates from your time here?

Annie: Yes, some of my closest friends today were in my graduating class at GSL.

Anchor: How often do you get back to Memphis to see family and friends?

Annie: My husband and I try to make it to Memphis for the holidays a couple times a year. I also come back for trunk shows and an occasional home show. I love coming back to visit family and old friends.

Anchor: Any advice for GSL students who have big dreams like yours?

Annie: The most important thing you can do is to get an internship or work in the field. Learn as much as you can before considering taking the plunge. Robin wanted to start working with me as soon as she graduated from college, but I insisted she work in the industry first. Fashion is so much more than pretty clothes and runways. It's a complicated business that needs constant nurturing and requires unrelenting focus and determination. No matter what, when starting a new business, there will be roadblocks along the way. You have to be patient, learn from your mistakes, and keep moving forward!



Media specialist Jan Willis (second from left) and library associate Emilee Cox (third from right) have teamed up this year to make visiting the library an extra special experience for GSL's students.

A New Day at the Library

Nurturing the love of reading and preparing students to succeed in an online world

By CARRIE SARACINI, *Communications Intern*

It's not uncommon for a senior kindergartener to love dolphins, but when Molly Solecki walked into the library this spring, she had an unusually specific request. Molly was fascinated with one particular dolphin, Winter (you might have heard of her, too—star of last year's movie, *Dolphin Tale*). Molly wanted every book she could find on Winter. Luckily for her, the new GSL library team was up to the task. "We found her an SK range reader on that topic," says Jan Willis, GSL's new Media Specialist. Emilee Cox, Library Associate, chimes in, "She rechecked it today!"

The GSL library, celebrating only its second year in the Anchor Center, is thriving under the leadership of its new team. That is largely due to the true love of reading that both Willis and Cox are sharing with all of GSL's students. Cox taught first grade at GSL for four years, but had never worked in the library. Willis had years of library experience as former director of the public library system in Tupelo, but was a newcomer this year to GSL. Together, they explain, they have made a perfect team. "Jan has a wealth of knowledge I didn't have coming into the library," Cox says. "He taught me everything I needed to know." In turn, Willis credits Cox for making his transition into GSL so smooth. "The fact that she's been a teacher is a huge help," he says. "She's mentored me about our students, faculty, parents, and GSL itself. It's invaluable to come in your first year and have that."

Since joining the GSL faculty in August, Willis feels that he has become part of the community. He already knows most students by name, a personal connection that he considers extremely important. He has been known to send faculty off for the holidays with books for their kids to enjoy, and his gentle, calm presence seems perfectly suited for his profession. Cox confirms that he is a huge hit with the students. "He's really great about listening to the students, discovering their reading interests, and knowing how to select something for them."

One of Willis's main goals this year was to ensure that students always looked forward to visiting the library. "We are at the heart of campus, and we feel like we're the heart of GSL," he says simply. "We want it to be the most welcoming place for students, faculty, and parents."

To that end, they've made a few changes. One area of growth is in sheer volume: Willis has added about 1,000 new books to the library since starting in August, bringing the total volume to 16,000+. Willis and Cox also began allowing senior kindergartners to check out books for the first time. After a few lessons in the fall about using the library and taking care of library materials, SK students were wildly excited to have earned the new privilege of checking out books and taking them back to their classrooms.

Another new initiative was to increase the use of family library accounts. "For a GSL parent, having family access to our library is another example of the added value found at GSL. Since our preschool students don't yet visit the library to check out books, we hoped the family check-out would be especially helpful to those parents," Willis explains.

For grades SK-4, which do have regular library classes, Willis and Cox have plenty of lessons to teach. They are by all accounts enjoying every minute of it. Many of their classes focus on showing students how to find reliable resources for their homework and projects. GSL subscribes to five major online educational databases, and within those are dozens of databases organized by age level or topic. In his lessons, Willis teaches the students how to find the information and determine what is most useful, accessing richer and more reputable educational resources than just Google or Wikipedia. His careful instruction is paying off. "Today, students came in needing information on boats and ships, and I could see them doing critical analysis of the sources they found," he says. "They were figuring out what they could use from a variety of excellent, age-appropriate educational resources."

Willis and Cox are also becoming extremely popular with their fellow faculty members by doing such a thorough job of tailoring library lessons to match what is being taught in the classrooms. In fact, they even added a library lab this year for fifth graders to help them discover vetted online educational resources that supported the curriculum being studied each month.



Above, left: Cox shows third grade boys the new books that have arrived since their last visit.

Above, right: Mary Morrow enjoys time for reading during her library visit.

Left: Willis shows students how to use reliable online resources for educational research.

Right: Third graders enjoy the discovery of a great new book.



“We want the lines of communication to be wide open,” says Willis. “When (fifth grade instructor) Terry Howie started a project on Pompeii, we had a library lab class that pulled up current information on that topic, which was really cool. We want the teachers to see that we are responsive to their requests; they know they can email or call to ask us to find what they need.”

As a former classroom teacher, Cox sees the value of library support. “Before, I had to go out and buy books for my own classroom,” she says. “Now, teachers are using the library as that resource.”

With new books coming in every week, Willis and Cox almost always have something relevant for the classroom curriculum, and their hard work is paying off with the students. As third grader Eva Claire Pounders exclaims, “You get to check out awesome books!” Sophie Mansour explains further: “I like getting new books, and reading biographies and fairy tales and historical fiction. Mr. Willis knows where everything is and helps us with stuff that’s hard to do, like finding a book. He gives us hints and everything. It’s fun!”

Cox explains that it’s not surprising that Eva Claire and Sophie love the library. It’s harder in some ways to reach young boys, she says, and one thing their collection lacked before this year was the kind of books that could pique their special interests. “We ordered tons of sports books and LEGO books; Jan has been good at finding things that they can take back and look cool reading,” she says with a smile. “I always

felt like finding those books was a struggle when I taught first grade, but he’s really expanded our collection.”

Cox and Willis still have new initiatives they hope to introduce in the future, including working even more with Mr. Boyer to find new ways to bring more Middle School students into the library. “An avid reader himself, Mr. Boyer has been incredibly supportive of our work this year,” says Willis. While Grades 6-8 don’t meet for regular library classes, students are welcome to come in to read during recess or other breaks, and some clubs like Destination Imagination are now holding meetings there, so both Cox and Willis see Middle School usage of the library on the upswing. Another wish is to implement reading clubs for Lower School, using some of the technology skills they’ve been teaching to create tools for students such as online reading club pages.

Though they believe there’s always room to grow, Willis and Cox are proud of their accomplishments to date. “I love being a part of GSL,” Willis says. “We know that what we do shapes our students from preschool at Miss Lee’s through graduation. It is a joy to work with our students and teachers every week, and I hope they feel the same way. To be able to walk up and say to a student, ‘Hey, here’s a new book we really think you’ll enjoy,’ and see his or her face light up; you can’t put a price on that. To start early in helping children understand why we’re here, and why books matter, and why this will be important to their lives—this is why I want to come in to work every day. It’s just a lot of fun!”

Legacy Students at GSL: Continuing the Saints Tradition

Congratulations to these graduating 8th graders and GSL legacies whose parents also attended school here. We will miss you next year!



Tucker Comes | GSL 2001-12

Favorite GSL Class: Math

Favorite GSL Teacher: Mrs. White

Favorite Extracurriculars: Baseball & basketball

Favorite GSL Memory: When I got lost on the 7th grade Chicago trip



Mom: Meg Patterson Comes | GSL 1972-80

Favorite GSL Class: History with Mr. Scully because he was so energetic

Favorite GSL Teacher: Barbara Daush

Favorite Extracurriculars: Volleyball, basketball & softball

Favorite GSL Memory: Basketball trip to Disney World. We played games on the way down, and the Bullet was our transportation with Mr. Scully at the wheel. I also loved going to Blanchard Springs with Mr. Gamble where we hiked and explored caves.



Griffin Ford | GSL 2001-12

Favorite GSL Class:

Math because of Ms. Forsyth

Favorite GSL Teacher: Ms. Forsyth

Favorite Extracurricular: Baseball

Favorite GSL Memory: 7th grade Chicago trip



Dad: David Ford | GSL 1978-79

Favorite GSL Class: Science

Favorite GSL Teacher: Ms. Griggs

Favorite Extracurricular: Basketball

Funny GSL Memory: I remember being elected to the dress code council—before uniforms—and trying to get the boys to not have to wear socks, but unfortunately that was shot down!

Favorite GSL Memory: I remember I really liked GSL, and was very sad when I had to go to another school.



Liam Gildea | GSL 2003-12

Favorite GSL Class: Latin

Favorite GSL Teacher: Mrs. White

Favorite Extracurricular: Cross Country

Favorite GSL Memory: I have so many!



Mom: Natalie Entsminger Gildea | GSL 79-81

Favorite GSL Class: French --"Nicolas mange a l'orange"

Favorite GSL Teacher: Mrs. Farmer

Favorite Extracurriculars: The Wizard of Oz in 6th grade— Andrew Thompson was the best tin man ever!

Favorite GSL Memory: Reading in the window of Mrs. Farmer's 4th grade classroom, which was where Mrs. Williams' room is now. My best friends are STILL the ones I met in 4th grade at GSL!



Fletcher Henson | GSL 2001-12

Favorite GSL Class: History

Favorite GSL Teacher: Ms. Forsyth

Favorite Extracurriculars: Sports

Favorite GSL Memory: 7th grade Chicago trip



Mom: Paige Crabtree Henson | GSL 1981-82

Favorite GSL Class: History

Favorite GSL Teacher: Coach Scully

Favorite Extracurriculars: Volleyball and managing the girls' basketball team

Favorite GSL Memory: Riding to all the football games with my first boyfriend, Larry Heathcott, and the boys making fun of my braces!



Phillip Jones | GSL 2001-12

Favorite GSL Class: History

Favorite GSL Teacher: Ms. Forsyth

Favorite Extracurriculars: Sports

Favorite GSL Memory: 7th grade Chicago trip



Dad: John Jones | GSL 1970-74

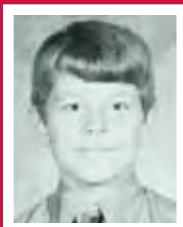
Favorite GSL Class: Social Studies

Favorite GSL Teachers: Mrs. Williamson,

Mrs. Austin, and Mrs. Golden

Favorite Extracurricular: Kickball at recess

Favorite GSL Memory: Kickball at recess!



Eli Weinberg | GSL 2002-12

Favorite GSL Class: Latin with Mrs. White

Favorite GSL Teacher: Mrs. White

Favorite GSL Extracurricular: Basketball

Favorite GSL Memory: 7th grade Chicago trip



Mom: Robbie Johnson Weinberg | GSL 74-84

Favorite GSL Class: History

Favorite GSL Teacher: Nick Scully

Favorite Extracurricular: Basketball

Favorite GSL Memory: Our winter basketball trips we took to the Florida Panhandle where we stayed in a super cool "Holidome," in Navarre Beach, played some basketball, but mostly acted like crazed teens.



* Anchors Away

'63

UofM associate professor **Randle Witherington** (5th grade at GSL) was recognized in the *Commercial Appeal* in February as this year's recipient of the Victorian Village Preservation Award. He was honored for his ongoing efforts to share the history of 19th century Memphis. His focus has been heritage tourism and the historic Goyer-Lee house, which has served as a lab for his students in learning about interior design and the architecture of the 1840s-1880s.



'95

John Burruss and wife Anne welcomed their first child, John "Jack" Andrews Burruss, on January 15, 2012. Jack was 7pounds, 6 ounces, and 21 inches long.

'98

Matt Simonton is at Stanford in his sixth year of grad school in the Department of Classics, working on his dissertation. He is getting married in May to his fiancé Jess Schild.

'99

Kate Lassandrello is a physical therapist for HealthSouth and is engaged to Jack Letson; they will be married in June.

Andrew Taylor became engaged to Louisa Peyronnin (of Evansville, IN) on March 4; wedding date to come! Andrew is Manager of Operations for William-Sonoma's Memphis distribution center.

'00

In November, **Matthew Heffington** co-hosted the first annual Shooting Clays for a Cause to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

'01

Daniel Williams was recognized in the *Commercial Appeal* in November as part of the UofM graduate team winning the Case Study Competition of the Sports Marketing Association, held during the national Sports Marketing Association conference in Houston. Daniel is working on his M.S. degree in sports commerce.

'02

Camille Maddox married Brooks Hieronymus in January and moved to Mobile where she will work as a teacher.

'03

Ryan Masson was accepted into the MFA in Acting program at California Institute of the Arts, to begin this fall.

'05

Katelyn Nichols completed two internships in Los Angeles last year, one at a talent agency and one with Jonas Management Group. She also was cast as the lead in an independent film that included acting and Irish dancing (in which she happens to have eight years of training!), which will premiere in Orange County, California this spring. She is back in Memphis at UofM this semester where she is on full scholarship for theatre performance. She goes back to Los Angeles this summer... more to come!

'07

Marshall Sharp (6th grade at GSL) finished 2nd at the USTA Winter National Championships (16 and under) held in Scottsdale, Arizona. He also won the Sportsmanship Award for the tournament. The win moved his ranking up to 15th in the country in the 16 and under division.

'08

CBHS seniors **Jim Alrutz** and **Will Long** are among the top 15,000 students in the U.S. who were selected as National Merit Finalists based on their outstanding academic record, superior test scores, and notable extracurricular achievements.

CBHS senior **Mitchell Bennett** signed to play golf for CBU.

Matthew Haynes was interviewed in the November 2011 issue of *Memphis Health & Fitness* about his amazing Outward Bound trip in Colorado last summer.

Laura Mathews, a senior at St. Mary's, signed her National Letter of Intent to swim for Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Laura will be enrolled in the Honors College and will be in a dual degree program, earning a B.S. in biology and an M.S. in forensic science. Laura was also recognized for her outstanding academic and athletic accomplishment as an Academic All-Star in the *Commercial Appeal* in February. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, National Spanish Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta.



Will McGee, **Jim Alrutz**, and **Reed Laycook** participated in GSL's Veterans Day Celebration as part of the CBHS Historic Band.

Will McGee was accepted to the commercial music program at Belmont in Nashville. Auditions were required for this prestigious music program, and his concentration will be in bass guitar. This year he served as president of the CBHS band. He won the Prince Charming award at the St. Agnes talent competition, the Battle of the Bands with his band, The Impeccable Miscreants at CBHS, and the annual CBHS talent show.



Jim Alrutz, **Matthew McIntosh**, **Webb Emerson**, and **Frances Jones** preached at Idlewild Presbyterian Church during Senior Youth Sunday in February.

CBHS seniors **Jim Alrutz**, **Webb Emerson**, **Will Long**, and **Will McGee** were inducted into the National Honor Society.

(continued on page 12)

'09

Callie Wallace, a junior at St. Mary's, has been working professionally in the fashion industry and signed in 2011 with DNA Model Management in NY, Nathalie Agency in Paris, and Sight Management in Barcelona. She walked in the Paris Couture fashion shows at the Ritz Carlton in July, and was featured in a fashion editorial in *Grazia* magazine in France and Spain in the fall. Back at school, she was a basketball cheerleader for MUS along with '09 classmate **Kate Valk**. Callie also was awarded a silver key for her artwork in this year's Mid-South Scholastic Art Awards at the Brooks Museum of Art.

The Doorknobs (**Jesse Wilcox**, **Nick Riley**, **Kenneth Piper** and **Bobby Landman**) continue rocking out in Memphis! They performed their second annual holiday show at Young Avenue Deli and were featured for the fourth time on Channel 3's "Live at 9" morning show in December.



Grant Hechinger and **Hannah Jones**, juniors at MUS and St. Agnes, were guest speakers for the annual 6th Grade Hoodie Party at GSL.

'11

Ashley Lowe made the high honor roll during her 1st and 2nd quarters at Collegiate.

Anna Johnson won first place in the 100-word dash as part of Hutchison's WordSmith team.

Two GSL alumni were featured in the *Commercial Appeal* in December for Best of the Preps, Cross Country: **Max Simpson**, MUS freshman, made the private school boys team; **Claire Sentilles**, Hutchison freshman, made the private school girls team.

Claire Sentilles was this year's top overall female finisher in the Lisa Lassandrello 5K Remembrance Race in January, with a lightning fast time of 21:20.



GSL alumnae were honored with awards during Hutchison's Fall Athletic Awards assembly: **Sarah Simmons** received the Volleyball 110% Award; **Mary Peyton Bell** received the Volleyball Leadership Award; and **Claire Sentilles** received the Cross Country 110% Award.

Connor Truitt, **Cole Adams**, and **Ben Elliot** made the freshman basketball team at MUS. **Connor Truitt** and **Pierce Jones** made the freshman baseball team at MUS.

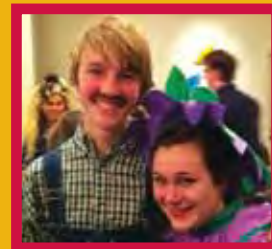
Theatrical Lukers Take the High School Stage



Hannah Jones ('09) and **Katie Ayres** ('10) performed in *Godspell* at St. Agnes this spring.



Hannah Jacuzzi ('09) was cast in *The Crucible* at Christian Brothers.



Will Thinner ('10) and **Mary Allison Pritchard** ('10) appeared in *The Wizard of Oz* at St. Mary's.



Ian Reddick ('10) and **Katie Ayres** ('10) visited Hutchison to see **Sally Clark** ('10) and **Adele Fish** ('11) in the school's fall production, *Return from the Forbidden Planet*.

Alumni Eagle Scout Project Enhances Miss Lee's



GSL alum **Stone McSpadden**, who attended GSL from 1997-2000, recently built raised beds for Miss Lee's back playground as part of his Eagle Scout project. Stone's family has a long legacy at GSL; mother Amy ('87) and uncle Rusty ('84) both attended school here in the '70s and '80s, and his grandmother Jane McSpadden taught 3rd grade, computer classes, study skills, and a program for gifted students in her 13 years at GSL. His grandfather Gilbert McSpadden also attended Miss Lee's School as a child and received his own Eagle level with GSL Troop 34.

SAINTS SUPERLATIVES

Student and faculty accomplishments outside the classroom.

*** Amazing School Sports Stats

- The Boys Cross County Team won the Western TN Regional title for the second year in a row.
- The Girls 7/8 Howie Volleyball team won the Shelby 7/8 League championship.
- The Girls 7/8 White Volleyball team won the PAA League championship.
- The 8 Taylor Boys Basketball team won the Shelby 7/8 League tournament for the first time since 1997; the team was featured in an article in the *Commercial Appeal* in February. Gabe Hanna, Eli James, and Austin Lacy were named to the All-League team, and Gabe Hanna was named the tournament MVP.
- Rainey Charbonnet and Madison Walk were named to the 7/8 Girls All-League team.



*** Amazing Church Sports Stats

- The SK coed soccer team, 1/2 Boys soccer team, and 5/6 Girls soccer team were all undefeated during the fall 2011 season, and the 7/8 Girls soccer team won their league.
- The 3/4 Tackle Football team was undefeated and won the Crosscheck League championship game at MUS in November.



schools with an "educational goodie bag" for every child and raised funds to provide each classroom with school supplies. More than 3,000 gift bags were filled for the children at these schools. On the "warehouse/gift bag stuffing" day over Thanksgiving weekend, Battle was joined by GSL friends Claire Epperson and Emma Brandon.

*** Giving Back

Seventh grader Battle Boyd was named honorary chairman of Volunteer Mid-South's Share the Spirit of Giving Campaign, which provided Newberry, Cromfield, Sheffield, Treadwell, and Goodlett

*** As Seen on TV

Sixth grader David Rhea was cast in a Blue Cross/Blue Shield commercial about providing glasses for school kids.

*** Racing to the Finish

The following speedy Saints placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in their age group in the Lisa Lassandrello 5K Remembrance Race in January: Winnie Wilson, Anna Smith, Rebecca Burnett, Frances Cates, Mary Claire Carney, Caroline Jones, Benjamin Brewer, Will Woodmansee, George Sentilles, Alex Mansour, Harrison Spiller, and Matthew Roberts.



*** Grace After Hours

Students celebrated this year's Super Bowl by hosting a Home Team Huddle Party that raised funds for Habitat for Humanity. Students also began a service project

to create blankets that will be donated to the homeless through the Union Mission. (at right: Logan Sorrells, Mia Jones, Miss Candace, and David Imig show off their work.)



*** Supporting Our Own

GSL's Learning Specialist Rachel Bishop completed the St. Jude Half Marathon in December, running in honor of GSL second grader, Evans Culpepper; thanks to contributions from friends and family she raised \$875 for Team Evans' Eagles.

*** Power of Art

Lower School art instructor Carol Buchman had one of her paintings, "Tefilah," featured in the July/August 11 issue of the magazine *The Humanist*. Several of her paintings are also featured on explorefaith.org under the category meditation. She also had pieces in two recent art shows, one at Republic Coffee in Memphis and one at Hebrew Union College Gallery in Los Angeles.

Visit the GSL website today to register for SummerFest 2012. We have incredible options this year that every child will enjoy, so claim your spots now. And be sure to tell all your friends...



By AMY JAMES, 2011-12 P.A. President

AS WE ALL embrace and enjoy this wonderful springtime here in Central Gardens, it also reminds us that our school year is beginning to wind down. The Parents' Association has enjoyed a year of excellent events. We could not have been more pleased with how all of our events have been supported and attended by GSL's families school-wide. Our success is due to the hardworking volunteers whose creativity brought these events to life and the parents whose support and participation made them memorable.

The P.A. is now gearing up to host its biggest event of the school year, Anchor Auction 2012! Anna Holtzclaw and Shantih Smythe are the chairs for this year's party, themed Mix at Minglewood, to be held at Midtown's Minglewood Hall on

April 21 at 6:00 pm. The auction portion will feature the ever-popular class projects created by our students here at GSL, plus a wide variety of other exciting items to bid upon such as vacation spots, birthday parties, beach getaways, restaurant gift certificates, fitness and tennis packages, a crawfish boil, and much more!

Popular Memphis band Walrus will play after the auction closes. With a larger venue, all GSL supporters, including local grandparents and

alumni 21 and over, are invited to join in the fun. Attire is casually festive and tickets are \$85 per person; heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Tickets may be billed to your school account; contact Sherry Emerson at (901) 278-0200 or semerson@gslschool.org today to order. All of the proceeds raised will allow the P.A. to grant teacher "wish list" requests that enhance the classroom experience for all of our children.



The 8th grade art project, featured here before enhancement by the students, is truly a coveted memento for the graduating class and always attracts a great deal of enthusiastic bidding during the live auction.

We have much to be thankful for this year as we settled into new changes. We welcomed our new Head of School, Thor Kvande, whose commitment and leadership has directed our school to grow with grace as GSL continues to fulfill goals and take on new challenges. As for the expanded campus, we can now say that our new building, the Anchor Center, is officially broken in!

It has been extremely rewarding for me this year to work with the administration, faculty, and families at Grace-St. Luke's. I have experienced the one thing that makes us stand out as a community school: We truly are a family of families here at GSL. We embrace and support each other through thick and thin. With our tremendous potential, we will continue to grow together and make GSL the best community it can be. Go Saints!



The Ledger

from the Development
Department

Challenge Grants Help Annual Fund Near \$220,000 Goal

By DENISE DUBOIS TAYLOR, *Director of Development*

As many of you know, school tuition covers between 80-90% of actual operational costs. The balance of the much-needed income comes from tax-deductible donations from current families and grandparents – although an increasing number of alumni and former parents are also making generous contributions.

This year, some GSL supporters have combined their resources to issue challenge grants (dollar-for-dollar matches) to help us reach our ultimate goal of \$220,000.

.....

- **Former Parent Matching Gift Challenge:**
\$10,000 (We did it!)

Dollars raised so far: \$10,480 (not including gifts from former parents, who are also current faculty, staff or are on the board)

.....

- **Grandparents Matching Gift Challenge:**
\$30,000 (Just \$2,050 to go!)

Dollars raised so far: \$27,950 – Special, heartfelt thanks are extended to the many grandparents who have given—especially to those who have given twice!

The **GSL Alumni Association** has also jumped on the fundraising wagon and is actively making contacts for the school. In fact, a new giving category has been formed called the Bullet Club. It's for any alumni who give \$50 or more.

We are thrilled and grateful for ALL the support shown so far during this year's Annual Giving Campaign. As of March 19, we have raised a total of **\$189,962.52**, and parent participation is steadily climbing.



**\$220,000
GOAL**

**\$189,962
RAISED**

.....

Remember:

- You can pledge now and pay later (full payments are not due until July).
- MasterCard and VISA are accepted.
- You can pledge or pay online (via the GSL website).
- All gifts are tax-deductible.
- **You're making GSL a better place for your kids!**

8th Graders Head to High School

Congratulations to our graduating students (featured at left) who will be hitting the road in May and taking their special talents on to new schools in the fall. It's hard to imagine GSL without your enthusiasm, energy, and abundant school spirit. We will miss you!

Reed Barnes - MUS
Livia Bedwell - St. Mary's
Piper Bell - Hutchison
Rainey Charbonnet - Hutchison
Molly Cline - St. Mary's
Tucker Comes - CBHS
Jim Doster - MUS
Matt Flaherty - MUS
Griffin Ford - MUS
Liam Gildea - CBHS
Christopher Grambergs - CBHS

Henry Guinn - CBHS
Gabe Hanna - MUS
Aynsley Hartney - Lausanne
Will Harwell - MUS
Ruthie Harwood - Hutchison
Fletcher Henson - CBHS
Eli James - Antilles, USVI
Marilyn Jenkins - St. Agnes
Karmen Jones - St. Mary's
Phillip Jones - White Station
Ella Kennedy - White Station

Ellis Keplinger - CBHS
Matt Kruczek - MUS
Austin Lacy - MUS
Danny Levin - Germantown
Alex Mansour - MUS
Julia Mathews - Harding
Katie Fisher McHugh - St. Mary's
Elizabeth McIntosh - St. Agnes
Hannah Meacham - St. Mary's
Rachel Morris - St. Mary's
Hilary Norcross - St. Mary's

Cole O'Keeffe - CBHS
Bryce Perkins - CBHS
Wilson Pisahl - MUS
Wesley Richards - St. Mary's
Alex Singh - CBHS
Harrison Spiller - CBHS
Virginia Strother - Hutchison
Madison Walk - St. Agnes
Eli Weinberg - MUS
Anna Wright - St. Agnes



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All Grown Up

An early Anchor newsletter from 2002, when it was still a foldout piece, features three adorable junior kindergartners—Aynsley Hartney, Karmen Jones, and Matt Flaherty—on the cover. Congratulations to these students, now graduating 8th graders at GSL.

..... Photo Gallery: Then & Now



Early Days at Morton Hall

The first photo features John Boyd of Boyd Woodworks who was commissioned to create the original wooden arched window frames for Morton Hall, which was constructed in 1970-71. Boyd happens to be the father of current Middle School science instructor Jackson Boyd. Boyd Woodworks was located on South Main in Memphis.

