

THE MEETING HOUSE

SPRING/SUMMER 2013



Friends Academy

698 likes · 48 talking about this · 309 were here

✓ Liked



Nadia Lowman Smith Congrats to the class of 2013!

Like • Reply • 1 • June 15 at 10:48am



STRONG MINDS.
KIND HEARTS.

THE FRIENDS ACADEMY MISSION

Founded in 1876 by Gideon Frost for “the children of Friends and those similarly sentimented,” Friends Academy is a Quaker, coeducational, independent, college preparatory school serving 775 students from age three through twelfth grade.

The school’s philosophy is based on the Quaker principles of integrity, simplicity, patience, moderation, peaceful resolution of conflict, and a belief that the silence and simple ministry of the “gathered meeting” brings the presence of God into the midst of busy lives. Friends Academy is committed to developing a diverse community whose members value excellence in learning and growth in knowledge and skill, a genuine commitment to service and ethical action, and a realization that every life is to be explored, celebrated, and enjoyed in the spirit of the Religious Society of Friends.

THE MEETING HOUSE

EDITORIAL BOARD, 2012-2013

Amanda Fisk '99
Kathy Fox
Natalia Porcelli Good '93
Hayley Kucich '03
Penelope Wylie Mayer '75
Andrea Miller
Jennifer Ryan Woods '99

FRIENDS ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 2012-2013

CO-PRESIDENTS

Thomas Hawkins '78
Scott Rechler

TREASURER

Francis Ingrassia

BOARD MEMBERS

Carl Ashkin
Peggy Brucia
Jeff Daniels '90
Debra Del Vecchio
Steve Fortuna
Conchita Heffron
Elizabeth McCaul Ingrassia
Andrew Menzin '81
Victoria Quesada Moore
Joe Podbela
Robert Rosenbaum
George Tsunis
Robin Wachtler '83
Craig White '61

HONORARY TRUSTEE

John W. Oelsner

HEAD OF SCHOOL

William G. Morris Jr.

FRIENDS ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, 2012-2013

PRESIDENT

Peter Stein '79

VICE PRESIDENT

Penelope Wylie Mayer '75

SECRETARY

Pamela Foschi Danbusky '97

ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

Craig White '61
Barbara Shoen Brundige '63
Thomas Hawkins '78
Elisabeth Dillof Dreizen '78
Lydia Fichera '84
Kathryn Hawkins Schneider '86
Elizabeth Siris Winchester '91
Colleen Doyle Moran '91
Alana Teutonico Brock '94
Thomas Pascarella '95
Courtney Devon Taylor '01
Salwa Touma '01
Jenna McCann '06
Rebecca Pacchiano '07

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

James R. Greene '74

ALUMNI OFFICE

Alumni Affairs Coordinator, Kathy Fox

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

WILLIAM G. MORRIS JR.

Friends,

I hope you are enjoying summer and spending time with family and friends to affirm those bonds that are so important to us. We in education do so as we recharge and prepare for the coming school year.

Wherever you look these days in writings about education, leadership and business, creativity, imagination and initiative are championed as essential for success in school, work and the world. I believe that the ability to articulate an innovative idea, think critically, and inspire others to collaborate will help us restore hope, dignity, and justice to our world. Put simply, those individuals with a passionate commitment and the motivation and means to bring that passion to fruition will be the difference makers in the times in which we live.

As you read this issue of *The Meeting House*, you will witness how students, faculty and alumni/ae are expressing their passions, and doing so in keeping with the moral, ethical and spiritual principles of Friends Academy. Our distinguished alumna, Marja Brandon, intensely curious about her own experiences in school and as a “teaching intern” in art, embarked on a path to understand how and why people learn differently. She developed an innovative educational philosophy grounded in

brain research and her insistence, borne of her Quaker experiences, on creating a diverse and bias-free learning environment. Marja stands as an exemplar of our school values and 21st century thinking and leadership. We would all do well to emulate her approach to life.



Of course, each day, our faculty and students strive to develop Marja's attributes within themselves and our school community. Andrew Geha's research into best practices in art education as part of his Fahey Master Teacher Award; student leadership and collaboration as expressed in Relay for Life or our community garden; and new ideas, such as Meeting for Singing and the Mother-Daughter Project point to the ways we push to think

innovatively. And when it comes to imagination and creativity, what better examples can we find than The Artist's Institute, our theater and musical productions, and the infamous 8th grade Sludge project? We want to empower our students to realize their dreams, much as alums John Benisch '85 and Peter Bergh '56 are doing, or as many of our teams did this spring.

May the stories in this issue remind you of the enduring impact FA has in your life and help you share in the excitement I feel about the difference our school makes in the world.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: CIRCA 1960s – FILM FOOTAGE OF CAMPUS



COURTESY OF JENNIFER DEAN '99

Jennifer Dean '99 unearthed this early to mid-1960s film footage of the Friends Academy campus. Shot by her grandfather, an uncut version features Jennifer's father, Robert Dean '71 as a young student. *Take a look at how the FA campus has changed over the years on page 7.*

Campus
Tour – 1960s
style



Friends Academy campus, 1960s

Scan the QR Code above to take a tour back in time of Frost Hall, the Gym, Underhill, and the Meeting House as they appeared in the early 1960s.

Or view it on our FA YouTube channel at www/fa.org/social.

THE CIRCLES OF ARTIST'S INSTITUTE

Each year students create a necklace of beads to symbolize that year's workshop. Read more about the 15 years of The Artist's Institute on page 22.



inside

VOL. 49, NO. 3

○ MEETING HOUSE LETTERS. 6

○ AROUND THE QUAD. 8

Learning from each other
Meeting for Singing debuts at FA
What's in Your Sludge?
Relay '13: All-school events remembers, educates and inspires
Moving Forward: The Mother-Daughter Project
College Admissions 101: Symposium offers real-world advice
Founding Words & Acts

○ 2013 AUCTION. 17

○ THE ARTS. 18

You can't help but turn the page of ... *Another Chapter*
The Artist's Institute: How do you make magic?

○ FEATURE STORY. 26

Distinguished Alumna Marja Brandon '79: How to save the world

○ SPORTS: GO FA! 30

A year of exciting program milestones, from first-ever state and county championship titles to an enduring "team-first" philosophy.

○ FACULTY MILESTONES. 38

○ ALUMNI PROFILES. 42

John Ellis '67: How a buried ring brought two strangers together
John Benisch '85: The sky is (not!) the limit

○ CLASS NOTES. 46

○ IN MEMORIAM. 69

THE MEETING HOUSE STAFF

EDITOR

ANDREA MILLER, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
516.393.4295 | ANDREA_MILLER@FA.ORG

WRITERS

KATHY FOX, NATALIA PORCELLI GOOD '93, HAYLEY KUCICH '03, ANDREA MILLER
AND JENNIFER RYAN WOODS '99

PHOTOGRAPHERS

MICHAEL DAMM, AMANDA FISK AND ALAN QUACKENBUSH



on the cover

AN ALBUM TO REMEMBER. We followed the final ceremony for 96 seniors at the 127th Friends Academy Commencement in person and on Facebook. View more photos and comments at www.facebook.com/friendsacademyNY AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

MEETING HOUSE LETTERS

Thoughts, memories and reflections
from our readers ... you!

FA Trivia Contest Responses



"For 25 years his efforts have inspired countless Friends Academy students to strive to better themselves and become all they can be." Who am I?

Answer: FA's Athletic Director Martin Jacobson

Friend, colleague and teacher

I know you! It is Marty Jacobson, my friend and colleague. He came my senior year and I taught with him 1972-1977.

– Lesley Graham '68

I know him!

Too Easy!! The last issue of *The Meeting House* "FA Trivia Contest" picture is of Marty Jacobson. I believe the picture could very well be from THE LAMP in my senior year, 1968. This would have been his 2nd full year at FA.

– William S. Merriken, Jr

Character builder and hero

He was my coach for soccer, wrestling, and baseball, I believe, starting in my tenth grade year through my senior year at Friends, and had a very profound positive impact on building my character and teaching me so much about life and how to be a man. He is my hero; I am forever grateful for his terrific coaching and teaching and leadership!

– Jack Merriken '69

Other correct responses:

Chris Freeman '73

CORRECTIONS

In the Winter/Spring issue review of the Upper School play, "Neverwhere," Jon Scheiner was incorrectly identified. Jon played Richard Mahew's office mate.

In the Winter/Spring issue, the wrong photo of the Kindergarten Club of 1988 was published. Below is the correct photo from 1975 with Principal Alan Craig and Kindergarten teacher Doris Paillet.



FRIENDS ACADEMY ARCHIVES

Keep up the great work

Thanks for sending me *The Meeting House* issues. When they arrive in my mailbox, I usually drop whatever I'm doing at the time and pick it up and peruse it w/great anticipation for news about the people of great ole' FA!

– Jack Merriken '69



A memory of long-ago mischief

Reader Steve Fisher '53 writes of his classmate's father and former headmaster Merrill L. Hiatt.

The weather is warming, it's spring, and the mischievous nature of teenagers – especially the boys – is alive and well. We are at lunch in the dining room, your father at his usual table.

We have learned, perhaps from stories of other boys in other schools, that a pat of butter placed on the end of a butter knife can be used as a sling-shot, sometimes with great accuracy. There is a spot on the ceiling, just above your father's head, the bulls eye of our targeting.

When we hit the mark, and if the room temperature is right, the slow drip of melting butter, falling one drop at a time onto the bald spot we hope for, will be reached for by him as if an annoying fly had landed – until he looks at his hand, and sees otherwise... but nobody did it.

– Steve Fisher '53

SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS

We want to hear from you! To send a letter, respond to an article or share a memory of Friends Academy, please e-mail Kathy Fox at kathy_fox@fa.org.

“When Gideon Frost opened the doors to Friends College in January 1877, Alexander Graham Bell’s patent on the telephone was less than a year old.” (*A Century of Friends: 1877-1977*).

Now, 137 years later, the original 6-acre parcel of land has grown to 65. Here is a timeline of architectural highlights:



View of Meeting House from Frost Hall.

JANUARY 1877: Friends College opens. Built of clapboard and three stories high, the original building is located 50 feet north of present-day Friends Academy.

1885: Renamed Friends Academy

1957: Boys Gym built

1969: Lower School Learning Center completed

1972: Faculty Quad, four-unit faculty housing, is built next to the Barn

1975: Outdoor pool installed

1976: 38 acres purchased from and donated by the Cherrywood estate of Robert G. Merrill for the upper athletic fields

1977: Dining hall/Commons extension adjoins the Main Building

1978: New tennis courts constructed

1979: Baseball field added

1980: Leonhardt-Cassullo Commons/Science Center opens; David O. D. Kennedy Library opens in vacated Commons area

1985-86: Field House built; 24 faculty housing units constructed, along with F.B. Withington Track

JANUARY 1998: Middle School reopens after a year of renovation

1999-2000: New Science Center completed; LS Library renovated; Helen A. Dolan Center and new Commons opens

2000: Kumar Wang Library completed

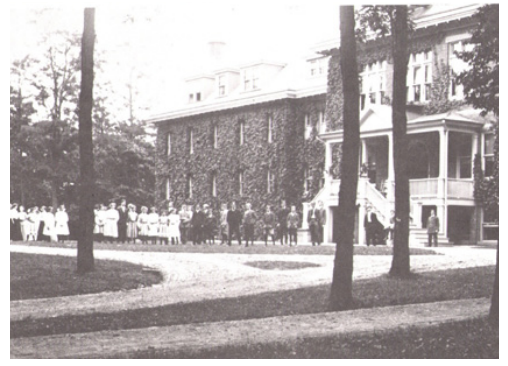
2009: Early Childhood Center renovated

2010: Lower School renovated

2011: Main Gym, locker rooms renovated



1884 | Original building, Friends College



1900 | View of Frost Hall; porch was removed in 1920s.



CIRCA 1960s | A view of the Underhill Building and adjacent buildings



1969 | Lower School Learning Center opens



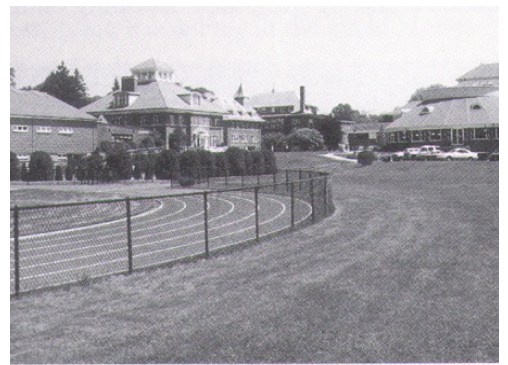
CIRCA 1970s | The old barns, which were demolished to make room for the Quad.



CIRCA 1980s | View of the old courtyard in front of the Leonhardt-Cassullo Commons and the Main Building



CIRCA 1990s | Faculty housing on the lower campus, which was taken down to build the Helen A. Dolan Center.



2000 | View of the track, Kumar Wang Library, Quad and Helen A. Dolan Center

ANDREW GEHA: 2012-13 FAHEY MASTER TEACHER

Learning from each other



MARK ATKINSON FOR FRIENDS ACADEMY

Middle and Upper School Theater teacher Andrew Geha explored how teachers and students used creative problem-solving to collaborate with one another.

Observations uncover best teaching practices in FA Arts

For five months, Middle and Upper School Theater teacher and 2012-13 Fahey Master Teacher award winner observed 30 different classes and 13 teachers with one clear goal in mind: To examine the best teaching practices among the Arts faculty at Friends Academy.

Awarded annually, the Fahey Endowment for Master Teaching recognizes an individual, who not only has served the school for seven years, but has “made learning come alive, instilled a life-long love of learning, and been most inspirational to students through his or her passion for and effectiveness in teaching.”

Each recipient is tasked with developing and implementing a plan for the year and then share their experience and expertise with members of the faculty.

“I visited each of my colleagues’ classrooms two or more times over the course of the year, observing their

teaching styles and discussing my observations with them afterward,” said Geha.

Geha looked at one-on-one relationships with students, classroom layout and preparation and how those factors can affect and influence how students learn.

“While our specific styles and personalities vary greatly, I saw a remarkable amount of dedication to students and artistic integrity,” recalled Geha. “Many of the successful practices revolved around creating clear challenges and boundaries within the classroom environment, then letting students explore and cre-

ate within that structure. This naturally led students to creative problem-solving and collaborating with one another,” he added.

Geha was able to directly observe classes in music, dance, visual and performing arts and stage craft as he logged and detailed how and where Arts faculty can best support each other and ultimately capitalize on their group strengths.

“It was a lot of fun to see my colleagues in their element and observe what they do best,” he said. “I saw impressive teaching moments on every level – from leading large ensembles while maintaining a personal connection to the individuals in the room, to direct one-on-one mentoring.”

Geha was inspired by his own reading of 21st century tactics, arts standards in NYC school, as well as astonishing articles about student attention spans – the average attention span for Middle School students? Twelve minutes.

“I thought about what excited me.

What would feel useful and helpful and interactive,” said Geha.

The next step of the project continues this fall, when Geha will lead a series of discussions with Arts



**2013-14 Fahey Award
Recipient: Lynn DeNatale**

AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

faculty. “The more we see each other teach, the more we see different options for approaching the material; the more we can support each other.”



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Students, staff and faculty pack into the Orchestra room for FA's first Meeting for Singing.

Meeting for Singing debuts; combines worship and group chorals

Sitting cross-legged on the carpet of the Music Department's Orchestra room, nearly 70 students and 15 teachers helped usher in a new type of Meeting for Worship at Friends Academy.

Sponsored by Upper School TASQUE (Teachers and Students for Quaker Education), Meeting for Singing combined group singing, silent reflection and the opportunity, if moved, to present a message to those at Meeting.

"Meeting for Singing is a gathering where individuals use music to experience the Spirit and express their own ministry," explained Quaker-in-Residence John Scardina. Scardina, along with TASQUE advisor Angie Martin, helped organize the format, which featured Scardina on guitar, as well as Upper School teacher Ken Ambach and junior Kabir Chabra on guitar and the last-minute addition of sophomore Grace Covelli on violin, who spontaneously stepped in.

As the quartet played, the group sang to "Imagine" by John Lennon, "Lean on Me" by Bill Withers and ended with "River" by Bill Staines. Each song was followed by a period of reflection and another chance for vocal ministry.

TASQUE has proposed Meeting for Worship as a monthly alternative starting in the fall of 2013.

How Does Your GARDEN GROW?



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

The 2013 FA Edible Garden was in full swing this spring, as Lower School, Middle School and Upper School students contributed to the all-school effort. The Upper School Engineering class designed and fabricated wooden cold frames to help extend the growing season. Upper School students helped compost and prepare the soil for Lower and Middle School students, who planted spring, summer and fall crops of radishes, carrots, cucumbers, tomatoes, peas, zucchini, peppers and herbs.



Relay for Life participants walk the pathway of luminaria during Friends Academy's 2nd annual Relay for Life.

All-school event remembers, educates and inspires

RELAY '13



FRIENDS ACADEMY

During their first Relay for Recess, Lower School students spent the day learning about healthy cancer-preventing activities: From relay races and walks around a luminary labyrinth, to eating fresh fruit kabobs, to making sun visors and learning about SPF by experimenting with UV beads.

Friends Academy held its second annual Relay for Life on Saturday, April 27 and Lower School's first Relay for Recess debuted on April 26.

Fueled by a strong leadership team of Upper School students, the Relay for Life Committee worked to emphasize and recognize the "Spirit of Relay."

"Last year, we had an amazing group of students who worked together to plan the first FARFL (Friends Academy Relay for Life) and had a very successful first event," said Committee member Meghan Johansen. "This year all rising seniors involved in last spring's event wanted to change it up and have the event 'student run.' The students focused on the 'Spirit of Relay' and the symbolic importance of walking with your team throughout the night," Johansen added.

Luminaria dedicated to loved ones lit a somber path at night, as alumni performed to attendees. Faculty and staff prepared dishes for a special caretaker dinner, who then took a formal lap

around the Quad, following survivors.

"Much thanks and appreciation goes out to all committee members and all individuals who helped on the day of the event," said Johansen.

"It would not have been as successful as it was without the support of everyone in the FA community."



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

(Relay for Life Student Committee from left) Andrew Feinstein, Conor Lundy, Rania Aniftos, Sydney Menzin, Meghan Johansen, Keyonne Session, Emily LeoGrande, Parker Huseby, Margot Mangiarotti, John O'Brien, Ryan Dobrin and Tolu Ojo.

Not pictured: Taylor McGowan, Kira Sanchez, Heather McAllister, Robbie Berke, Marissa Tidona, Samantha Statfeld, Augusta Mayer, Kirsten Grady, Olivia Fine, Julia Savasta, Elana Pinto, Casey Rosen, Dylan Foley, Katrinia Garry, Cissy Shi and Jenn Keogh.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Members of the Friends Academy Equity and Diversity Committee, which is comprised of students, parents and faculty.

Friends recognized by Anti-Defamation League

On June 4th, Friends Academy was recognized by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) as a 2012-13 No Place For Hate school for their breadth of in and out-of-school programs committed to combatting prejudice and promoting a culture of respect.

"This initiative is designed to create inclusive communities and empower schools to challenge all forms of prejudice by promoting unity and respect," said Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Shanelle Robinson.

Friends also received a personalized GOLD STAR Banner, which is awarded to schools who have gone above and beyond with their diversity education activities within the school year.

"From Diversity Night at the Museum to UNITY Day, to The Microaggressions Project and the Lunch and Learns, and everything else in-between, our programs and events this year have challenged our school community to think critically and appreciate diversity in all its forms," said Robinson.

WHAT'S IN YOUR SLUDGE?



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

"It's the ultimate problem-solving project," quipped Middle School principal Steve Rubenacker about Sludge – the annual 8th grade science detective collaborative taught by science teacher Selina Collier. Broken up into groups of four, students are given a composite of up to five compounds, solid and liquid. Student scientists must separate the compounds using heat or other methods, identify them with test solutions and track all of their procedures and results. Collier stresses the group dynamic throughout the project. "The challenges are in collaboration and teamwork," she said.

THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER PROJECT



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Michele Cherenfant and her daughters Leah, grade 3, and Angelina, grade 1 explore relational space in one of the Mother-Daughter activities.

MOVING FORWARD

Over four separate Saturdays, mothers and daughters learned partnering choreography, shared stories about each other and had fun with nostalgic games – Cat’s Cradle, hula hooping, bead-making, cupcake frosting (right) and making a list of all their dreams.

This spring, the Arts Department launched a new workshop for young women and girls from all three divisions that celebrated the relationship between mothers and daughters. Fellowship, conversation and movement were the basis for exploring this archetypal relationship. Alumna Elizabeth Sharpe-Levine '08 writes about her experience with the workshop.

BY ELIZABETH SHARPE-LEVINE '08

The Mother-Daughter Project brought together a very grateful, inspired, and heart-felt group of people. It came about when we – Tracey Foster, Camille Edwards, Elizabeth Sharpe-Levine, and Kimo Kepano – envisioned a

space in which mothers and daughters in the Friends Academy community could come together with open hearts and connect with one another. We created a series of workshops that explored the relationship between mothers and daughters through writing, conversation, and dance.

We specifically designed the program to have no end goal or expected outcome; instead, we wanted to create an environment for mothers and daughters to express themselves freely – and to have fun together! We wanted our



time together to be a retreat from stress and schedules. We wanted our mothers to feel that they were getting as much out of the project as their daughters were, and for our daughters to be able to witness their mothers exploring and moving alongside them.

We had a total of thirteen different mothers show up, with anywhere between one and four daughters accompanying them. Some attended once, some attended all four times. We invited three Upper School girls to attend and help us. Their role was to primarily support the younger daughters so that all the mothers were free to participate without needing to care-take younger children.

We held our workshops on four different Saturdays for two hours. Each of our meetings was a little bit different, but they all included some common elements. Kimo and Camille created and taught a simple dance sequence that involved a lot of partnering.

Mothers partnered with their daughters, and sometimes with other people's daughters, for mirroring, counterbalancing, and a little bit of goofiness. Each of our meetings also included some conversation. We usually ended our time together in a full group circle, with each member sharing her answer to a question like, "What is a time in your life when you really appreciate that your mother is there?"

During one meeting, we separated the mothers and daughters for a longer conversation. The daughters thought about the question, "What do you have of your mother's?" which we worded in a way that left room for a range of answers: physical objects, genetic traits, habits, qualities, emotions.

The mothers explored questions such as, "What is one quality your daughter has now that you want to

protect as she grows up?" It was a heartfelt experience for the mothers to speak in a safe place about their hopes and wishes for their daughters.

Several of their answers echoed one another, and the sharing turned into an open discussion of the mothers' desire to preserve their daughters' sense of self-worth and confidence. Many spoke of the effort to prolong their children's belief in magic and to keep them feeling safe in the world.

There were also some moving parallels in the words spoken by the daughters and their mothers about their relationship.

In our final meeting, we gathered the mothers and daughters in a circle

and invited each family to step to the center. We then read to them some of the words they had written over the four meetings (with their permission). It was powerful for the full group to bear witness for one another, and for the families to hear their writing reflected back to them. We left that day with a strong sense of community and fellowship.

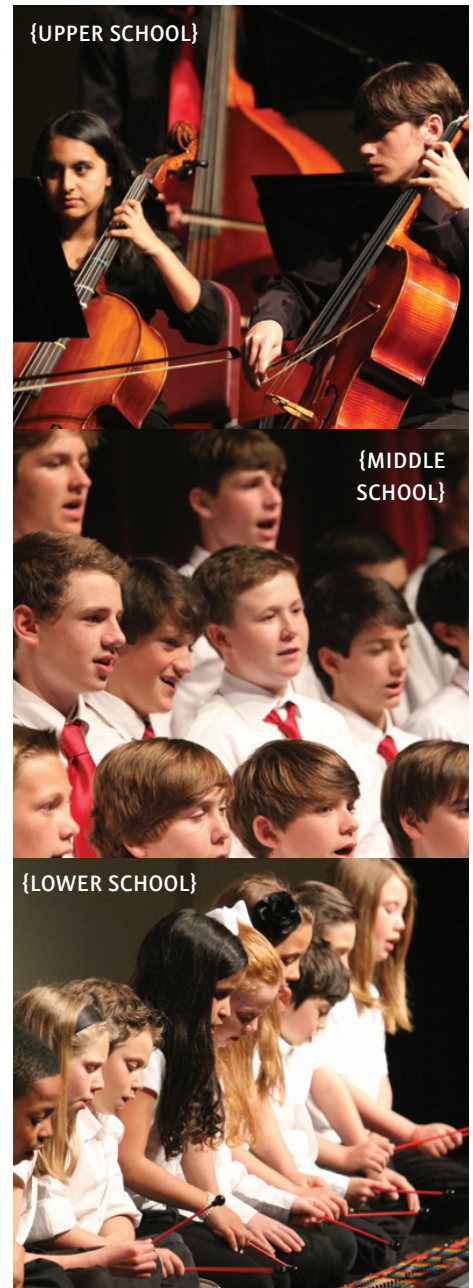
After our first meeting, one mother wrote to us that she shared the experience with her own mother, leading them to talk, laugh, and cry together. She also wrote that she expressed to her daughter the nervousness she had experienced speaking in our circle: "[I told her] that I was in such admiration of her for being able to do that so much more easily than I still can at 42 – especially when it comes to real honest things."

This mother concluded, "The thought of how I impact them is forefront even today – five days later." We hope that the time we all spent together had some impact on each family who attended – small or large, five days later or five years later.

"The thought of how I impact them (my daughters) is forefront even today – five days later."

SPRING 2013

CONCERT & ART SERIES



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Instrumental and vocals were performed at each of the concerts: Upper School – May 2; Lower School – May 9; Middle School – May 23. Art shows accompanied each of the concerts.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS 101

Symposium offers real-world advice



ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY FOR FRIENDS ACADEMY

Soon-to-be alumni Augusta Mayer, Margot Mangiarotti and Heather Maierle enjoy the Commencement speeches.

Friends graduates 96 new alumni in Class of 2013

Ninety-six graduates tossed their caps into the air at the 127th Friends Academy Commencement on Saturday, June 15.

Under the sprawling white Commencement tent, graduates, family and friends listened to Head of School Bill Morris, Faculty Speaker and Educational Technology teacher Marsha Mayer, along with seniors Margot Mangiarotti, John O'Brien and Nick McNiel.

"What I find most amazing about you as a class is the way your leadership and presence has shaped our entire community," shared Morris.

Other speakers stressed the heartfulness of this class, along with their ability to laugh at themselves and with each other.

This year's senior class matriculations represent the greatest geographic diversity in recent years, with students attending schools on the West Coast, the Midwest, the South, Northeast and the U.K.

"There was a move away from the tradition of liberal arts colleges and toward larger universities," reported Director of College Counseling Ed Dugger.

Once again, a student received the prestigious Presidential Scholarship at USC, which is based on academic excellence and extracurriculars.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

College representatives share college admissions best practices with juniors and their parents as Director of College Counseling Ed Dugger listens.

“When should we first get in touch with college admissions?” “Do you really read all those applications?” “What are the worst mistakes you’ve seen?”

For three hours on April 30, juniors and their parents peppered admissions representatives from nearly 20 of the country’s most prestigious colleges and universities, picking brains, picking up tips and preparing for the next year of applying to college.

A unique format, “Inside College Admissions Day” is structured more like a symposium or workshop instead of typical college fairs, where reps stand passively behind tables. “This is a program that goes outside of the normal college fair scene,” said Ed Dugger, Director of College Counseling. “Over 80 colleges visit us each year, and this is a way to stay on top of emerging trends,” he added.

Attendees were able to visit a variety of panel sessions that explored the college process: how to create an authentic voice in essays and interviews, how important standardized tests are, athletic

recruiting and what value summer or extracurricular activities have on the admissions process.

Representatives from the University of Chicago, Bucknell, NYU, Vassar, Villanova, Bentley and others were also able to address specific questions, share real-world anecdotes and reinforce their colleagues’ advice.

“You have a great contact in the college office here at Friends,” shared Christopher Perlongo from New York University. “I want to know you as a student. Make yourself multi-dimensional because we want our students to be dynamic and get involved.”

Create separate desktop folders for each college, instructed another representative. “And attach the correct essay, one that specifically explains why our school is a good fit for you,” he added.

“The college process is your process, not your parents,” urged Katharine Christiansen from Bucknell.

“Interviewing is very important,” added Haverford’s Kathleen Abels. “There’s a lot that you can’t say in 500 words.”

FOUNDING WORDS & ACTS

“With our busy lives, it is easy to forget that Quaker values are at the heart of our school,” remarked senior Nick Moretto.

Addressing faculty, staff and students from the Class of 2013 to the Class of 2027, Moretto kicked off the 137th Founder’s Day.

To commemorate the establishment of Friends Academy and honor the memory of founder Gideon Frost, each division’s TASQUE group prepared a presentation.

A team of fifth graders snapped and cheered their way through their original FA theme song (*hear the cheer on facebook.com/friendsacademyNY*), while Middle schoolers used an original skit to illustrate the challenges and lessons in creating equality in a Quaker community.

Senior Melissa Granados shared her journey through Friends Academy and how kindness was always there as well as around the corner. “Take the best part of Friends and share it,” she urged her fellow classmates.

For the first time in recent history, Friends welcomed an alum back to Founder’s Day as Helen Hatch ’05 underscored the various ways in which community had impacted everyone – from team play in Lower School to an exposure to new cultures in Middle School and coming together as one during tragedy.

Dressed in a period black suit and top hat, Gideon Frost (History teacher Herb Lape) returned to FA for another “surprise” visit as he educated students about life and Quakers in 1876.

To close Founder’s Day, the Upper School Choir performed “Peace we can have in our hearts” accompanied by Leah Ansel on clarinet, ending in silence and peace.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Top: Fifth graders enchant the room with their original FA Theme Song.

Middle: Gideon Frost (a.k.a. Herb Lape) returns from the 19th century to greet alumna Helen Hatch '05 and explain what Quakers and the world were like back in 1876.

Bottom: faculty and staff link hands after Head of School Bill Morris urges everyone to connect as individuals in order to become a total community.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

RANIA ANIFTOS
LEAH ANSEL
PAUL ASADOURIAN
JESSICA BABICZ
JACK BAUER
CATHERINE BECHAND
RANI BENDARY
ROBBY BERKE
JONATHAN BLUM
NEIL BONEPARTH
JEANNE BUDD
DAMON BURRIS
NICHOLAS CROCE
EMILIO CUESTA
KYLE DINEEN
GARRETT DORAN
WILLIAM DUKE
ARIANA FARAHANI
ANDREW FEINSTEIN
J. CHRISTIAN FITZGERALD

CAITLYN FORSYTH
SAMUEL FRIEDMAN
BRIGID GAHAN
MARIELLE
GOEBELBECKER
KIRSTEN GRADY
MELISSA GRANADOS
JAMES HAWKINS
ALIX HEFFRON
JAKE HENIN
FRANCES HILBERT
REBECCA HIRSCH
IAN HOM
KRYSTINA IORDANOU
BRIANA IZQUIERDO
MEGHAN JOHANSEN
THOMAS KAMINSKY
LIAM KEARNEY
RAGHAV KEDIA

JAHAN KHAN
BRITTANY KRIEGSTEIN
ZACHARY KRIESBERG
ALEK KUCICH
EMILY LEOGRANDE
MATTHEW LIEBER
BRIAN LIGHTCAP
DOMENICA LOSTRITTO
CONOR LUNDY
JOSEPH MACY
HEATHER MAIERLE
MARGOT MANGIAROTTI
AUGUSTA MAYER
HEATHER MCALLISTER
TAYLOR MCGOWAN
EDWARD MCNALLY
NICHOLAS MCNIEL
SYDNEY MENZIN
CAROLINA MOCORREA
ROSE MORABITO

NICHOLAS MORETTO
AARON MOSLOW
GRANT MURPHY
KEVIN NAUGHTON
TYLER NEWITT
ETHAN NYEIN
JOHN O'BRIEN
WILLIAM O'KANE
PETER PICOLI
COURTNEY POZZI
CLAUDIA RATNER
TIFANI ROONEY
REED ROSENBLUTH
GREGORY ROSENTHAL
KATY SALTZ
KIRA SANCHEZ
CHRISTOPHER SAWICKI
EVAN SAYRE
STEFAN SAYRE
HAYLEY SCHANBACK

KELLAN SEHRING
RACHEL SERKO
KEYONNE SESSION
DAVID SHER
SPENCER SKLAR
SAMANTHA STAFFELD
MOLLY SULLIVAN
DWAYNE TAYLOR
CHRETIEN TETTELBAUM
MARISSA TIDONA
COLE VALENTINO
JACK VISSICCHIO
HANNAH WALCOE
VICTORIA WANG
JONATHAN WEINBERG
DILLON WILENSKY
OLIVIA YOUNGWALL
SASHA ZEULIN

FRIENDS ACADEMY CLASS OF 2013 COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

Barnard College • Bentley University • Boston College • Bowdoin College • Brown University • Carnegie Mellon University • University of Chicago • Clarkson University • Clemson University • Columbia University • Cornell University • Dartmouth College • University of Delaware • Denison University • Drexel University • Duke University • Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University • Emory University • Fairfield University • Fordham University • The George Washington University • The University of Georgia • Hamilton College • Haverford College • Hobart and William Smith Colleges • College of the Holy Cross • Johns Hopkins University • Lehigh University • Loyola University in Maryland • Miami University, Oxford • University of Michigan •

Muhlenberg College • New York University • The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill • Northeastern University • Occidental College • University of Pennsylvania • Pitzer College • Rice University • University of Richmond • Rider University • Salve Regina University • Siena College • Skidmore College • University of Southern California • University of St. Andrews • St. John's University • St. Lawrence University • Stony Brook University • SUNY College at Geneseo • Towson University • Trinity College • Tulane University • Union College • Ursinus College • Vanderbilt University • Vassar College • Wake Forest University • Washington and Lee University • Washington University in St. Louis • Wesleyan University • Williams College



STRONG MINDS.
KIND HEARTS.

{CELEBRATE WITH FRIENDS! THE 21ST ANNUAL FRIENDS ACADEMY DINNER & AUCTION}

BY DIANE BIOLSI

Director of Annual Fund and Special Events

Friends Academy's 21st annual Dinner and Auction was a tremendous success as parents, alumni, faculty and friends returned to Pine Hollow Country Club to show their support for the school's biggest annual fundraising event of the year.

This year's event was chaired again by Lynne Koufakis, along with Live Auction Chair Sheila Schuss, Silent Auction Chairs Dawn Kallman '84 and Debra Russell, Journal Chair Debora Thivierge, phone-a-thon Chair Allison Heaney '87, and Gift Bag Chair Sophia Auerbach. The Dinner Chairs were Bernadette and James Mariani '83.

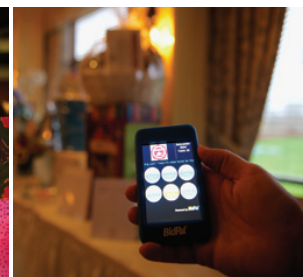
The theme of this year's event was "Celebrate with Friends." The evening began with cocktails and appetizers as guests browsed the vast selection of Silent Auction items, which ranged from event tickets to play dates with faculty. This year the Giving Tree, chaired by Roseanne Frankel, donated all of its proceeds to Sandy Relief efforts.

This was followed by an encore performance by the Upper School Jazz Band led by Joe Romano. A sit-down dinner and Live Auction, which proved to be a lively event, was conducted by Jed Morey '90, who returned as Auctioneer for his second year. Some of the Live Auction's biggest ticket items included the Pick-Your-Championship Event, the Wine and Dine Like Royalty and Golfer's Dream Come True in the Hamptons.

From pounding the pavement and creating gift baskets to decorating Pine Hollow Country Club, proofreading the catalog, volunteers worked tirelessly. This year's event brought in approximately 320 attendees and netted over \$335,000 to benefit the school. So, mark your calendar for the 22nd Annual Dinner and Auction on Thursday, April 3rd, 2014, chaired by Debra Del Vecchio, Jennifer Williams and Alexa Rice.



AUCTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Standing from left, Debra Russell, Lisa Crowley, Allison Heaney '87, Roseanne Frankel, Dawn Kallman '84 and Jeanne Sawicki. Sitting from left: Sheila Schuss, Lynne Koufakis and Evelyn Rechler. Below left, Kristina Constantino '87 shows off the 5th Grade Class Gift, a Pop-Art Collage featuring fifth graders' eyes and decorated to show off their individual styles. Below right, bidding in the Silent Auction through BidPal.



Above left, James '83 and Bernadette Mariani with Alexa and Thomas Rice. Middle: Auctioneer Jed Morey '90. Above right, Sonu and Krishma Arora with Sima and Ken Carnevale.

Above, members of the Upper School Jazz Band perform during cocktail hour. Right, one of the more popular Auction items.



Above, Ariella Grodsky with Randi and Michael Garibaldi and World Languages & Cultures head Polly Duke.

Left, Friends Academy emblazoned canvas bags greet each Auction attendee in the main ballroom. The bags were donated by Sophia and Ross Auerbach.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY



The 7th and 8th grade actors of the opening chapter "Pay Attention."

AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

You can't help but turn the page of... 'Another Chapter'

By ANDREA MILLER
Director of Communications

Ever wonder what goes on inside the mind of a middle schooler? How about the mind of a middle schooler during class?

This year, with the help of FA middle school students and the Friends Academy Arts faculty, audiences of "Another Chapter" got to find out, through a series of six different original vignettes.



Eighth grader Cade Huseby sneaks in through the window, with both eyes on the school soda machine.

The Middle School Play is the cumulative theatrical performance that each year caps off Middle School's four-day Arts Week. Every two or three years, the Middle School Play departs from a more traditional format to one of short skits or chapters.

"We wanted the students to have the experience of being responsible for a significant portion of the play," said Director of Arts Tracey Foster, who also wrote the opening vignette, "Pay Attention." Not only did more students have more lines to memorize, but each one was challenged to create a character through storytelling.

"There were a lot of challenges," said Foster. "If it's going to look highly polished and meet high performance standards, the students really had to step up – and they did. It was a huge cast and no



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

one had more lines than anyone else. But we were trying to tell a story without a central focus, so the kids really have to hold their part down," added Foster.

In the musical chapter of "Pay Attention" (story and lyrics written by Foster, music by FA music teacher Martha Regelmann), the premise was to illustrate what goes on in the head of a Middle School student during class. "We gathered the cast of 7th and 8th graders together and wanted to do something in which they help devise the piece," explained Foster.

"We spent two weeks writing with them, talked about the characters and did some improvisation. We took all of their writings, spliced it together, created lyrics and then Martha set music to it," said Foster.

Set in three simultaneous classrooms,



The front row of 8th graders Frank Lizza and Olivia Constantino, along with 7th grader Leila Scanlon lead the rest of the dancers.

TURN THE PAGE OF 'ANOTHER CHAPTER'



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Left, 7th grader Kayla Koroma and 6th grader Lilly Gund are teenage sun gods.

desperate teachers try to maintain control and teach material to their distracted students.

As teachers prompt their students for answers (to history, geography and English questions), the Middle School characters careened off in completely unintended directions. Attempting to discuss the fall of the Roman and Greek empires causes Alan (Christian Nesfield) to jolt up out of his chair (quite frequently) in order to inform the audience that his grandmother cooks Greek food every Sunday.

At the mention of Brazil, Rachel (Helen Ware) loses all sense of academics as she caresses her locks and wanders back to her last Brazilian hair treatment. However, interspersed with the rapid moments of humor, were themes of self-



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Eighth grader Julia Mariani and 6th grader Colette Hughes gather around the campfire for a spooky story.

reflection: a boy who misses his father, a girl who doesn't fit in, the boy whose life is as scattershot as his peppered monologues.

"Educational theater is about creating microworlds for the students to live in so they can take it to the macroworld," pointed out Foster.

Subsequent chapters also explored what it means to be a Middle Schooler. "Cupid's Ball" based on the book *Zombie Prom* talked a lot about being different. Performed by sixth graders, the play tapped into the time when students get very strong messages that they must conform to be successful.

"That is part of the power of why we do theater in schools," remarked Foster. "It is a powerful reminder that it is okay to be different and to be yourself."

TURN THE PAGE OF 'ANOTHER CHAPTER'



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Left, teacher Bill Garry attempts to instruct; 8th grader Freyja Goldstein simply loves books; and teacher Lanessa Davis wonders aloud why her students won't learn.

"The Wolf Who Cried Boy" and "Mi Amour," the story of a group of middle schoolers' covert mission to make a statement about the loss of the school soda machine, both speak to students' relationships with each other.

"A Quiet Night in the Woods" is a great story guaranteed to scare any Middle School student and even FA Dance teacher Kimo Kepano's dance, "Tsohanoai" or "I Was a Teenage Sun God" gets into the theme.

In "Mi Amour," written by Theater teacher Andrew Geha, plans quickly go hysterically awry for the cadre of darkly dressed teen activists, who break into the school cafeteria determined to chain the neighborhood cow to the sacrificial soda machine.

"Andrew used a lot of humor to really help the kids get concepts like irony," said Foster. "By using humor and juxtaposing story and characters, we are able to offer our students solid literacy training," added Foster.

The opportunity to involve students at the ground level was a main motivation for Foster in offering this format.

"The reason I loved working on 'Pay Attention' is that I loved getting the kids working on the creative process," Foster



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Seventh graders Ellis Collier and Christian Nesfield ascend the silks.

said.

"In the end, you want the environment to be about getting along, focusing, and working hard to achieve a goal, problem-solving and creative brainstorming.

You want the actual material to reinforce positive and personal messages for them."

MIDDLE SCHOOL
ARTS WEEK

APRIL 23-26



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

For four days, Middle School students engaged in a variety of arts classes and workshops, from improv to sculpting, photography, GarageBand and more. Above, 8th grader Lauren Leogrande learns the techniques of sword play from Corey Pierno '02 in "Stage Fighting." Middle, a middle schooler tries her hand at sculpting heads in Marc Isaacs' "Sculpting with Clay." Bottom, eighth grader Peter Duke creates an original track in music teacher Jesse Tennyson's workshop, "Making Music!"

15 YEARS OF THE ARTIST'S INSTITUTE ... 15 YEARS OF PURE IMAGINATION



How do you make magic?

BY ANDREA MILLER
Director of Communications

For starters... take a spoonful of inspiration, add a scoop of friendship, stir in two cups of courage, a teaspoon of care and top off with a sprinkle of fortitude... That's pretty much the recipe for the last 15 years of The Artist's Institute at Friends Academy.

When founder and Friends Academy Director of Arts Tracey Foster started the mixed-age arts workshop in 1998, at the behest of former Head of School Marcus Hurlbut, she knew she wanted to create

a program that breathed individuality, spontaneity and flexibility.

"Artist's Institute is an art-based program, but its overriding focus is about individual growth and community building.



The boys of AI gather for their ensemble performance in 2011.



First grader Cooper Schultz

Gloria Fortuna and Julia Newitt
in an earlier year

A high flying acrobatic

Brooke Gardner performs at a
past AI festival.

AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

The classes serve as a conversation to help foster self-confidence, relationships and personal growth,” said Foster.

Designed for approximately 60 students, from 5 to 16 years old, Foster and co-director Andrew Geha keep the numbers intentionally low. With a 3:1 faculty to student ratio, class sizes can stay as small as they need them, while students can have experiences in a number of groups based on gender, age and interest.

“We start and end every day in a circle and invite conversation with every student. By the first or second day, every child’s name is known and said. It is not an option to not know everyone,” explained Foster.

“Students receive a lot of one-on-one conversations. Not just a quick ‘How are you?’ or ‘How are you doing?’ but ‘What are you working on?’ and ‘What are you feeling?’” said Foster.

Senior Ryan Dobrin started in AI the summer after 7th grade and is now an intern – and on the other side. “I often wonder where I would be without the Artist’s Institute,” mused Dobrin. “I was shy, quiet, unsure of anything that I did and had close to no confidence.”

“The biggest part of what makes AI the incredibly special place it is, are the interns who dedicate their summers to help the students,” said Dobrin. “When I



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Dance teacher Kimo Kepano performs aerial acrobatics with the Pints at the two-day Arts Festival.

walked out of my second summer, heading into high school a confident, ready and able 13-year-old, I knew I would become an intern, if only to help new students in the way interns had helped me.”

Within the spaces of Artist’s Institute, students, interns and faculty push the boundaries of acting, music, aerials, choreography, songwriting, visual arts and playwriting.

Foster, who modeled Artist’s Institute after a similar program she created in Olympia, WA (the Creative Theatre Experience), learned valuable lessons as her original program quickly grew from 48 kids to over 250.

“I knew that ramping up enrollment made experimentation difficult,” said Foster. “When Andrew came during the fourth summer, he brought the aspects of playwriting and original works. To me, the merging of these two things is really what makes the program completely unique.”

Each student from 5 years (affectionately known as the “Pints”) and up creates an original work that is performed at the two-day Arts Festival. Students direct their own work and are cast in classmates’ pieces. This year, the Festival featured 50 plays, 15 dances, four musicals, two pieces of visual art and one film.

The casts of each play are comprised of mixed ages, which mirror students’ daily circle groups. “The idea is that we all have something to learn from each other,” explained Foster. “There is a powerful moment when people can read and see the plays that the 4- to 6-year-olds make because they are telling stories that are as relevant as the older kids’ stories,” said Geha.

“A 5-year-old has no problem in



MY AI MEMORIES

By ToLu OJo

"On the first day of workshop in 2009, we were all invited to walk onto the stage.

I assumed that it was just going to be the plain black stage that it always is, but this time was different. We walked onto the stage to find a mountain that had grown on the stage with a stream of water running down the face.

It was so magical!

Looking back, the connections at AI have been some of the strongest connections that I've made.

Attending workshop for five weeks every summer was always something that I looked forward to during the school year. I loved how it felt so effortless and spontaneous. I never knew what was going to happen next, which allowed me to just live in the moment and enjoy myself.

Going to AI for five summers has made me more of a risk taker. One summer we did trust falls on the first day. I remember standing on a block TERRIFIED. I was so afraid that they wouldn't catch me. But I took the risk and fell off the block and into the safe hands of the interns and staff.

It was at that moment that I knew AI would be the best place for me."



15 YEARS OF THE ARTIST'S INSTITUTE

believing in magic," added Foster. "And giving that 14- or 15-year-old the permission to believe in magic, lets all that discernment fall away, which taps into creativity and right back to the arts."

Artist's Institute students learn from day 1 that in order for surprises to be around any corner, "Everything will be revealed at its proper time." A mantra for the workshop, it is because of a robust leadership team and hours of planning or what Foster calls "adaptive scheduling" that help bring this tagline to life.

"We assess at the end of every day in order to create the next day's schedule. This allows us to be very flexible within the day and create that sense of spontaneity and magic... you can turn the corner and something you didn't expect can happen."

AI interns receive over 50 hours of training before the summer starts in a wide variety of areas, ranging from teaching classes and class management to production values and community building. Training continues throughout the summer as staff and interns spend up to three hours before and after each day discussing the students and their work.

"Our 'Golden Moments' are those times when the interns talk about their amazing moments with kids," said Foster. "It keeps us continually energized. The interns have to be invested in these children. Golden Moments remind us to focus on everything that is going right," she added.

For newly graduated Tyler Newitt '13, both a student and intern, the AI moments are the ones he will treasure the most. "To me the moments that make AI incredible are those magic moments that leave the whole workshop in awe," he said.

"In my 10 years at AI, those moments have included opening our eyes to dozens of letters hanging above us (each individually labeled), walking into a giant spiderweb on stage, watching snow fall on stage and seeing an entire



ANDREW GEHA/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Top, students and their families enjoy "From Head to Toe," an art installation in 2010, where student-designed mannequin heads were paired with their favorite pair of shoes and hung at the exact height of each workshop student.

Bottom, students and faculty experiment with David Burns' "Play the Building" art installation during their annual NYC day. Every year, the AI workshop explores a different part of NYC. "The way we engineer it, we want the city revealed to them as a magical surprise around every corner," explains Foster.

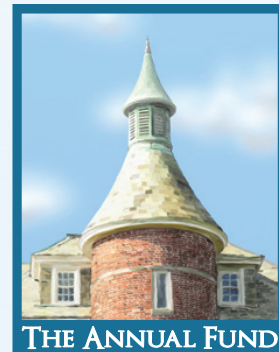
building transformed into a garden. Now as an intern, I get to help create these moments, though they are no less magical to those of us on the other side of them," said Newitt.

While creating that magic may take hours of planning, both Foster and Geha intuitively know that there's more to AI than that. "To capture and hold onto the magic of being young... of being together... of creating work you truly believe in... that's what it's all about," finished Geha.

A QUAKER EDUCATION: A GIFT FOR LIFE

We are grateful to all who choose to support the uniqueness of a Quaker education and the mission of Gideon Frost by making Friends Academy a charitable priority.

Your generosity helps to create a community that is committed to building strong minds and kind hearts throughout our entire student body.



**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN**

www.fa.org/give | (516) 393-4269

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA: MARJA BRANDON '79

HOW TO SAVE THE WORLD

Alumna's passion for learning differences may make the difference

BY JENNIFER RYAN WOODS '99

If you ask most 12-year-olds what they want to do when they grow up some may say become a doctor or a lawyer, a pro-athlete or a performer. Others will have absolutely no idea.

But not Marja Brandon '79. Even as a young girl she knew exactly what she wanted to do: Save the world.

Years later – with a thriving career, a loving family and more prestigious accolades than many people could dream of under her belt – her mission hasn't changed.

"To save the world is still my life's mission...and I think I have figured out the path to it," she says adding, "My vehicle to do it, is to fix the education system."

"If we understand how brains work and how kids learn...we can create this army of people who will save the world."

Brandon is already on her way to achieving her life's mission, having influenced countless students through her brain-based learning philosophies as well as her unwavering determination to create diverse and bias-free learning environments.

Brandon's passion for education – or



Marja Brandon in her senior year at FA.

COURTESY MARJA BRANDON

more precisely, her passion for understanding how and why people learn differently from one another -- began while she was a student at Friends.

As a student, Brandon struggled with reading and writing. Although undiagnosed at the time, she was grappling with dyslexia, "split focus" and dysgraphia. Her differences were particularly poignant in comparison to her two brothers who were thriving academically.

Feeling like a disappointment, Brandon looked for a place to escape and found it in a lower school classroom.

"I asked the then young art teacher [Nancy Tilton] if I might student teach in her room during my free periods, and she not only welcomed me, there I somehow fit in," Brandon said in her Fourth Day Honors address to the class of 2013.

Feeling accepted among the younger students who didn't judge her, Brandon was also able to observe how these children stood out from one another -- and she realized it wasn't a bad thing.

"I learned quickly that for each kid I spoke to, the same phrase meant different things, and that what worked with one, didn't necessarily work with another. I began to see that if there were 15 different kids in a class then there were really 15 different learning styles, 15 different lives, and 15 very different brains. Suddenly my differences began to make more sense."

She recognized, "Maybe my brain worked differently, and just maybe, different wasn't necessarily bad."

This experience was transformative for Brandon and began her journey into education and later, neuroscience.

After graduating from Friends, Brandon attended Wellesley College where she studied psychology and studio art before attending Harvard University Graduate School of Education where she received a Master's Degree in education in counseling and consulting psychology.

In the years after graduate school, Brandon worked first as the Dean of Student Life at Lawrence Academy and then as an Associate Director of Admissions at the Cambridge Friends School.

In 2000, she embarked upon a new challenge that was monumental on her mission to "save the world one student at a time," when she founded the Seattle Girls School -- an innovative, new private school within the highly diverse Central District of Seattle.

Brandon had previously helped found an international summer program at Wellesley College for Middle School students, which prepared her for the challenge. Through the summer program she was

able to test different curriculum ideas. It also gave her the chance to implement an anti-bias mission statement, which meant actively recognizing and working against systems of oppressions. The crux of the anti-bias mission statement is to strive to educate, understand and actively work against systems of oppression in action not just word.

The summer program proved to be a wild success and Brandon was ready to take her model to the next level.

She began a job search looking for schools to be founded. Her criteria was simple and non-negotiable: The school

Continued on Page 28



COURTESY PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
Marja in her office at the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf.

"I began to see that if there were 15 different kids in a class, then there were really 15 different learning styles."



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Head of School Bill Morris with Marja Brandon '79 and her partner Rob following Fourth Day Honors.

EXCERPT FROM JUNE 11, 2013 FOURTH DAY HONORS ADDRESS

On why we attend Meeting for Worship:

"I couldn't figure out why we went to Meeting when I was a kid in school here, but I understand better now -- that we go to listen. Most of our days are filled with noise -- both visual and auditory. Much of my time, like most adults, is spent talking.

As students, perhaps in many of your classes you are talked to, at home you are likely talked to, and in the world you are inundated with purposefully carved messages 24/7 delivered now to your smart phone, iPad, computer, TV, etc. Meeting has taught me to shut up and listen.

Where I once used to run from Meeting, there are weeks now where I run to it."



COURTESY MARJA BRANDON

Three of Marja's and her partner Rob's children, wearing their "favorite" T-shirt.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA: MARJA BRANDON '79

Continued from Page 27

had to be near water, it had to give her curricular control and it had to have an anti-bias mission statement.

After interviewing at various locations ranging from Senegal to Atlanta, Brandon landed at the Seattle Girls School ready to make a difference. And that's exactly what she did.

"I moved my whole family there on a six-month contract," says Brandon who ended up staying at the school for ten years.

During her time there, Brandon not only developed the curriculum but she also managed all of the aspects of the new school, including recruiting and training faculty on the curriculum, fostering collaboration between staff, students, and parents, fundraising and promoting anti-bias initiatives.

Her greatest achievement, however, was the impact the school had on students – girls who were able to thrive due to the brain-based curriculum as well as the environment Brandon had orchestrated where bias was challenged through critical thinking, rather than ignored or permitted.

In a letter from the parents of a former student, Brandon's enormous impact on the girls, many of whom may have otherwise fallen through the cracks of the educational system, is abundantly clear.

"We met Marja back in the summer of 2001 when she was recruited by a start-up girls' middle school. My family was desperately searching for the "right fit" for our youngest daughter who was suffering from ADHD, PTSD and depression. These conditions were handicapping her life socially and academically within the school environment and beyond. Our daughter was a target for bullies and her self esteem was diminishing before

our eyes, leaving us to feel powerless as parents," they wrote.

"In short, our daughter thrived in the school and is now in her final year of college with a goal of applying to medical school. Her experience at Seattle Girls' School during those vital pre-teen years is still an asset to her life 9 years later, and we expect always will be. It is overwhelming to think of how far-reaching Marja's impact on others lives (past and future) has been, is and will be..."

After spending a decade at the Seattle Girls School – which two of Brandon's daughters have also attended – she had "hit every mark I wanted to hit and then was ready for the next thing."

Brandon spent the next two years working as an educational consultant and advisor, continuing her passion for fixing the gaps in the educational system and illustrating for others how and why children learn and finding ways to return joy and creativity to the teaching profession.

She also spent her time working on an educational gaming device called 21K12, which resembles a Smartphone and is intended to be used as a learning tool in schools. Students play learning games on the device, which adapts to their mistakes and allows them to move forward in the game only when they have fully mastered the concepts. The devices, which Brandon hopes will one day be available in schools across the world, is still awaiting funding.

Over the last year Brandon has been

serving as head of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf – a job that requires her to live across the country from her family, but one which she could not refuse.

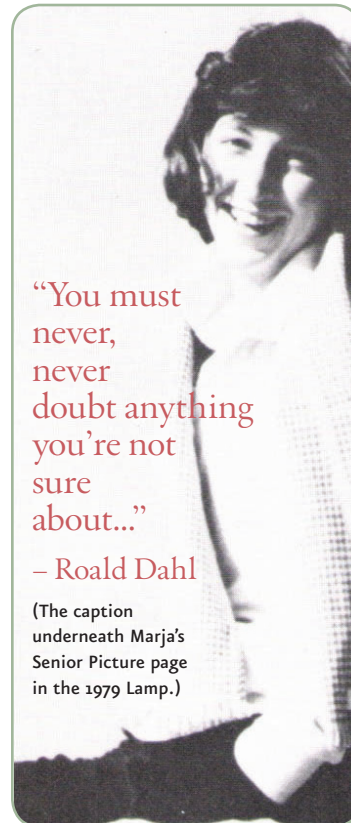
She has been at the school for a short time but already her impact has been felt far and wide.

"Marja has truly been a change agent and, even though she is still in her first year at PSD, the positive impact she has had on the institution and the students we care for has been nothing short of extraordinary," says Clifford Haugen, chairman and CEO of the school.

Among her many contributions, he says, "She has rolled out a "No Place for Hate" campaign, she has introduced our students to a wide range of positive role models, and she has reorganized and re-energized our faculty, improving collaboration and communication

across the board. She has, entirely of her own initiative, "greened" our entire campus, improving food options, eliminating wasted paper and plastics in food service, and handing out PSD water bottles to over 200 staff and faculty."

Throughout Brandon's career she has been the recipient of more than a dozen prestigious honors and awards acknowledging her work, including (but not limited to) the Stanley O. McNaughton Golden Apple Educator of the Year, the Women of Valor Award given by U.S. Senators Hillary Clinton and Maria Cantwell, the BRAVA award, which is granted to influential female



"You must never, never doubt anything you're not sure about..."

– Roald Dahl

(The caption underneath Marja's Senior Picture page in the 1979 Lamp.)

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA: MARJA BRANDON '79

business leaders and the Soroptimist Making a Difference for Women Award.

While there's no arguing that Brandon's career has had a profound effect on the educational system and by extension the countless children that have been impacted, the way she lives her daily life has been nothing short of inspirational to those around her.

As a practicing Quaker, Brandon lives her life according to the principles she so firmly believes in, including acceptance and peace, and has instilled these beliefs in her children.

She is also a firm advocate for social equality and zero-population growth – both of which are evident in her own family.

Brandon and her partner Rob, who is deaf, have decided not to marry until it is a right afforded to everyone in the U.S.

Additionally, three of her four children are African-American and adopted, which her daughter Anja Malawi Brandon writes “was always my mom’s plan, not only to support the environment by practicing Zero Population Growth but by creating unity out of diversity and showing that it does not matter where you are from or what color your skin is – all people are equal just like all the children in my family were equal.”

She adds, “Whenever our family faced discrimination, as was inevitable since we represented such a deviation from the norm, my mom never responded with hatred or frustration, rather she used those moments to make people question their ignorance and hate and make us realize that combating hate with hate is never the solution.”

In summing up her mother, she writes, “She’s a hero. Not only to me but also to her many students whose lives she has touched. My mom is changing the world. One student, child, rescue animal, community garden, school, and challenge at a time.”



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

EXCERPTS FROM JUNE 11, 2013 FOURTH DAY HONORS ADDRESS

On being and living Quaker:

“My family is made up of three adopted African American kids, one biological white kid, and my partner is Deaf. We are not married and will not get married until everyone in the U.S. has that right (and we were like that long before Brad and Angelina...).

My kids have been raised Quaker, and proudly so. Proud that Quakers were the early abolitionists, proud that Quakers attempted to meet with Hitler, proud that Quakers chose simplicity over stuff, and proud that Quakers see the Light in everyone, although admittedly there are days and people for whom you have to look much harder to find it.

Quakers speak truth to power, and Quakers, for all their portrayal as gentle friendly folk, stand up to authority in the face of injustice, regardless of the odds against them.”

On the importance of Friends:

“But even if you don’t go on to search out a Meeting in your future, don’t forget the very values that I hope continue to permeate the environment here – the respect and value of differences versus fear of differences, and the need to take a stand against injustice, even if you are the only one standing, and above all, the ability of you the individual to make a difference.”



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

One of two interpreters who translated for Marja during Fourth Day Honors.

{SPRING 2013}



MICHAEL DAMM, ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

This **spring season** was marked by a year of exciting program milestones, from first-ever state and county championship titles to an enduring “team-first” philosophy.

Top: Juliane Florez and Riley Denihan, Skyler Zaken, Jack Bauer. Middle: Augusta Mayer, Boys JV Lacrosse team, Carolina Moccorea. Bottom: Sasha Zezulin, Jake Hawkins, Christian Fitzgerald

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS

Girls Track returns with 4 state champions

Varsity Track:

RECORD CHAMPIONSHIP YEAR

Spring 2013 was a hallmark season for the boys and girls track team.

The teams won their respective Division IVB championship meets scoring more points than Locust Valley, Cold Spring Harbor, Malverne, Wheatley, Oyster Bay, Carle Place, and East Rockaway. The Girls team finished with 136 points and the Boys amassed a record 113 points.

"This was the first team championship the Girls team has won since 2002 and the Boys track team, since 1974!" said Coach Louisa Garry.

The boys won 5 individual events as well as the 4 x 800 m. relay and the girls also won 6 individual events along with the 4 x 800m. relay and 4 x 100m. relay. The Quakers brought home 20 medals for the boys' team and 25 medals for the girls' team.

Twenty-nine athletes from the boys and girls teams qualified for the Nassau County Class A Championships. The Girls team finished 3rd in Class A and the Boys team finished 6th. Eighteen athletes competed in the Nassau County State Qualifier and ultimately, FA was well represented at the NY State Track meet.

Friends brought home state championships in the Girls 400m. run and Girls 4 x 400m. relay, as well as 2nd place in the Girls 1500m. Athletes also met nationals qualifying standards and shattered personal records.

Later in the spring, the team held the 2nd Annual Brian J. Hom Memorial run and raised almost \$4,000 for the Brian J. Hom Memorial Scholarship.



FRIENDS ACADEMY

Members of the Boys and Girls Varsity Track Team celebrate their season.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS: GIRLS AND BOYS

ALL-COUNTY

CANDACE TAYLOR – COUNTY CHAMPION IN 400M.

GLENN LOSTRITTO – COUNTY CHAMPION IN 800M AND 3RD IN 1600M.

GIRLS 4 X 800M. RELAY COUNTY CHAMPIONS – MOLLY SULLIVAN, KATRINA GARRY, SUNNY LOSTRITTO, CANDACE TAYLOR

GIRLS 4 X 400M. RELAY COUNTY CHAMPIONS – LYDIA GRAHAM, KATHERINE HOM, MOLLY SULLIVAN, CANDACE TAYLOR

MOLLY SULLIVAN – 2ND IN 800M.

RILEY DENIHAN – 2ND IN HIGH JUMP

EVAN SAYRE – 3RD IN STEEPLE-CHASE

ALL-DIVISION

GLENN LOSTRITTO – 1600M., 800M., 4 X 800M. RELAY

AIDAN VASCOTTO – SHOT PUT, DISCUS



LOUISA GARRY/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Candace Taylor, Katrina Garry, Molly Sullivan and Sunny Lostritto

JULIAN CHRISTIAN – 200M.

EVAN SAYRE – 3200M., 4 X 800M. RELAY

WILL DUKE – 800M., 4 X 800M. RELAY

CAM CONSTANTS – 400M.

PAT CROWLEY – 3200M.

JAKE HAWKINS – DISCUS

JACK DEUTSCH – 4 X 800M. RELAY

MOLLY SULLIVAN – 1500M., 800M., 4 X 800M. RELAY

CANDACE TAYLOR – 400M., 200M., 4 X 100M. RELAY

HARMONY GRODSKY – 3000M., 1500M.

RILEY DENIHAN – HIGH JUMP

ISABELLA PASCUCCI – 3000M.

LYDIA GRAHAM – 100M., 4 X 100M. RELAY

KATHERINE HOM – 200M., 4 X 100M. RELAY

KATRINA GARRY – 4 X 800M. RELAY

SUNNY LOSTRITTO – 4 X 800M. RELAY

CATHERINE SULLIVAN – 4 X 800M. RELAY

GLORIA FORTUNA – 4 X 100M. RELAY

2013 ROSTER: GIRLS TRACK: Catherine Bechand, Javana Clark, Chelsea Crane, Danielle Dellaquila, Riley Denihan, Juliane Florez, Gloria Fortuna, Ruthie Fritz, Katrina Garry, Simran Ghool, Lydia Graham, Harmony Grodsky, Katherine Hom, Danielle Kahn, Kristina Kim, Domenica Lostritto*, Natasha Makowsky, Colleen Marshall, Kara McNelis, Eva Mullarkey, Victoria Nastasi, Katherine Pappas, Isabella Pascucci, Amelia Rudick, Katy Saltz, Katerina Sanoulis, Julia Savasta, Paige Sklar, Catherine Sullivan, Maureen Sullivan* and

Candace Taylor.

BOYS TRACK: Christos Anifotos, Liam Bardong, Julian Christian, Alfred Constants, Patrick Crowley, Jack Deutsch, William Duke*, Zachary Giuricich, Stephen Graham, James Hawkins, Ian Hom, Zachary Kriesberg, Glenn Lostritto, Sahil Massand, Nicolas Marchese, Griffin Nesfield, Joseph Paniccia, Evan Sayre, Alex Schneider, Faris Shikara, Dwayne Taylor, Cole Valentino and Aidan Vascotto.

Managers: Jaliyah Daniels, Tyler Riese and Amanda Yaraghi. (Captains*)

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS

Four-game winning streak

BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL: LONG ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP CONTENDER

The Varsity Baseball team had a successful and exciting season. The team finished with a final regular season record of 9 wins and 9 losses.

Highlights of the season included a four-game winning streak during the first

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL COUNTY –
ALEK KUCICH

ALL DIVISION –
JACK BAUER AND
MATT FEINSTEIN
(GR. 10)

week in May, and a 5-to-1 victory over East Rockaway on Senior day. “Team captains Alek Kucich and Jack Bauer did a great job of providing leadership throughout the season,” said Coach Marshall Lindner. The most important part of the season began on June 3rd as the team played for the Long Island championship at Farmingdale College.

2013 ROSTER: Paul Asadourian, Narain Badhey, Andrew Bauer, Neil Boneparth, Noah Broxmeyer, Nicholas Campbell, Brian Chiang, Grant Elgarten, Matthew Feinstein, Benjamin Freund, Andrew Habberstad, Perry Gordon, Robert Izquierdo, Alek Kucich, Brian Lightcap, Joseph Macy, Joseph Moodhe, Constantine Pappas, Steven Petrocelli, Gregory Petrossian, Spencer Sklar and Sam Towse. Managers: Sierra Fisher and Danielle Ramsay.



Narain Badhey hits his pitch.

MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY



Sophomore Marianna Cuomo Maier drives a ball down the line.

MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Girls three-peat as conference champion

Varsity Girls Golf: ANOTHER UNDEFEATED SEASON

The Varsity Girls Golf team had another successful season this Spring, ending with an undefeated record of 12-0 and clinching the conference title for the third year in a row with a total of 36 consecutive wins.

Eight players rotated to compete in the top 6 spots in the matches, supporting one another during stressful times and joyously celebrating their victories.

They kept positive attitudes despite various obstacles on and off the course and proved that hard work and dedication truly go a long way. Last week, the team competed in the County Tournament at Bethpage State Park finishing second as a

group for the first time in eight years.

Please congratulate Marianna Cuomo Maier, Maggie Brennan, Sydney Menzin, and Devika Kedia for making it that far in post season, and Augusta Mayer and Stephanie Gherlone who have qualified for the

State Tournament in Delhi, New York, that they will be participating in on June 8th.

We are sad to say good bye to our seniors, but they leave behind an impressive legacy and a strong group of up and coming players who will continue to uphold the high standard the team has set for itself thus far.

2013 ROSTER: Gabrielle Auerbach, Margaret Brennan, Marianna Cuomo Maier, Emily Dixon, Mairead Gahan,

Stephanie Gherlone, Meghan Johansen, Devika Kedia, Emily LeoGrande, Heather Maierle, Augusta Mayer, Sydney Menzin, Nikki Simon, Danielle Soviero and Christina Yannello.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL COUNTY – AUGUSTA MAYER, STEPHANIE GHERLONE

ALL CONFERENCE – MARIANNA CUOMO MAIER, MAGGIE BRENNAN, SYDNEY MENZIN

ALL DIVISION – DEVIKA KEDIA

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS

Boys capture first County Championship crown

BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE:**BEST REGULAR SEASON RECORD**

Compiling one of the best regular season records in Friends Lacrosse history, the 2013 Boys Varsity Lacrosse team pushed forward into the competitive Nassau County playoffs as the number two seed in Class C.

The Quakers won their first Class C County Championship by defeating Cold Spring Harbor with a third straight appearance in the county championships. Friends was subsequently defeated by a strong Shoreham-Wading River team in the LI Class C Championship.

"This season saw a great crop of returning offensive talent answer the call," said coach Brian Crocco. Five of a starting six offensive players returned, and the Quaker machine entered the season with confidence. The Friends offense was ranked the number two goal-scoring offense in the entire county, and that balanced effort was led by six players with fifteen goals or more.

Defensively, the Quakers had more new faces stepping in to important roles, but that group has been equally impressive, posting a goals against average of five, which makes them the fourth-ranked defense of all schools in Nassau county.

The early season games proved a potent

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL COUNTY – CHRE TEITELBAUM
LIAM KEARNEY, WILL SANDS

HONORABLE MENTION: PETER
PICOLI, KELLAN SEHRING

ALL CONFERENCE – GARRETT
DORAN, BRANDON YARAGHI,
JON NIERENBERG, STRUAN
COLEMAN

**ACADEMIC ALL CONFERENCE (85
AVG OR HIGHER AND AT LEAST
ALL CONFERENCE)** – GARRETT
DORAN, BRANDON YARAGHI, JON
NIERENBERG, STRUAN COLEMAN,
PETER PICOLI, LIAM KEARNEY, CHRE
TEITELBAUM



MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Struan Coleman chases the play.

proving ground for the men in black and red – victories over tournament teams from Classes A and B highlighted their non-league schedule. Wins over Lynbrook and North Shore, two Class B quarterfinalists, and Port Washington, a Class A semifinalist, prepared the Quaker well for their league schedule.

2013 ROSTER: Damon Burris, Nicholas Chapman, Struan Coleman, Nicholas Croce, Pierce DellaFera, Kyle Dineen, Garrett Doran, John Forlines, Kevin Isernio, Liam Kearney, Jonathan Nierenberg, William O'Kane, Peter Picoli, Bill Rechler, Austin Rossi, William Sands, Kellan Sehring, Tyler Sehring, Mark Slotnick, Andrew Stingi, Gavin Tam, Tyler Tam, Chretien Teitelbaum and Brandon Yaraghi. Managers: Frances Hilbert, Krystina Iordanou, Rose Morabito and Olivia Youngwall.

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS

Team finishes 2nd in County

BOYS VARSITY GOLF: TWO QUALIFY FOR STATES

During the early season try-out period, a series of increasingly inclement afternoons that included a rather memorable day in the snow at Glen Oaks, made it clear that the Varsity Golf team would be quite good. Playing an intra-squad tournament for seeding, the team showcased talent to fill not just the six starting spots, but a full nine players who would start in Varsity matches and another two younger players who developed immeasurably in the 2013 campaign. So the question wasn't if the team would have a successful season in Conference II, but how successful would the team be?

In the end, the team posted an 8-2 record, a mark good enough

for a share of the Conference title. Even more impressively, the team qualified seven players, a school record, for the County Championships based on scoring average. All seven of these golfers finished in the top 35 scorers among spring golfers in Nassau. The season was highlighted by the official retirement from Varsity play from four-year Varsity player, Christian



Fitzgerald, before he takes his talents to Columbia's team in the fall.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL COUNTY – CHRISTIAN FITZGERALD, CHRIS WHITE

ALL COUNTY HONORABLE MENTION – HARRISON FRITZ, COLE VISSICCHIO

He posted a career-low four-under, 31 at Piping Rock in a searing and triumphant win against rival Syosett. Freshman Cole Vissicchio turned in a two-under par 33

at Piping Rock the following week against Great Neck South, helping the team shoot a 179, one of the lowest team scores in Friends Academy history, and a number that rival coaches, players

Chris White on the greens.

MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

and parents remarked they had never seen before in Conference II play.

The team performed excellently at the County Championships, earning second place in Nassau, the highest finish for Friends since 2006. Four Friends golfers made the second day of individual play, and two golfers, Christian Fitzgerald and Chris White, qualified for the New York State tournament. For Fitzgerald, it will be his record third trip to the State tournament, closing out one of the finest careers in Friends Academy history.

"Special honor to Christian Fitzgerald and Chris White for being named All County players, and Harrison Fritz and Cole Vissicchio for achieving All County Honorable Mention," said Coach Geoff Nelson. "I would like to especially thank senior, Nick McNiel, and senior captains, Christian Fitzgerald and Robby Berke, a group of the highest character and the warmest spirit. The team would like to extend their thanks to the individuals, parents and members of the Athletic Department who supported the mercurial 2013 Varsity Golf campaign and our motto, 'Live Free, Golf Hard,' he added.

2013 ROSTER: Robert Berke, Ian D'Silva, Christian Fitzgerald, Harrison Fritz, William McEvoy, Nicholas McNiel, Daniel Ross, Alexander Valentino, Cole Vissicchio, Christopher White and Jesse Wilensky.

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS: FIRST CONFERENCE TITLE SINCE 1999

The Boys Varsity Tennis Team completed a career season this year with a record of 12-2 and our first conference title since 1999. The Quakers finished their second year in a row in the County Semifinals and finished as the #3 ranked team in Nassau County.

The regular season saw FA sweep #2 ranked Roslyn HS for the first time ever and also saw the team set an FA record for most individuals selected to compete in the County Individual tournament with

(7) entries. "I would like to thank the seniors and captains for all their help over the years and support of the program," said coach Brian Baxter.

2013 ROSTER: Rani Bendary, David Binler, Ian Friedman, Samuel Friedman, Tommy Kaminsky, Raghav Kedia, Jahan Khan, Andrew Muran, Tyler Newitt, John O'Brien, Gregory Rosenthal, Luke Sandoval, Stefan Sayre, David Sher, Alexander Storch, Raizada Vaid, Jack Vissicchio, Jonathan Weinberg and Skyler Zaken. Managers: Rania Aniftos, Marielle Goebelbecker and Danielle Kahn.



Ian Friedman slams the ball back.

MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL COUNTY – JACK VISSICCHIO

ALL CONFERENCE – RAGHAV KEDIA, ANDY MURAN

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS



MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Bel Evans blocks out her rival.

GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE: INTENSE GAMES

The Varsity Girls Lacrosse team had an exciting, yet challenging season. They competed against the 15 teams in the county – losing by only one goal in two of those games. The girls' eagerness and dedication proved to be their biggest asset as they only improved both their individual and team play.

The offensive unit grew stronger as the season progressed, while the midfield was the anchor of the team. FA's goalkeeper stepped up on many occasions to lead the defense and with the speed, field sense and hustle of the rest of the defenders, they were always a threat.

2013 ROSTER: Sydney Banks, Morgan Bauer, Julia Ciardullo, Mabel Evans, Charlotte Gelfand, Alix Heffron*, Alexa Landow, Margot Mangiarotti*, Rose Mangiarotti, Emily Mara, Olivia Meszaros, Carolina Mocerrea*, Madeline O'Brien, Elana Pinto, Caroline Sgaglione and Alexis Toles.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

HONORABLE MENTION ALL COUNTY – ALIX HEFFRON

ALL CONFERENCE – ALEXA LANDOW, CAROLINE SGAGLIONE, BEL EVANS AND ROSE MANGIAROTTI

UNSUNG HERO – MARGOT MANGIAROTTI

NASSAU SCHOLAR ATHLETE – CAROLINA MOCORREA



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

A Friends Academy quad rows down the river.

Varsity Crew: BOATS EARN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDALS

The 2013 Spring season was a busy one, as the team took advantage of the good weather in mid-March to get on the water.

FA's first regatta was the Cooper Cup, in Camden, NJ, which brought a gold medal to the team's novice single, Gabrielle Nagel, while senior Matt Lieber and Junior Sam Lerner took second in the lightweight double.

The Girls Quad, with juniors Adina Grodsky, Olivia Schmidlapp, and Emma Brown, along with freshman Julia Searby, also took second in their event.

Parents and friends cheered from the shore for their home regatta, motivating FA rowers at the Long Island Championships.

The Girls Quad again finished in second place while Gabrielle and Julia competed in the novice double and won. Freshman Jack Zerilli, along with sophomores Ethan Flicker and Mack Hoyt, and senior Chris Sawicki, coming off the injured list, raced in the Boys Quad, while Sam and Matt competed in the double and took fourth.

The following week the team traveled to Saratoga for the New York State Championships. FA had a strong start with all the boats making the semi-finals and four boats making the finals. Both quads rowed hard and earned bronze medals in the finals, with Sam now in the Boys Quad along with Jack, Mack and Ethan.

In the singles, Gabrielle fought hard against many older girls, and Matt finished 5th, while Peter Psyllos and Chris raced a double.

FA crew also had the opportunity to compete at the Stotesbury Cup, the largest high school regatta in the world, where they had the chance to race against very fast American and Canadian crews.

Matt Lieber went on to compete at Scholastic Nationals during Memorial Day weekend, advancing to the semi-finals. This event was comprised of the 18 fastest boys on the east coast.

2013 ROSTER: Emma Brown, Ethan Flicker, Adina Grodsky, Mack Hoyt, Samuel Lerner, Matthew Lieber, Gabrielle Nagel, Peter Psyllos, Christopher Sawicki, Olivia Schmidlapp, Julia Searby and John Zerilli.

JV BASEBALL: ENTHUSIASTIC SCRIMMAGE SEASON

The coaching staff was fortunate to work with this year's JV baseball squad. The season was unique in the fact that the team was only able to play scrimmages due to low numbers. "What I can tell you is the nine athletes that came out this season did an outstanding job!" said the coach.

With playing only a handful of scrimmages they arrived each day to practice with enthusiasm, dedication, and willingness to work hard. "Each in their own right could have easily decided not to play, once they realized we weren't playing a full schedule," commented the coach. "But they didn't... they played.. and were committed."

2013 ROSTER: Noah Broxmeyer, Nicholas Campbell, Brian Chiang, Benjamin Freund, Andrew Habberstad, Robert Izquierdo, Dean Pappas, Steven Petrocelli and Sam Towse.

JV BOYS TENNIS: MATCH-PLAY EXPERIENCE

The Boys JV Tennis season began on Monday, March 11th with a good turn-out for try-outs. Returning players were joined by quite a few new players who challenged for the top positions on the team.

The team returned from the recess break ready to go and faced some very difficult matches in the first two weeks but competed extremely hard and improved significantly as the season progressed.

After a slow start, the team found its footing and recorded a number of strong wins finishing the season with a respectable record of (3) wins and (7) losses. The team gained some extremely valuable match-play experience this season which will help them a great deal going into next year.

2013 ROSTER: Samer Bendary, Cameron Hellerman, Stephan Herard, Theodore Ingrassia, Timothy Ingrassia, Samuel Kahane, Michael Kliger, Dennis Lin, Patrick Margey, Marcus Menzin, Eric Moslow, Gabriel Patino and Cameron Wang.

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS

JV SOFTBALL: TEAM GAVE THEIR ALL

The Friends Academy Softball team finished their season with an overall 5-6-1 league record. Throughout the season, this team of 12 talented players worked hard to improve their skills and bond as a team.

The season was filled with amazing fielding plays, exciting wins, a few very, very close losses, great at-bats, even including several homeruns, and lots of fun. Being low in numbers never seemed to discourage this team.

This just meant the players needed to work even harder in practice and at games. This team racked up a number of wins throughout the season.

"However, what made me even prouder, as a coach, was the determination every single player showed to improve her skills and really give her all to the team," said Coach Botti. "Every practice and game, the team worked hard and had each other's backs. The exceptional aspect of this team is their teamwork and bonds with one another. The ladies worked hard together,



MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Emily Wachtler prepares for her pitch.

laughed together, helped each other, and supported each other," she added.

In addition, this team was fortunate enough to have two graduating seniors – Claudia Ratner and Sasha Zezulin. "Both led the team, not only in skill but also in heart," said Coach Botti.

2013 ROSTER: Victoria Broderick, Sabrina Farahani, Jessica Friedman, Rachel Garibaldi, Emily Horne, Taylor Quinland, Claudia Ratner, Casey Rosen, Elisabeth Shibley, Nina Trovato, Emily Wachtler and Alexandra Zezulin.

JV GIRLS LACROSSE: HEART AND SPIRIT

Although the record shows that the Quakers had a tough season, the girls of the JV Lacrosse team had a lot to make them proud.

They overcame many obstacles that most teams do not have to face. Whether it was injuries or playing down players in games, these girls made the most of it and played every game for each other with smiles on their faces.

Optimistic and determined are two perfect words to describe this team. They were determined to get better every day and make their teammates better. After every game, no matter how frustrating it was, they looked at the positives and brought those feelings to practice the following day. These are very admirable traits that the girls should take from this season and bring to their next season.

2013 ROSTER: Isabel Andolina, Sydney Banks, Morgan Bauer, Sara DeCicco, Ranait Denihan,



MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Sydney Banks charges for the ball.

Olivia Fine, Gabrielle FitzGerald, Sarah Hickerson, Sloane Hughes, Jennifer Keogh, Devon McCann, Sarah O'Kane, Morgan Rielly and Eva Valcic.

FA 2013 SPRING SPORTS



14 FA ATHLETES TO PLAY COLLEGIATE COMPETITIVE SPORTS IN FALL 2013

Back row, from left: Jack Vissicchio (Hamilton College), Nick Croce (Union College), Kellan Sehring (Denison University), Kyle Dineen (Ursinus College), Liam Kearney (Lafayette College), Matt Lieber (University of Pennsylvania) and Christian Fitzgerald (Columbia University). Front row: Molly Sullivan (Clemson University), Krystina Iordanou (Vanderbilt University), Augusta Mayer (St. Lawrence University), Heather Maierle (Rider University), Marissa Tidona (Bowdoin College) and Sunny Lostritto (Fordham University). Not pictured: Evan Sayre (Emory University).



MICHAEL DAMM/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Jack Statfeld races down the field.

JV BOYS LACROSSE: STRONG SEASON FINISH AND 'TEAM-FIRST' ATTITUDE

The success of the 2013 Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse team should not be measured on wins and losses alone, but by the effort, hard work and individual and team improvement that was shown. Each of the 20 boys on the team helped push one another to get better in practice and played a major role in every game.

Whether they were expected to score goals, distribute the ball, defend against the opposition or do the dirty work in between the lines, the boys knew and accepted their role on the team. This "team first" attitude showed maturity beyond their years and was critical to a successful season. Highlights of the season include a 10-9 victory over Lyn-

brook, 13-6 win over Port Washington and a 9-1 win at Seaford. The boys were rewarded for the effort that they put in on a daily basis by finishing with an overall record of 11 wins and 3 losses.

The boys were great representatives of both the lacrosse program and the Friends Academy community. The coaches would like to thank all players for their hard work, and commitment to the program.

2013 ROSTER: Jason Baskind, Matthew Chmil, Jordan Christian, Matthew DeMatteis, William Gavin, Joshua Goldblatt, Andrew Greene, Jack Kavan, Ryan Kelly, Scott Kriesberg, James Morgan, Jesse Rabaglia, Kole Rossi, Nicholas Schneider, William Schneider, Brendan Sherlock, Zachary Sideris, Jack Statfeld, Maxwell Sutherland, Ryan Tam and Matthew Tidona.

FORMER FACULTY NOTES

Liza Talusan-Vega (head advisor, psychology, ACES program) and **Jorge Vega** (theater, physics, technology) continue to



Liza Talusan-Vega continues to write and sing. You can hear her at www.reverbnation.com/lizavega

enjoy life with their three kids Joli, Jada and Evan Talusan-Vega. Liza is in her third year of her doctoral program in Boston while continuing to work full time as a Diversity Director at Stonehill College. In January, Jorge started a new job at the Ethical Culture

Fieldston School (Manhattan and Bronx) where he runs in to **Tinia Merriweather** (6th grade teacher) who also teaches there! Liza continues to write and sing (www.reverbnation.com/lizavega); and Jorge continues to teach the kids the finer points of acting and improv comedy. They stay in regular contact with a number of FA families and former faculty.

Former Upper School science teacher **Roger Richardson** is teaching at Fordham University and enjoying life. Roger reports, "Our daughter Ruth finally got married. We were up in Ithaca for the wedding. The wedding was on Saturday and she and her husband Benj invited friends and family to their house for "Sunday Funday." The fun thing was that the guests divided up into five groups, each of which was to build part of a Rube Goldberg machine whose final purpose was (The Bride Feeds the Groom) to use a trebuchet to fire a cupcake to the groom who was standing about 40 feet away; so we spent about two hours building and testing the various separate parts and connecting them all together and finally "fire away"! My son Matthew and his wife Jin had a baby boy (breaking a long series of granddaughters) at the end of April. Daughter Sarah and husband Seth have been trying to move into their own house after years of renting. Their modular home got delivered and set up on a plot of land they had bought a few years back, so they hope to be in sometime this summer."

SUMMER CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

This summer, a generous budget helped to support over 40 faculty and 18 projects. Below is a sampling of that work:

In the Lower School, faculty continue to be trained in the Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Workshop, as the fall focus switches to grades 3 to 5.

The Science Mission Team, a cross-divisional group of science teachers, followed up on last year's work on science content in grades K-12 and reviewed the skills or practices taught in these grades. Work was also done to create Art/Science integration lessons in grades 2-5.

In the Middle School, two groups of

teachers worked on literacy skills in the 6th and 7th grades. One group developed lessons, assessments and rubrics for writing across the disciplines in 6th grade while the other worked on developing literacy courses for 6th and 7th grades.

The English and History departments continued their work on the 9th and 10th grade courses with a goal of creating interdisciplinary units and a more global approach in their content areas. A group of US faculty continued their work on the development of a Global Studies Program that included the development of the first course and related project-based learning activities.

FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Middle School History teacher **PHIL**



Phil Ciccari

CICCIARI* has earned his Master of Education in Instructional Design from Western Governors University.

Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs **SHANELLE ROBINSON** was invited



Shanelle Robinson

to New Orleans in June to present two workshops at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Education conference. The workshops featured a new DVD entitled,

"The N!gger Word: Is there a message in the madness?" for which she co-authored the accompanying teacher guide.

This spring, Upper School Spanish teacher **ANGIE MARTIN** completed the



Angie Martin

two-year SPARC (Friends Council's Spirited Practice and Renewed Courage) program. SPARC participants emerge as confident faculty leaders contributing to collegial professional development in their schools through accreditation processes, sharing clearness protocols as a tool to connect with teenagers, co-leading a school's Quaker self-study process, and more.

In May, World Languages & Cultures Head **POLLY DUKE** presented to the

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie at the United Nations to Franco-



Polly Duke

phone delegates. Duke shared the history of Quebec songs and performed/sang 12 Quebec folk songs on banjo and guitar. Duke gave a similar presentation to the National Convention of the American Association of Teachers of French in Providence, RI this July.

Upper School Latin teacher **MATT DAVISON** attended the prestigious American Academy in Rome's Summer Program



Matt Davison

this June on full scholarship. Participants in the program are given tours of all of the prominent Roman archaeological sites in and around Rome that feature lectures and talks given by leading scholars.

Upper School History teacher **RYAN APONTE*** was invited to attend the first annual Hana-Stanford Conference on Korea for U.S. Secondary School Teachers



Ryan Aponte

in July for a wide assortment of Korean studies-related topics. Aponte is developing new curriculum for an Upper School Asian Studies course, as part of the upcoming Global Studies Program.

* Friends Academy helped support their academic studies.



Help build our FA community on facebook and twitter!
Enjoy loads of FA extras – from bonus concert and
performance photos to video highlights, and alumni updates.

So, if you LOVE us ... LIKE us at www.facebook.com/friendsacademyNY!

Follow us on Twitter!
www.twitter.com/FAtoday



from the president

PETER STEIN '79

Dear Fellow Alumni,

One of my greatest pleasures as President of the Friends Academy Alumni Association occurs each year at Fourth Day Honors when I have the privilege of inducting the graduating class into our fold. This year, Fourth Day Honors was especially meaningful for me. Not only did we welcome 96 accomplished, intelligent and compassionate members to our alumni family, but I was able to welcome back one of my fellow '79 graduates, Distinguished Alumna Marja Brandon. Marja, a visionary and transformational educational leader, addressed the Class of 2013: "...don't forget the very values that I hope continue to permeate the environment here – the respect and value of differences, and the need to take a stand against injustice, even if you are the only one standing, and above all, the ability of you, the individual, to make a difference." As founding head of the Seattle Girl's School and current head of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Marja has touched the lives of countless students. Anja Malawi Brandon, one of Marja's daughters sums up her mother, "She's a hero. Not only to me but also to her many students whose lives she has touched. My mom is changing the world. One student, child, rescue animal, community garden, school, and challenge at a time." You can read more about Marja in Jennifer Ryan Woods '99 profile "How to Save the World" on page 26.

Another highlight of this year occurred on June 3rd, when about 250 alumni gathered at our annual New

York City Reunion. This year the reunion was held at the New York Athletic Club. From the 11th floor room, the view of Central Park was spectacular, but it was friends and faculty who took center stage. It is always wonderful to see former faculty, reunite with old classmates, and meet new Friends alumni. If you've never made it to this annual event, I encourage you to join us in June of 2014.



**PETER STEIN '79,
FRIENDS ACADEMY
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT**

Looking forward, classes ending in "3" and "8" will celebrate special reunions this October. Class reps are busy making plans, so please plan on joining in the fun. The Class of 1963 will celebrate their 50th Reunion kicking off with a luncheon on Friday, October 4th at the Marion Jackson House. Fall Fair and Homecoming is Saturday, October 5th and all alumni are invited to relax under the alumni tent, and then head to the Jackson House for a cocktail reception. If you are musically inclined, why not hit the stage at our second annual Homecoming Cabaret. For details about this event please contact Kathy Fox at kathy_fox@fa.org. Homecoming weekend concludes with Meeting for Worship on Sunday, October 6th at the Matinecock Meeting House.

With the end of summer comes new exciting beginnings. My son William will join his big sister Lizzy at Friends this fall. My wife Susan (*Witkoff* '84) and I know first-hand the value of a Friends education, and we are thrilled to be sharing this experience with our children.

I wish you all a peaceful end to the summer.

HELP US HELP YOU AND YOUR FELLOW ALUMS STAY CONNECTED

1 Send us your news and address and e-mail updates:

Alumni Office
Friends Academy
270 Duck Pond Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
alumni@fa.org; 516-465-1796

2 Connect by website:

FA's password-protected Alumni Community: www.fa.org/alumni
Click on **ALUMNI DIRECTORY** to search for classmates by last name, maiden name, class year and profession.

3 Are you on Facebook?

If you love Friends, like us! Head to www.facebook.com/friendsacademyNY for more campus life photos, alumni updates and behind-the-scenes stories and videos.

**If you do not know your username and password, e-mail Kathy Fox in the Alumni Office: alumni@fa.org.*



FRIENDS ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni are the living legacy of Friends Academy.



RECONNECT AT FA'S LARGEST COMMUNITY EVENT

Special Reunion Celebrations
for Classes Ending in 3 and 8

25th Reunion!



FALL FAIR & HOMECOMING OCTOBER 4-6, 2013

FRIDAY: 50th Reunion Luncheon for the Class of 1963

FRIDAY NIGHT: Potential class gatherings

SATURDAY: Fall Fair followed by the Homecoming Reception on campus for all alumni.

SATURDAY NIGHT: Reunion Dinners off campus for classes ending in 3 and 8.

SUNDAY: Meeting for Worship in Matinecock Meeting House

Volunteers in classes planning special reunions will reach out to classmates soon. More information is on the alumni pages of the FA website: www.fa.org/alumni. Contact Kathy Fox in the Alumni Office with questions: alumni@fa.org or 516-465-1796.

The story of a ring that was buried, found, then forgotten; and when returned... united two special people

BY NATALIA PORCELLI GOOD '93

On a sunny afternoon on a beach in California, a young college student named Jeanne uncovered a beautiful gold and onyx school ring buried in the sand. Soon after she found it, she decided that she would try to return the ring to its rightful owner.

After dusting off the sand, she was able to decipher the Friends Academy insignia with the initials J.I.B '36. However, she had a difficult time figuring out what to do next. She proceeded to see if anyone knew where the school was located or had ever heard of it, but to no avail.



The front
of Janet
Isabel
Bowne's
'35 ring.

COURTESY OF NANCY RAUCH DOUZINAS

JOHN ELLIS '67: HOW A BURIED RING BROUGHT TWO STRANGERS TOGETHER



Janet Bowne's son, John Ellis '67, in 1967.

Before the advent of the internet, it was nearly impossible to contact anyone regarding the ring without first knowing where Friends Academy was located. Since Ms. Rouse did not know what else to do, she placed the ring in a jewelry box that contained jewelry that her grandmother had given her. Over the years the ring remained in her possession, but forgotten.

Some 15 to 20 years later, Jeanne Rouse came upon the ring in the jewelry box after the box had traveled with her from California to Seattle to Anchorage and finally to Portland, Oregon, where she now resides.

Upon rediscovering the ring, Ms. Rouse racked her brain trying to figure out where it had come from. She remembered finding the ring on the beach in California, but couldn't remember exactly when.

This time, Ms. Rouse was intent on returning the ring and had the internet as a resource to help her do so. After a few searches, she was able to match the Friends Academy logo that was inscribed on the ring with the logo that was on the Friends Academy website. Noting that the school had been around for over a century, she was pretty sure that she was on the right track and then sent an e-mail to the Alumni department at Friends.

Unfortunately, it took three weeks for the e-mail to go through because she sent it during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Eventually, Ms. Rouse received a phone call letting her know that the school was able to locate the son of the woman whose

ring had been lost.

The story does not end there.

Ms. Rouse continued on with her quest and directly contacted John Ellis '67, the son of Janet Isabel Bowne '35, the woman whose initials were inscribed on the ring.

After speaking on the phone together for an hour, Mr. Ellis was so deeply moved that Ms. Rouse had gone to such trouble to return his mother's ring. Since then, they have kept in touch, sending each other family pictures and correspondence.

When I spoke with John Ellis, he recounted the story of the ring and the mystery surrounding how the ring washed up on a beach in California.

To his knowledge, his mother had never been to California. At the time that Ms. Rouse contacted him, Mr. Ellis was quite ill. Having a complete stranger reach out to him during that time really moved him.

As he told me, the fact that Ms. Rouse "had a heart big enough to take on the challenge [of finding the owner of the ring] was mind-boggling to him." While they may never figure out how the ring ended up in California, the real essence of the mystery for Mr. Ellis was that Ms.

Rouse took the time to do the right thing and "take the road less traveled."

Mr. Ellis and I also spoke about the strong bond he had formed with his classmates from Friends Academy and how special the school was to him. When he lost everything during Hurricane Katrina, his classmates got together and sent him a check to help him get back on his feet. He was "beyond touched" that his friends would do that for him.

Last fall, he was further reminded of the generosity of his classmates when he traveled from his home in New Orleans to New York to attend his 45th reunion. He was so touched that his classmates took such good care of him by getting him a car from the airport to take him to the reunion. Due to

his poor health, he was in a wheelchair, making it difficult for him to attend the reunion had his classmates not been so thoughtful and generous.

For Mr. Ellis, the reunion was a "magical evening" spending time with the "family of '67." While he had always known how much his classmates had meant to him, he never realized how important he was to them.

I really enjoyed speaking to both Mr. Ellis and Ms. Rouse and hearing their perspectives on the story of the lost ring. According to Ms. Rouse, she felt that she was just "doing the right thing" and that it didn't take very much effort on her part to return the ring to Mr. Ellis. From Mr. Ellis's point of view, Ms. Rouse is a truly remarkable person for ensuring that she returned the ring to its rightful owner. That Ms. Rouse went to such trouble for a complete

stranger touched his heart in a deep and meaningful way.

In recounting this story, I am reminded of the lessons that I learned at Friends and what I would like my children to always remember: that seemingly simple acts of kindness, which we can so easily do on a daily basis, often have a much deeper impact on others and can make the world a better place. What a beautiful message this story conveys.



Janet Isabel Bowne's '35's initials were inscribed on the inside of her ring.

John Ellis was so deeply moved that Jeanne Rouse had gone to such trouble to return his mother's ring.



JOHN BENISCH '85



John Benisch
aboard
"G-Force One"

COURTESY OF JOHN BENISCH

Grounding at Friends gives Zero Gravity alum ability to fly

BY HAYLEY KUCHICH '03



John Benisch from
the 1985 Lamp
yearbook.

Upon hearing that I would be interviewing a pilot, I assumed I would be hearing a good deal about flights between Europe and Asia or from the Galapagos to New Guinea. But, this was not the case at all – we are talking NASA! Anti-gravity programs and missions to Mars became the subjects of our discussions. John Benisch's '85 story is one that all people want to hear about because it is exciting and unique. But what I find most compelling about his journey is not only that he is capable of performing parabolic arcs while piloting a plane, but that he was able to discover his passion and pursue it, and continue to pursue it to the fullest. There is no better lesson in life than to learn that you are capable of achieving anything you set your heart to, and here is his story...

John was born on November 1, 1967 where he grew up in Plandome, NY, with three older sisters, two of whom also attended Friends Academy. After graduating from Buckley Country Day School, John attended Friends from 9th grade through 12th grade, from 1980 to 1985.

"Friends Academy was a great experience for me. I was very shy and sort of an awkward teenager. I was not that into sports, but I did run/walk on the track team, and I remember doing the climbing wall at Portledge my Freshman year. I did not make it to the top and as I fell I was caught by another student who was guarding my ropes on the belay system; I would say

JOHN BENISCH '85: THE SKY IS (NOT!) THE LIMIT

that that really says a lot about my time at Friends.

I also got into the musical theater productions – I loved that! I never got a lead role, but I really found a place to express myself there. I played Nicely Nicely Johnson in the Junior Musical *Guys and Dolls* where I performed the solo 'Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat,' and I earned a dance part in the senior musical of *Carousel*. I was a member of the Choir for my Junior and Senior years as a Tenor.

I also helped with the school paper, and besides editing the art page that we named 'Vines on the Wall?'... yes that is with a question mark, I believe I was also the first student to put a crossword puzzle in the paper. It was hilariously horrible as I recall!"

John also participated in community service programs during his first two years at Friends by volunteering at Head Start. "Each year at Friends I was able to learn a lot because of the excellent environment that the Quaker philosophy creates. Thursday Meeting for Worship is my best memory there. It is a very powerful thing to meditate in silence with your peers and teachers. By senior year, I had emerged from my shy self to a more confident person and I had developed a nice group of friends."

After graduating from Friends, John attended Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. It was there that he took up flying during his junior year and earned his private pilot certification. He graduated with a B.A. in English literature, and as John exclaims, "I would still like to think I will sell a screenplay one day!"

He then joined the United States Air Force through a two-year R.O.T.C. program at the University of Washington, where he earned his Airframe and Power-Plant Technician ratings. He was commissioned as a Maintenance Officer for the AC-130 Gunships in the Air Force and was then assigned to Special Operations at Hurlburt Field in Mary Esther, FL. By that

time, John had completed his Commercial Pilot Certification, but he did not have a high enough Military Point Average (MPA) to get selected for pilot training.

After completing his time in service, John was honorably discharged and decided to pursue a career as an aviator.

"I have never just wanted to be a pilot,



"I really believe that without Friends Academy and the environment of mutual respect and open-minded thinking that they foster, I would have never achieved my dreams of becoming a career aviator."

and I do believe part of that drive comes from my experience at Friends, as they always encouraged a 'no boundaries' thought process." He became a flight instructor at Comair Aviation Academy in Sanford, FL and this is where he discovered his passion for teaching. John then flew for Atlantic Southeast Airlines from 1998 to 2004, where he earned his Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) rating, and his first Captain seat on a regional jet.

John currently flies as a Captain for Amerijet International on the B-727-200, where he was awarded the honor of being selected as an FAA Check Airman and also where he is the Captain of "G-FORCE ONE" for the Zero Gravity Corporation. Amerijet flies cargo all over the world, from the Caribbean, to South and Central Americas. "I was proud to be one of the first flights into Port of Prince, Haiti for the humanitarian relief efforts after the earthquake." As a FAA Check Airman, John is responsible for helping to select, train, and oversee the flight standards of all

of our B-727 flight crews, and to train the new cadre of G-FORCE ONE selectees.

He was asked to join the management team last October where he heads up a Human Factors group. "I am presently the only current and qualified Zero Gravity Captain for the NASA sub-contract. We create a specific gravity environment

for researchers who want to send anything to the Moon, Mars or into orbit to help them gather data. We do this by flying very large Parabolic Arcs...I now understand parabolas, Miss Ilichik! We also take "G-Force One" all over the country and do commercial flights. To date, my favorite is when we took a group of wheelchair-bound children up for a television show called *The View From My Chair*. The smiles and laughter that I saw and heard on that day will stay with me forever."

John spends quite a bit of time traveling, but he is able to stay in touch with some of his old pals from Friends. Though the NASA work is all completed in Houston, he is able to find time to stop by and visit Sarah Newbery, and when he is in L.A. he reconnects with Eric Losada as well.

"Time seems to move faster each year and I would love to stop by and see the beautiful theater that I heard has been built. While I think a public school would have also afforded me a great education, I was so shy and awkward that I really believe that without Friends Academy and the environment of mutual respect and open-minded thinking that they foster, I would never have been able to come out of my shell and achieve my dreams of becoming a career aviator."

In many ways, Friends Academy became a foundation for John, as it provided him with a space and time to become himself. Our careers and jobs are not defining characteristics of ourselves, but instead it is our character that defines us. John pursued his dream of aviation while in college, but it was during his time at FA where John became the individual who would be capable of pursuing a dream.



1934

We mourn the loss of our oldest class representative, **Walt Wilson**, who passed away August 1, 2013, on his 97th birthday. A man of integrity and honor, Walt will be dearly missed by family and friends. His obituary will appear in the fall issue of *The Meeting House*.



1940

Florence Milyko Skinner
4202 Avalon Drive East
New Canaan, CT 06840
203-966-9475
nightingalelady@att.net

1942

Helen Craft Price
173 Ocean Pines Terrace
Jupiter, FL 33477
friscomaru1@aol.com

1945

Joy Mayes Brown
2110 West Center Road
P.O. Box 239
Otis, MA 01253
(413) 269-6398
hopbrook1@verizon.net

Sheila Morrissey Potter
37 Coles Meadow Road
Apt. # 301
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 567-0988
sheila84long@verizon.net

1946

If anyone from the Class of 1946 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1947

If anyone from the Class of 1947 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1948

Marian Schwartz Feniger
16 West 77th St., Apt. 9E
New York, NY 10024
(212) 362-8968
srajerry@aol.com

1949

If anyone from the Class of 1949 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1950

Suzanne Didier DeVito
59 West 12th Street, Apt. 16A
New York, NY 10011
(212) 627-7103
suzannedv@sprintmail.com

1951

George H. Gifford, Jr.
12 Oak Ridge Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790-2011
(631) 751-7489

1952

Margaret Whitney Shiels
5427 FM 2515
Kaufman, TX 75142
(972) 962-8124
mspauamanok@aol.com

Connie and **Bob Wilkinson** divide their time between Arizona and Port Ludlow, WA. "Spent 4 months in Arizona where we played a lot of tennis and pickle ball. Enjoyed a visit from Connie's cousin and her husband and enjoyed the beauty of the desert. We visited Death Valley on our way home. Bob participates in bridge games in both locales. Connie has her book clubs. In June son Bruce and family visited along with Natalie's boyfriend. In the first week in July we took Bruce and Gail and the girls on a one week Alaska cruise...a wonderful way to spend an intergenerational holiday. Connie plans a trip to NY to see Kari in White Plains and enjoy the annual mini reunion in CT with seven of Connie's friends who met up in 7th grade (2 Connie has known since the age of 5). Wendy and family are spending the summer in France and we will take the kids to the coast of Oregon the last week in August. We have a few aches and pains but are both generally in good health." **Terry Larson Scheetz** and Ted are back in PA for the summer. "We are looking forward to lots of grandchildren visiting in the coming weeks." **Fluff Macy Thayer** wrote from her house in Bayville that all is well and hoping that there will be no more storms. She was caught out there by Hurricane Sandy last year. She spent 2 weeks in Maine with Sandy and Ann and will return again in August. Fluff noted that it was 95 degrees on LI. (That is hotter than Texas as I write this.) **Ann Galbraith Hayward** sent her latest news: "We have a new Correctional Officer in our proud family. My granddaughter, Kristina, has just



Connie and Bob Wilkinson '52

been accepted by the Sheriff's Department in Eureka, CA. Kristina and her partner have moved into a new home in Eureka and are building a happy home with the addition of a kitty too. My daughter, Donna, has been in Inter Medicine as a medical assistant for 2 years. I am still working as a receptionist at a posh retirement home and love it and am also spending time in various volunteering positions." **Margaret Whitney Shiels** and Robert spent 10 days in July driving to Pawley's Island, SC to visit Margaret's roommate, Olive, from Randolph-Macon Woman's College with stops on the way. Another college friend drove down from NC so we had a mini-reunion. She was originally from Fort Worth so I see her when she attends reunions. Lounging on the beach was very relaxing and of course nonstop conversation among the girls. We had not seen each other in 2 years. We are driving north to CO to visit old friends from our early days later in the summer. We are doing fine. Patch, patch, patch. Robert had retina surgery. Not as good

as he had wished. What are you reading? We are blessed with a great county library. Our 13th Book and Author Luncheon benefiting the library is in October. Come see us. Please let me hear from you. Send me any changes in your contact information. Love, **Margaret**

1953

Bruce C Nichols

13131 Davis Road
Galena, MD, 21635
410-648-5867
charterbcn@gmail.com

First, I would note that we all received notice, through Kathy Fox, of the struggles and challenges of Jean Hiatt who has suffered a stroke and is recovering / rehabbing at a private facility. I hope you all have taken the time to send Jean your support and love for this difficult period.

I want to thank **Sue Didier** for enclosing photos of our old teachers, Stubbs, Wilt, Gordon, Hiatt, and Brymesser, in the last edition of *Meeting House*. I had classes with all of them, except Gordon, as I was a Spanish advocate. Brings back fond memories.

Clare Coss continues to battle for success on the stage. She is now writing the libretto for an opera, built around Emmitt Till, an unfortunate black boy who was hanged at age 14 in Mississippi, simply because he was talking about white folks. Clare was attending LSU at the time and remembers the incident vividly. There is a very well known soprano who is assisting with the composition, and they hope to have it ready for production next

year. Best of luck. I have tried to contact the rest of the class with no success. If any of you have contacts, please forward to me. I wish you all well. — **Bruce Nichols**. I'm writing to you for my sister, **Jean Hiatt**, who graduated with you from FA. I'm sure many of you remember her. Jean is enduring some rough sailing these days. She had two daughters, Terry and Cindy; Terry died prematurely after struggling with cancer. The loss devastated the family, particularly Jean. That, along with some health issues of her own, has challenged her considerably. Earlier this year she suffered a mild stroke, and is currently rehabbing at a Sr. Living facility in the Philadelphia suburbs. Cindy is working hard to manage a very difficult set of circumstances surrounding her mother's recovery. She is dealing tirelessly with guardianship, financial and quality of life issues. I am helping Cindy where I am able. Jean's days are pretty long; excitement and stimulation are in short supply. Although you may not hear back from her directly, I know receiving notes from you would be a real "picker-upper" for her. Since becoming class rep. for the Class of '58, I have reminisced a bit with Jean about our wonderful and happy days at FA. I recently found her yearbook from your senior year. Her mind is unaffected by her stroke, and she remembers many of you (even I remember a few of you, though I am five years younger). I wish all of you well. I am at the ready to forward your greetings to my sister, and thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness. Messages for Jean can be emailed to jhiatt1@comcast.net or mailed to John Hiatt, 21 Brookview Drive, Glenmoore, PA 19343-1820 Sincerely, **John Hiatt '58**

1954

If anyone from the Class of 1954 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1955

Arthur M. Geoffrion

322-24th St.
Santa Monica, CA 90402
(310) 394-0185
arthur.geoffrion@anderson.ucla.edu

Naomi Johnson Dempsey

69 Webster Point Rd.
Madison, CT 06443
203-245-7617
Naomi.Dempsey100@gmail.com



Margaret Whitney Shiels '52 celebrates her 11th birthday. Standing on her tennis court in Oyster Bay, from left to right: Winnie Barto (Margaret's cousin), Nanette de Fontnouvelle '54, unidentified girl, Margo Howe '52, Jane Rein '52, Cordy Reid '50, Margaret Whitney, '52, Betsy Schulze, '52, Ann Galbraith '52, Mary Lee Rushmore '52.

George Cadwell reports that this has been a sad year for him and Myrna. His oldest son passed away unexpectedly at 55, and Myrna's son passed away at 56 after an illness. On the brighter side: George's grandson Sam was awarded Outstanding Sophomore at the Speed School of Engineering in Louisville, his pole-vaulting granddaughter Marlee received the "Soaring Seahawk Award" at University of North Carolina, and Marlee's brother Chuck became the third of George's grandsons to become a CPA. George and Myrna continue to preside proudly over a very large family that has grown by two great-great-grandchildren so far this year.

Sondi Conklin Wright writes that she and Hal recently bought a house in central Mexico with a huge mature garden containing multicolored bougainvillea, mandarin, lime and grapefruit trees. It is in San Miguel de Allende, an old colonial town with quaint cobblestone lanes, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a sophisticated place with many foreigners (most from the US and Canada), a major art institute and over 150 art galleries, all kinds of music, theater, three meditation centers, really good yoga, and much more. For the time being Sondi continues as a yoga teacher – three months in Denver and one month in San Miguel – and Hal continues as a psychiatrist. Eventually they will stop working and move down full-time. In other news, her son Juan, an IT project manager for McKesson, has just completed the final manuscript of a book about life with his father, Sondi's former spouse Hunter S. Thompson. **Sally Hickock Ward** is still working part time at the nursing home she has been with for a long time. **Vernon '54** is still working full time in customer service at Alpine Access. Their children are scattered across California, Indiana, South Carolina, and Vermont, and they have 5 grandchildren.

Owen Smith writes that he has taken over the day-to-day operation of Milleridge Inn and Cottage and that he has agreed to chair the Nassau County Board of Ethics. He continues to serve on numerous boards in New York and Washington, including chairing the Board of Trustees of the Institute of World Politics in DC, a 300-student degree-granting graduate school mainly for mid-career executives in national security and intelligence. In his spare time, Owen is working on a book on energy policy. Earlier this year, Bernadette helped organize two centennial conferences in honor of the birth of her father, William Casey, who was President Reagan's CIA Director. One event

was at the Reagan Ranch, and the other at Owen's Institute.

1956

Anne Wauchope Smith

297 London Drive
Beaconsfield
Quebec H9W 5Z1
Canada
(514) 695-1951
awsmith@uniserve.com

News from **Peter Bergh**: Having been in the wellness business for over 40 years now (www.sfedge.com is my company in Vermont), at 75 I am in overall good health and have no major ailments that I would want to know about (even if I did). I have found that movement is indeed the fountain of youth, and my steady regimen of downhill skiing and snow-shoeing in the winter; and walking, hiking and biking in the summer months plus Pilates classes year-round, and some windsurfing in the shoulder seasons seems to have worked pretty well for me. I also endeavor to practice what we preach at the clubs; and avoid stress, don't smoke, rarely drink or use drugs of any kind, stay as far away from the medical profession as possible and focus on eating a healthy diet. Having lived near Vail, Colorado for about 15 years now (the previous 35 were spent in Vermont), I find that life in the Rockies agrees with me in all regards, especially the 300 days of sunshine we get here each and every year. "Want what you have" and "carpe diem," pretty much sums up my personal view as to how to lead a happy and healthy life for as long as possible. Hope that you all are well, and are enjoying to the fullest whatever is left of the time each of us has been allotted to walk the Earth. Should any of you find yourselves in the vicinity of Vail, please get in touch as it would be fun to get together and talk about the "good old days". My email is pbergh@vail.net, my telephone number is 970-376-5927 and my mailing address is P.O.Box



Peter Bergh (on the right!) with Thor

1727, Edwards, CO 81632. As you will likely have forgotten what I look like, above is a photo of me with my Malamute Thor (now deceased). As it is said that people do look like their dogs, I am the figure on the right – Cheers, **Peter**

1957

Roger O. Sanders

324 Fishing Ln.
Deland, FL 32720
(386) 736-0815
rsanders38@cfl.rr.com

1958

John Hiatt

21 Brookview Drive
Glenmoore, PA 19343
(610) 942-8814
jhiatt1@comcast.net

Greetings, "partial" classmates. Hope you are enjoying your summer. Hot here in eastern PA. Not much new at the **Hiatt** household. Gail and I continue to work at the daunting task of downsizing, in preparation for a move to a smaller home. Heard from **Art Miller**: "My wife, Ginger, and I bought a retirement community home in southwest Utah. Thanks to our continuing good health (a real blessing) and many clubs and activities to choose from, our 13 years here have been some of the very best of our lives. If you're out this way, please stop in for a visit – 435-627-0282 or ginartmill@msn.com." **Judy Lisle Irons** writes, "My husband and I are seriously downsizing. We have lived in this house over 30 years. Want some books??? Kids really don't want Granny's china either. We are looking around at retirement communities here in Virginia." **Dick Jones** fondly remembers Lew Barnes, biology teacher and football coach. Dare I publish Dick's and **Jack Morse**'s antics in biology lab? Think not. Reflecting on **Tom Lapham**'s comments in the last issue of *The Meeting House*, Dick added; "Friends, for most of us, has had a lasting and incredible influence in our lives." **Mike Bliss** is still practicing law part time. Three years ago he and wife, Susan, sold their home of 28 years in Natick, Mass., and bought a modernist house in Lexington. Their three sons are nearby. "Summing up – who am I today? I garden...I practice law...I read...I spend time with my family....and I love conversation." To all – I would love to include your news, however brief, in the next issue. Please take a few minutes and send a note. – **John**

1959

Charles G. Jameson
13464 Brightview Way
Gainesville, VA 20155
(703) 743-1619
626036@comcast.net

1960

We mourn the loss of our clas rep **Dona Amy Fagan Arnow**, who passed away on August 11, 2013. An obituary will appear in the fall issue of *The Meeting House*.

1961

Park Benjamin, III
P. O. Box 368
Oyster Bay, NY 11771
(516) 922-9537
pbenjamin3@optimum.net

1962

Randi Reeve Filoon
P.O. Box 5495
Ketchum, ID 83340
(208) 788-1734
filoons@yahoo.com

Nancy and **Chip Malcolm** came out to Sun Valley this winter to ski with us. We did lots of X-country skiing, eating and more catching up. We had a ball with them! I've been regularly communicating with **Nancy Moran** who has her B & B up and running in Craftsbury Common, Vt.! Take a break and get up there – it is beautiful and the price is right and the company excellent. She is also still showing her Black Lab in Field Trials and he is really doing well! **Sandi Ray Holland** just got back from about a month of sailing in Greece. I hear she has become a great 1st Mate to her Skipper Alfie! She'll be in Nantucket for the rest of the summer. Stop by her beautiful antique store, Nantucket House Antiques on Beach Street! She heads back to foreign seas in mid-September. I bumped into **Ellen Baird** on the streets of Nantucket last week. She looks great, is in Prout's Neck, Maine for the summer and is still working in investments. Fred and I are on the Cape with a house full of our children and grandchildren until August when we'll be heading back west. We're praying for no forest fires as we didn't have much snow and the west is a tinderbox. Hope you all are having lotsa fun in the sun! Please do e-mail me what's up in your lives. We are



Take a tour around campus at your 50th Reunion!

interested! My e-mail is Filoons@yahoo.com. – **Randi**

1963

Barbara Shoen Brundige
367 Split Rock Rd.
Syosset, NY 11791
(516) 922-3944
bjbrundige@aol.com

Paula E. Howe
4914 Eigel Street
Houston, TX 77007-3326
(713) 863-7541
phowe0612@comcast.net

The saddest news is that our dear classmate **Charlie Hokanson** passed away on June 1st after his long struggle with leukemia. This note from his wife Ellen is so touching: "His battle was long and difficult but he faced it with great courage and strength as he faced everything in life. You and his friends at Friends Academy were always in his heart and I want you to know that he always loved every one of you. He is now at rest and our family celebrates all the wonderful things he did for others in his life. Donations can be made to the scholarship fund at Bayberry School. This is a small private school where underprivileged and needy children of all ethnic backgrounds are able to receive a wonderful education in small school surroundings. Charlie started or became involved in small schools wherever he lived and was involved in this school as well. The children called him 'the Scientist.' His greatest desire was that every child have the opportunity to work to their highest ability and reach the success that is the reward of their work. Should you wish to donate the address is: Bayberry School, Student Scholarships, 2736



50th reunion plans include a Saturday sail with Bob Darbee in Oyster Bay Harbor.

Falmouth Road, Osterville, MA 02655." And of course our 50th Reunion is coming up October 4-6, 2013. Details have been mailed and e-mailed, but you can contact **BJ Brundige** at bjbrundige@aol.com (516) 242-7878 or **Paula Howe** at phowe0612@comcast.net (713) 863-7541 for information. We want to have as many classmates as possible attend! As of mid-July we have the following planning to attend: **Paula Howe, BJ Brundige, Ted Keefer, Bob Darbee, Bruce Birkett, Sally Hicks, Kathy L. Garren, Mary Ann Engle Jenness, Diane Olding Stanley, Steve Lapham, Julie Lowell, and Van Schwiebert. Jane Johnston McCabe**, who lives in England, may be coming! We have been in touch with **Bill Sugden, Bill Eider-Orley, Peter Dott, Tom Newman, Toni Naren Gates, Hoyt Benjamin, Peter Hahn, Elin Mainwaring Richards, and Sally Parlette Sams** and are optimistic they will be attending. Plan on joining us October 4, 5, and 6! Enjoy a Saturday afternoon sail with **Bob Darbee** in Oyster Bay Harbor. We will have a list of special events in the

FA ARTISTS!

Are you a musician, performer, visual artist, writer, or arts educator? We would love to profile you in our special upcoming *Arts Meeting House*. Below is a preview of some of the alumni artists we will be featuring. If you would like to be part of this upcoming arts issue, please contact us at kathy_fox@fa.org.

Life-long professional musician, **Jeff Davis '65**, plays and collects traditional American folk music culled from field recordings and archives.



A regular performer at festivals at home and abroad, Jeff does quite a number of school programs and remembers that it was an assembly at FA that got him started! This winter saw him playing at a folk festival in England and, for the fourth time, playing Appalachian music to Norwegian school kids in Oslo. For more information check out: jeffdavisoldsongs.com



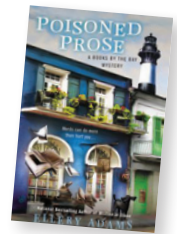
California-based architect and builder **Michael Poloukhine '82** opened his own design/build practice ReSquare Architecture and Construction in Los Angeles in 2009. His lifelong passion and devotion to building and environmental stewardship have fostered a career as an Architect and Builder committed to excellence in design, construction and sustainability. You can see his work on his website: resquare.biz.

Chris Milk '91 is a director, whose work includes music videos for Kanye West, U2, Green Day, Arcade Fire, Johnny Cash and Courtney Love. He has created numerous commercials and a portion of a biography film on President Obama. He currently has an interactive video installation called "This Exquisite Forest" in the Tate Modern.

Jeff Hull '73, whose day job is teaching high school art (AP/PreAp sculpture, ceramics I, II, III, and art 1) in a large public school in Longview, TX is a working artist (sculptor and potter). For more information check out: jeffhullart.com



Jennifer Briggs Stanley '88 has written over twenty traditional mystery novels under several pseudonyms. Her last four novels hit the *New York Times* Bestseller List. She currently writes The Books by the Bay Mysteries, which are set on the coast of North Carolina and feature unpublished writers turned amateur sleuths, and The Charmed Pie Shoppe Mysteries, featuring an enchanted pastry chef who runs a pie shop and solves mysteries in northwest Georgia. In 2014, she'll debut a new series featuring a resort for bibliophiles (and a few murderers) in western Virginia.



Sarah Klass '07, a graduate of Parsons, The New School for Design, is now a jewelry designer. You can see samples of her work at her website: www.thesarahklass.com

A copper necklace designed by Sarah Klass



area this weekend as well as local parks to walk in or other points of interest. In addition if you arrive early or stay later, you can enjoy a visit to the Hamptons or the North Fork of Long Island or Manhattan!!

Places to Stay: Some local alums have offered housing, including Steve Lapham, and Bob Darbee can sleep some folks on his boat. BJ still has 2 rooms at Nassau Club reserved (\$165 a night). Contact us for further information on housing. We are trying to locate the following classmates: **Elizabeth Watt Birmingham, Diana Parkinson Briggs, Cathy Powers Corum, Sylvia Dawkins, Arno Finkledey, Paulette Simpson Henderson, Edward Howe, Susan Bradley Hunt, Marion Johnson, Sylvia Fubini Moore, Hilliard Penfold, Linda Rouzee, Nora Kanton Shukovsky, Linda Samuels Surl, Kate Gould Whitehead, and Dorianne Goetz Zammetti.** If you have contact information for them, please send it our way! – **BJ and Paula**

1964

Suzanne Notides Melzig

104 E. Hillcrest Ave.
Richmond, VA 23226
(804) 358-7626
snmelzig@comcast.net

Perry Clark has been named to the External Advisory Board of the Institute on Aging (IOA) at the University of Pennsylvania. The IOA serves as the umbrella organization that integrates the research, educational and patient care missions and related programs of a large number of organizational units including: the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research, the Penn Alzheimer's Disease Core Center and the Penn Memory Center, the Penn Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Center of Excellence as well as Geriatric Medicine (Department of Medicine) and Geriatric Psychiatry (Department of Psychiatry). Members of the External Advisory Board provide technical, programmatic and financial advice and support, as well as strategic direction, to the management and staff of the IOA.

1965

Robert D. Tilden

3640 County Road 16
Montour Falls, NY 14865
(607) 535-2217
rdtilden@yahoo.com

1966

Helen Lotowycz Rising

98 South Bay Avenue
Brightwaters, NY 11718
(631) 666-0135
HRRising@aol.com

Clint Bush and his wife, Adair, are now back from their 7-year, 40,000-nautical mile sailing circumnavigation of the world, done aboard their 47-foot catamaran. The voyage began and ended in Miami, with passages through both the Panama and Suez canals, and ocean crossings of the Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic. They also ran the pirate gauntlet in the Gulf of Aden, and spent a whole season in the Mediterranean. Many beautiful islands along the way, and altogether 61 different countries visited. They are now back in the USA and Clint is resuming his career as an orthopedic surgeon, and Adair resumes hers as a veterinarian. Clint says, "This was a real adventure, a rare opportunity to explore seldom-seen places, and a chance to enjoy sailing and living aboard our boat. No regrets whatsoever." You can email him at: clintbush@hotmail.com. He promises to make the next big class reunion. On a sad note **Priscilla Bellinger Campbell** lost her battle with esophageal cancer this February. A memorial service celebrating Priscilla's life was held at the West End Presbyterian Church in New York City on Saturday April 13th. There was a full complement of the New York Scottish Pipes and Drums present along with the West End Presbyterian Church Gospel Choir. Priscilla's obituary was printed in the last issue of *The Meeting House*. I had a great conversation with **Pam Piffath Still** who remains in New Hampshire with her husband. Her adult children live close by. She keeps busy helping teach math and interacting with grandchildren. **Brandt** and I attended commencement ceremonies at FA this year and were present for the presentation of the first annual Fred Smith Memorial Coaching award. **Bill Wicker '67** was also present and remembered how Coach Smith had gone to a coaching clinic over the summer and came back with a formation and some ideas that led to the undefeated season of the 1965 football team. The idea behind this annual award is to give funds to a coach so he or she can advance their coaching or teaching ability. In order to keep this award going the committee is trying to raise \$100,000 so that an award of approximately \$3,000 can be given each year. Fred Smith touched many lives during his years at Friends; he

will be missed. I called **Tina Hokanson** to let her know how sorry I was to hear that her brother **Charlie** had died. We ended up having a wonderful conversation and wishing that we lived across town from one another rather than across the country. **Chuck Kaplanak** and his wife Beth are spending much of their time in the Coral Gables area of Florida where Beth does workshops integrating Pilates Training in the Pre-Habilitation and Post-Operative Rehabilitation of the Hip and Knee Arthroplasty Client. She has also written a book on the subject and you can check it out on Amazon. Remember 2016 is our 50th reunion, and I am open to any ideas classmates have to celebrate. – **Sandy Rising**

1967

Diana Dickson-Witmer

24 Brendle Lane
Greenville, DE 19807
(302) 656-1190
ddickson-witmer@christianacare.org

1968

Lesley L. Graham

615 NW Murphy Blvd.
Joplin, MO 64801
(417) 781-1858
llgraham@cablone.net

Once again it's challenging creating some exciting news about our class but a little is better than a blank page. Keep in mind 2013 is the 45th reunion. Thank you to those who replied with some news. So here goes for the Friendly Class of 1968: Always fun to see **Anne Maher** – on facebook I saw that her daughter just got married and looked lovely. **Clifford Dacso**, "Hi to you from Osaka. I am at a meeting trying to find free coffee (\$12 in the hotel lobby) and food that I recognize (not an adventurous eater!). It is always a pleasure to hear from you although I confess to not being a nostalgia buff. We continue the relentless progression but try to punctuate it with exciting things. I have been pretty successful with grants recently, one in breast cancer epidemiology, another in molecular and cell biology, and a third in image enhancement (not the psychological kind). That and my internal medicine practice are keeping me off the streets. Daughter Mara moved to NYC for a year fellowship in dermatologic pathology at Ackerman Institute. She is engaged to a lovely guy who is Sephardic and Orthodox so we (or rather Sheri) are having the fun of planning a kosher wedding in November.

Here's Bob Piro and Duffy with their Red ribbon at the GMHA Jumper Challenge. Bob and Duffy tied for the fastest time in the 3-foot division.



Son Matthew and his wife Premal Patel are on the faculty at the medical school in Galveston and are expecting their second, a boy, to complement Maya who is 21 months old and is beyond belief on the intelligence, personality, and pulchritude scales. XY is going to have a hard act to follow. Rebecca continues her search for ways to continue living in San Francisco. I hope that this note finds you and the rest of the class well and anticipating the future with optimism." **Jim Evans** writes: "In retirement I find myself enjoying good memories. I am listening to the Sirius Satellite Radio stations that play the songs of the 60s and 70s. That music takes me back to good high school memories at Friends. I am not sure that I will be able to attend the 45th reunion, but, God willing, I plan on being at the 50th! I am also catching up on my reading. Currently, I am finishing a book by Daniel Pink entitled *Drive: The surprising truth about what motivates us*. The next title on my list is *Roosevelt's Centurions: FDR and the commanders he led to victory in World War II*. I was always into a good history read! **Paul Hand** writes: "Bunny and I continue to reside in the Pacific Beach area of San Diego just a 1/2 block from the ocean. How lucky we are to be blessed with the location: close to shopping, Episcopal church, libation establishments (aka bars), and great local restaurants, all within walking distance. We have been serving "Bunny's Chicken Soup for the Soul" every Thursday at the end of our street, 52 weeks a year. After all, to be blessed living so close to the ocean we can only give thanks and 'Pay It Forward' to our homeless community which seems to grow every month. Tired of watching folks eating

out of dumpsters. Now at 10 pots per week with help from our condo neighbors and out of the back of the trusty Hyundai Elantra Sport Wagon. Both daughters, Rebecca and Erika are residing in Arizona. Erika, an ASU grad, continues to excel at her post as K-3 Special Education teacher in Mesa. A career she chose, complains constantly on the pay, but LOVES her kiddos and she has the marks to prove it. She begins her Masters this fall (which she is paying for... yea!). Rebecca is finishing her Graphic Arts program and will probably be the next web mistress/designer for some funky company somewhere. Both are finally off the parental "payroll." Life/work continues at LG Electronics Mobilecomm as Sr. Director of Customer Advocacy, and I can't wait to retire in ten years...or more. Last great accomplishment this year was I (we) got to see The Rolling Stones in Anaheim at their 50th Anniversary tour; that makes 18 times at their concerts over the years for me. Invitation to all: Come visit us; we have two spare guest rooms now. Life is good, but just older. Miss my dear classmate **Brian Cawley**...we had some darn good times." **Peg Weirner** writes: "I have spent the past year donating my art to local hospitals, which is actually a more complicated process than it sounds. After installing 9 of my pieces in a new hospital in La Jolla, I am now working with two hospitals in north San Diego County which are undergoing a huge renovation. I am joining their "team" and may be working on this for the next few years, creating large pieces for their entrance and reception areas along with other wings. Needless to say, it's extremely rewarding." **Kathy Attridge Anas** always stays in touch and

said to share the following question: what suggestions can the group make about the best state for retirement – one that has good weather, not too cold or too humid and has a great tax structure with good health facilities. Ok class is there such a place? **Greg Tarone** stays in touch and shares he is thoroughly enjoying living in Connecticut, pleased the real estate market is finally on the rise again and always keeping busy. Always fun to see what **Bob Piro** is up to on Facebook. Here was his post in July: Pirouette Farm – Here's Bob Piro and Duffy with their Red ribbon at the GMHA Jumper Challenge last night. Bob and Duffy tied for the fastest time in the 3-foot division. As for me this summer, I will have a family reunion August 25 to celebrate **Todd '67** and Courtney's 40th wedding anniversary. Will be fun to have all the Grahams together. Life remains tranquil in Joplin, MO. Stay in touch and make sure we get lots of news next time. By the way...October 5, 2013 is Fall Fair and Homecoming and the Class of 1968's 45th Reunion! If you would like to celebrate this milestone together please contact Kathy Fox in the Alumni Office: kathy_fox@fa.org or 516-465-1796. – **Lesley**

1969

Jane Forelle Casey
1190 Pequot Ave., P.O. Box 469
Southport, CT 06890
(203) 292-3644
forlkc@optimum.net

Peggy Pinto Ramler reports sad news: her husband passed away in March of 2012 from prostate, lung, bone and brain cancers after being ill for 2 years. He and Peggy attended the class of 1969's 20th reunion together but hadn't been back to Long Island since. Peggy's mother, Florence Pinto, passed away this March at the age of 96. Florence, who was a popular mom during the day, ran the Fall Fair in 1968. There is even a photo of her in the 1969 yearbook!

1970

Deborah Gianelli
587 Highland Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043
973- 655-1011
deborahgianelli@gmail.com

1971

If anyone from the Class of 1971 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1972

Karen Spero Albers

2513 Harris Avenue
Richland, WA 99354-1637
(509) 375-5356
klalbers@charter.net

Greetings classmates. I hope that you are all well and enjoying life. **Susan Johnson Banta** reports: "I realize much of my life this past year has been driven by the demands of education and health opportunities. Our eldest Adriana transferred from American University in Paris to Barnard College in New York last December in her sophomore year. Her passion for economics and film is serving her well at her internship this summer at A24 Films – a distribution and production company in Manhattan. Gabrielle, our middle daughter, will be attending Scripps College as a freshman in the fall. She is a math / science whiz with a love of film – let's see where that combo leads. I don't think her profession exists yet. Max, our only son, is at Northwestern for the summer studying acting. He will be a senior at Marin Academy high school this year. I am ramping up for another round of college applications. I can probably write a book on this by now. Our youngest – Sophia – completed her freshman year at the Drew School in San Francisco. She thinks she wants to go into the medical field and is taking science classes this summer. Her interest developed after spending much of the month of April and May visiting Philip, my husband, in the cardiac intensive care unit after he suffered from a Type A Aortic Dissection. After a lifetime of perfect health, a gene presented itself in a near fatal event. The shock to him and our family was significant – and life changing for all. We decided to move back to the beach – Stinson – as a place for him to heal. I've stepped up to help run his architectural firm in his absence. I've also become his nurse, providing care round the clock at home. If I had the time I'd get a degree in nursing—just for the credentials in case I ever have an opportunity to do this again for someone else. I have such tremendous respect for the profession after this event. And let's face it – we're all getting older. Would be



Kris Horvath and Bronwyn, Cliff Gardner and Julie, Eli Goodrich and Jeff Leach at their 40th Class Reunion.

nice to have at least one nurse or doctor in the family. I realize this is more about my family than me, but caring for them all has been my sole focus. In August I'm heading east to visit the family and friends – making my annual trek to Martha's Vineyard with a stop at Locust Valley along the way to see Mom who can no longer travel due to her advanced dementia. She'll be 90 this October. She lives at home, next to Jill and not too far from Kim. They're both doing great." There appears to be interest in **Maurice's** idea to have a summer get-together in 2014 to celebrate our 60th birthdays! (Where does the time go?) **Kevin Glynn** has offered to regale us with his rendition of "Twelfth Night." Someone suggested staging a re-enactment of the notorious Halloween military coup! A lodging idea included Cozy Cabins out in the Hamptons. All kidding aside, anything that brings us together will be fun! Planning will commence shortly after you receive *The Meeting House*. In the meantime, wishing you and your families a lifetime of good health and good cheer! Remember to follow us on Facebook: "FA Class of '72 Reunion." – **Karen Albers** (klalbers@charter.net)

1973

Laura Wicker Hackett

2420 Chatham Court
State College, PA 16803
(814) 238-7661
lw5@comcast.net

Thirty members of the class of 1973 and many of their spouses, met at the Basil Leaf Café in Locust Valley on Saturday, June 15th. Thanks go to **Jill Johnson** and **Susan Nappa Cocke** for organizing the get-together. It was great to see so many people; those of you that didn't make it were missed, and



Clay Trauernicht, Scott Burkhart, Beau Kern at the 40th Reunion of the Class of 1973

you missed a wonderful evening. **Barbara Boyle Weaner** put it very well, "I was really sorry to miss the reunion, and while still friendly with everyone in my heart, have not seen many old friends due to distance and lack of communication," a sentiment that echoes with many of us. Barbara is very busy with summer season on the farm and work in general. "Our oldest daughter Fern is a second grade teacher in Winchester, Virginia, about 2 hours from here. We get to see her often. She is a dynamic teacher and a kind person. Our son Caleb is living outside of Philadelphia, and has his hands full with a lovely wife, 2-year-old son, baby on the way in August, full time job, and going to night school to finish college. Our youngest son, Kyle, has spent the last 7 years traveling back and forth to India 6 months a year to study Tibetan Medicine and 6 months on our farm during growing season. In May, he opened a practice in Elkins, where I work, with a yoga studio, massage practice and doing Tibetan Medicine Health Consultations. Life is good. We've got 2 dogs, a cat, a horse, a cow, a pig, about 50 chickens, and a dozen ducks right now, so no shortage of entertainment. My work has been steady and challenging as a nurse practitioner. I am still working



John Shipman, Brooker Wright Rennert, Jess Mohan, Cille Koch Longshaw and Paul Longshaw



Ian Laird, Susan Nappa Cocke, Lu Viscardi Laird and Phil Cocke

for West Virginia University Department of Medicine in Nephrology, at a clinic and a dialysis unit about 20 miles from home. I enjoy the patients, the physicians and staff I work with, and the healing work. At home, I have been having fun with my horse, in the flower gardens and spending time with Scott, who does the vegetables and animals full time. It has been a very hot, very wet spring and summer so far, and the gardens are lush and full of funguses and diseases, insects and delicious food. I would like to get back to the vegetables and animals more, but find my work demanding and there is only so much time in the day. My life has been enriched by yoga and meditation. This winter my sister introduced me to **Heather Vuillet Lende's** [77] books (Sarah Vuillet's daughter) about her life in Alaska, since she graduated from college. My life has been steeped in West Virginia since I was 20, in a similar way." **Scott Burkhart** has "moved to San Diego where I am working most of the time. I also spend time in Scottsdale. Denver has been a great place for 30 years, but it was time to go live someplace else. Last

October we purchased a women's gym here in San Diego. It is a turn-around business, but we are making headway on improving member relations and our product. We have brought into the gym supplements and power plates. The apartment here is right on the San Diego trolley line, so it is an easy jump to go to downtown, Seaport village, and Little Italy. The weather is mild year round. My charter business in the British Virgin Islands continues to do well in its second year. I am looking to add another catamaran to the fleet soon. It was great fun seeing some old friends at the 40th reunion, looking

forward to the next 5 years." **Mimi Bohner Dunn** writes, "For fifteen years, I've been teaching preschool and enrichment classes at Jesse Lee Day School in Ridgefield, CT. I love working with the kids, and I get to use my art background!" **Ralph Mernit** writes, "I have two kids, I have been married over two decades, I have a clinical therapy practice in NYC and am a Director at a Mental Health clinic in Brooklyn. I hope all of you are in good health." From **Christine Rising Turner** we hear, "Life in Vermont is very full with a garden that produces most of our food for the year. I couldn't make it to the reunion because that was my long held date for our meat birds. They are now in the freezer. Now, it's caring for lambs and sometimes our 3 1/2-year-old granddaughter, Francesca. She's a bundle of energy. My husband is helping to keep track of mosquito populations in our area. EEE and W. Nile Virus are lurking. Water levels are high so mosquito populations are as well. This is when the disease starts showing up in samples. So that cuts down on early morning and evening activities. So, if it isn't torrential downpours and flooding here in the NE, followed by an extended heat wave, it's fires in the west. I hope all are unaffected by any of what Mother Nature has to throw our way. Personally, I think we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg. Stay well and healthy." **Bill Dudjoc** is having a hard time believing that it has been 40 years... "WOW. The ride out



Kris Horvath, Clay Trauernicht, Cliff Gardner, Scott Burkhart and Henry Picoli



Beau Kern, Tony Marvullo and Bruce Nauman

in Tahoe for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society went well. Even though attendance was down for Team in Training, we managed to raise \$4.5M to help cure blood cancers!! Thanks to alumni and good friends (and even strangers!!) I surpassed my goal of \$10,000 and was one of the top fundraisers for the CT chapter. I am still training for four more century rides this season: ERRACE in Avon; CT this Saturday; Tour of the Litchfield Hills in Torrington, CT; Deacost Century in Hampton, NH; and Peak Season Century in Lake George, NY. Any alum want to join me feel free ;-). Still working at Newington Bicycle full time...at least until October. We shall see what happens then. The economy has somewhat taken a toll on us in that retirement is not in the cards for us. I will be working the rest of my life, so I may as well stay healthy – lol. Tailwinds, **Billy.** **Jan Klocke O'Sullivan:** "What a wonderful turnout we had, and it was great to talk to everyone there. Many thanks to Jill for coordinating, and also to **Penelope Wylie Mayer '75** for putting together the copies of our first ten years of alumni notes and the slideshow. I have a few CDs of the A Cappella Choir album that we made our senior year. If someone from another class would like one, since many of the selections were classics in our era, I'd be happy to send it out. I can be contacted through my information in the alumni directory." **Jim Boorstein** says hello to all, sorry to miss the big event. He is back in NYC working on assorted projects after several years of work at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. **Cliff Gardner:** "It certainly was great to see everyone at the reunion. Earlier that day, **Kris H.** and I (and our wives) headed over to Friends. The campus is amazing. I can only wonder how far we would all have gotten if the facilities were like this when we were there! Kris and I renewed our ancient (and I do mean ancient) tennis rivalry (I won) and then wandered the campus. All the buildings were locked up but one – the Meeting House. So we sat in the Meeting House for a few minutes, for

the first time since our senior year in high school. It was actually quite special – we got to share what we recalled from our years of attending weekly meetings." Charlie and I wandered the campus and spent a few minutes in the Meeting House, also. I enjoyed the peace and quiet, and took several photos of the building (though I know it is a reconstruction after the fire). I agree with Cliff's sentiments about the campus. I found it interesting to see all of the changes, and was dismayed to see the field hockey field is a parking lot! It was nice to see that they are repurposing some of the old buildings, such as the Girls Gym. I miss the Glass House... Thanks for your news, I appreciate hearing from all of you, and enjoyed seeing so many of you at the reunion. Many classmates said they were going to try to make it for the Fall Fair this year!— **Laura**

1974

If anyone from the Class of 1974 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1975

Tilde Mariani Giacché

Salita Falconara, 11

19032 San Terenzo di Lerici

La Spezia

Italy

339-260-1874

tildemgiacche@gmail.com



Tilde Mariani Giacché and Jill Fowler Dragiff

A mini FA reunion in Florence, Italy! **Jill Fowler Dragiff** along with two of her six children, Caleb and Courtney, spent the day together with **Tilde Mariani Giacché** and her daughter Vienna. **Laura Stanonis Jossing**, who resides in Oslo, Norway with her husband Helge, recently returned to the U.S. for two weeks and stopped by Friends Academy to visit with former Lower School teacher (and current library volunteer) Pat Parmelee. Pat and Laura never lost touch after Laura left Friends after third grade. Seeing her old first

grade classroom with her beloved first grade teacher brought Laura to tears. She'd love to hear from her former classmates and can be reached at laura.karin.s@gmail.com.



Laura Stanonis Jossing and her husband Helge visit campus with Laura's first grade teacher, Pat Parmelee.

1976

Nancy Toher Hawkins

123 Duck Pond Road

Glen Cove, NY 11542

(516) 671-8977

Nthawkins123@aol.com

1977

Chuck Cooperstein

1332 Coral Drive

Coppell, TX 75019

(972) 393-2160

coopgator@aol.com

Congratulations to **Penny Mealing** who was named Teacher of the Year at PS 102 in Brooklyn. Says Penny, "It's a great honor—especially since I'm the music teacher – not a classroom teacher. I teach K-5th grade band, chorus, guitar, opera and general music. I love it and can't see myself doing anything else!" Indeed, that amazing talent is helping nurture the next generation of performers. The writing talents of **Heather (Vuillet) Lende** have taken her on to the *New York Times* best seller list. Her book *If I Lived Here Would You Know My Name*, has risen to as high #7 on the Times Non-Fiction e-book list, and #20 on the combined print and e-book list. Heather, however, is taking this all in stride telling *The Alaska Dispatch* that being on a best-seller list "doesn't change your life or anything – you do the same thing

Continued on page 58

2013 NYC ALUMNI REUNION

HELD MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2013 AT THE NY ATHLETIC CLUB



DANIEL GOODRICH FOR FRIENDS ACADEMY

Alumni, their spouses, current and former faculty mingle at the 2013 New York City Alumni Reunion on Monday, June 3, 2013.

Bob Darbee
'63 and Board
co-President
Tom Hawkins
'78



Former Upper School English teacher
Carolyn Seaman, Lauren Stellato '00
and Mara Merino Johnston '00



Above, Bradley
Silverstein '10, Cirsty
Burton '10, Chichi
Anyoku '10 and
Morgan Shapiro '10



Left, Carl Simpson '12,
Michael Petrocelli '12,
Paige Elgarten '12 and
Michael Gambardella
'12



World Languages and Cultures head **Polly Duke** reunites with alumni.



Salwa Touma '01, **Samya Touma '06** and **David Broxmeyer '06**



Abby Noble '98 and **Pam Foschi Danbusky '97**



Tom Pascarella '95, Director of Development **Jim Michalek**, **Jennifer Cordero '90** and **Peter Stein '79**



Ben Aronow '09, **Michael Rudolph '09** and **Akhil Vaid '09**



Courtney Taylor '01, former Alumni Director **Alex Edwards-Boudrez** and **Eileen McGlinchey Hume '88**



Head of School **Bill Morris** hands the microphone to **Liz Siris Winchester '91**



Harry Dreizen '78, **Paul Rosta '77**, former teacher and current trustee **Peggy Brucia**, former Upper School teacher **Roger Erickson** and **Joe Borini '79**



The view from the NY Athletic Club.



Kim White '05

>>To see more photos from the NYC Reunion, log onto the Alumni Portal at www.fa.org/alumni



you always do,” she said. “There’s more to write – That’s Life.” Heather is presently working on her 3rd book. **Joanna Parker Evans** reports that she is packing up and moving to Maine where her husband will be the new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Unity College. I am presently starting my 9th year as the radio voice of the Dallas Mavericks, but before then will spend September moonlighting for Dial Global Radio Sports covering the NFL. I will be at 4 games, Green Bay@San Francisco, Cleveland@Baltimore, Atlanta@Miami and Philadelphia@Denver. As they like to say, check your local listings, or you can go to Sirius/XM satellite radio to check out the games. I’ll be working with the Hall of Fame safety Rod Woodson, and am really excited about that. I also will be starting my 9th year as host of the nationally syndicated “NCAA Football Insider” in which I get to interview most of the big name coaches, and get to preview the biggest games in the nation each week. My son, Jeffrey, is a rising senior, thus, the college experience has begun. Like Dad, it seems like he’s looking for the big-school experience and wanting to get into broadcasting (I’ve tried to tell him there’s got to be a better way to make a living). We took trips to the Columbias (South Carolina and Missouri), and enjoyed them immensely. Now to let time (and tests) decide where he’ll wind up. My wife, Karen, and I celebrated our 3rd anniversary in August with a great trip to Jamaica. Would love to hear more from you 77s. I am easily found via e-mail at CoopGator@aol.com, on Facebook, or via Twitter @CoopMavs. Until next time....

– **Chuck**

1978

Thomas Hawkins

123 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
(516) 671-8977
thawkins@outlook.com

I know it has been quite a while since I last managed to submit any class notes to *The Meeting House*, but given that we have a milestone reunion approaching, I have managed to pull my act together and submit a short note. My main purpose in writing is to reach out to any classmates who only receive their FA news via *The Meeting House*, and to encourage you/them to join the online conversation taking place as we make plans for our 35th reunion in October. We have over fifty-five classmates on the email list and if you are not receiving regular updates, it is



The Class of 1978 ... The way we were then...and then.



because I don’t have a valid email address for you – please contact me at thawkins@outlook.com and I will add you to the list! If you have not been part of the email exchanges these last few weeks, you are missing out on a lively and very entertaining “conversation” that is taking place. As for our preliminary reunion plans, we intend to kick-off the reunion weekend on the evening of Thursday, October 3rd with a small gathering for early arrivers to take place somewhere in NY City, and the main event will be a class dinner (again, the precise location is TBD, but you can assume that it will be somewhere close to campus) on Saturday the 6th. One note that I have received in response to the various pre-reunion updates came to

me from **Gabi Lerinc**, and I think her note is very worthy of sharing here. Gaby writes, “Do you remember me? I am the exchange student from Yugoslavia who spent only the senior year with the class. Maybe I seemed weird to you sometimes at that time, I don’t know. But, the world is quite globalized now, and I believe we would have much more in common than at that time (although I hope I didn’t stick out that much. I had a great time and felt to belong there). Is it possible that it was all 35 years ago? Honestly, I hardly feel a day older than 30 – so sometimes I wonder if there is some mistake in the calendar. In the meantime the country I came from stopped to exist (fell apart into 7 different small countries in an ugly civil war) and I don’t live



The Class of 1978 will celebrate their 35th reunion on October 5th!

in any of them. I didn't get too far – only to Budapest, Hungary. The last reunion seemed like fun. Unfortunately, I am not sure if I will be able to come on October 5th (I did have plans to go to New York this fall, but in the beginning of October I have some conference that I have to attend. But I will try nevertheless). Anyway, even if I am not there, please say hi to everybody. Tell them that Budapest is a really nice city. If anybody ever comes this way please give me a call. I will be more than happy to show them around. Love, Gabi." If Gabi is willing to try to make it to the 35th from Budapest, then I don't see what excuse any of the rest of us might have for not making a similar effort. I hope you will consider joining us at the 35th and I, along with all the rest of your former classmates, look forward to seeing everyone in October.

1979

Pamela Picoli

9 Johnston Street
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 676-0214
pmpicoli@optonline.net

1980

Michael Salzhauer

Benjamin Partners
589 Broadway
New York, NY 10012
(212) 744-7974
michael@benjaminpartners.com

1981

Betsy Jordan Gahagan

PO Box 12
142 Skunks Misery Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 759-6697
gahagan@optonline.net

Robert Blechman

42 South Knoll Road
Mill Valley, CA 94941
(415) 810-8889
rsb753@yahoo.com

1982

Leslie Oren & Michael Poloukhine

930 Embury St.
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
fa@poloukhine.com
leslie@babygrande-inc.com

Leslie Oren and Michael Poloukhine continue to enjoy life in Los Angeles, although summer 2013 included a fantastic dose of New England when we vacationed in Cape Cod, along with Michael's kids, Chloe, 21, Nick, 19, and Nina, 16, all doing well in college (how can our kids be in college already!?) and high school. Both of us are growing our respective businesses, Leslie's boutique PR firm, Babygrande PR, and Michael's Architecture and construction business, ReSquare Architecture & Construction. We hope to make it back to Fall Fair this year!

Gina Galgano Hoagland writes: "We have some family travel coming up, headed to the Galapagos on a Stanford Alumni Travel Study trip. Son Keith has one more year of high school, then off to college. Nathan is going to study in France for his sophomore year of high school. While it will be a sacrifice for him to be away from the family and we will miss him a lot, he wants to become fluent in French and living with a family in Brittany in the small town of Guer is one way to do it! Simone will be in fifth grade next year. Hard to believe our baby is headed for fifth grade! Lee and I are doing well. My business is steady as it grows – can't complain, as I love being an entrepreneur.

Jeanine [Kawi Suchecki], Paola [Martino] and I got together in NYC in April. It was one last City bash before Paola sold the apartment she had there. We laughed, we cried, we drank wine...it was really wonderful." Keith Gurland reports that he is not on Facebook; just his way of sticking it to The Man. Kristina

Sywolski Newman writes: "I am living in Cote Azure in Monte Carlo. Volunteering with a charity called Fly Angels Foundation www.flyingangelsfoundation.org. I am celebrating a Big Birthday in Monaco this August and

Kate Seligson is flying in with 100 others from around the globe." [Who votes for 35th FA reunion in Monaco!]? Joanne Maisano reports: "I am working with a leading photographer in Northern Virginia, handling all of her digital photos, retouching, enhancing, etc.

and creating books for clients. I also have been 'starting' three miniature horses and a miniature donkey. They are the latest addition to the farm where I work. They have not been handled very much, so I have to work with them every day to tame them. It's a challenge since they are the size of a German shepherd, so when they kick, they can take out your knee. I recently went up to Long Island to celebrate my dad's 85th birthday. He is an amazing man. He's in better shape than me! He is a travel consultant and puts together Safaris and other fantastic trips in Africa. (Maybe an African safari for our 40th FA reunion?!)

Susan Peirez writes: "Unique FA alumni reunions this past year: Class of '83 Elizabeth Salzhauer Axel's 25th anniversary celebration of her wonderful charity Art Beyond Sight where I was invited to sing with an amazing blind and seeing-impaired chorus at Asia Society with Master of Ceremonies, Dick Cavett – and I got to reconnect with prom date 1980, Mike Salzhauer! March 2013 brought me to an elegant Downtown Abbey themed evening at Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club to honor Class of 80 Gina Maisano's inspiring Never



The Class of 1983 will celebrate their 30th reunion on October 5th!

Surrender Breast Cancer Foundation. As to my work – a busy year 2 at the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) had me traveling across the State to places I'd yet to visit including Buffalo, Niagara Falls, the Finger Lakes and the North Country, Saranac Lake where I finally reunited with theater mentor, Jordan Hornstein after almost 30 years. It was such a special day seeing him again. He's gone back to his roots, acting at Pendragon Theatre which is funded by NYSCA! Please continue to stay in touch and share your updates with us, and don't forget that you (even Keith!) can always do it on Facebook at: <http://facebook.com/groups/FA1982/>.

1983

Laura Dilimetin

66 Eakins Road
Manhasset, NY 11030
lawyers@nyc-lawyers.com

The Class of 1983 will be celebrating their 30th Reunion on October 5th. Look for details to follow.

1984

Beth Anne Melkmann

162 East 80th Street, Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10075
(212) 988-1753
lebonchien@aol.com

1985

Laura Match Schaffer

1220 Studio Lane
Riverwoods, IL 60015
lematch7@gmail.com



Lifelong friends from Friends: Judie Lifton Bobman visits Laura Match Schaffer in Chicago.

Hi everyone – I was so lucky to have a visit in Chicago from **Judie Lifton Bobman**. We spent the day together catching up on just about everything. Judie and I met when we were just 5 years old in Kindergarten, at Friends, and have been close friends since. Quite a long, long time. She hasn't changed a bit. Don't forget to send in your updates or post them on our class of '85 Facebook page. - **Laura**

1986

Kara Vassel Lewis

44 Pinehill Crl. East
Tequesta, FL 33469
kara.lewis@brightfuturesacademy.com

Chuck Ritter

79 The Promenade
Glen Head, NY 11545-1739
516-676-8271
chuckr@universalphotonics.com

1987

Barry D. Joseph

67-66 108th Street, D66
Forest Hills, NY 10010
(718) 222-3563
barry@globalkids.org

Emily Beiles Kaufman

7 Beechwood Drive
Saddle River, NJ 07458
(201) 785-0907
emkaufman@optonline.net

1988

Eileen Mc Glinchey Hume

353 Hickory Avenue
Garwood, NJ 07027
(908) 789-3396
eileenmhume@gmail.com

Hello Class of 1988! Our 25th reunion is right around the corner and preparations are underway for what will hopefully be a well-attended, fun and memorable weekend. Please mark your calendars for the weekend of October 4-6, 2013 and keep an eye out for event specifics over the coming weeks. Fall Fair festivities take place throughout the weekend, but the "main event" will be our class dinner on Saturday evening, 10/5. Every effort is being made to locate each member of the Class of '88. If you – or any classmates with whom you are in touch – have not received any communication from me it's because I haven't found you via facebook or LinkedIn and your contact information on file with FA is not up-to-date. If this is the case, PLEASE reach out to me directly: eileenmhume@gmail.com or 917.697.6144 (cell) / 908.789.3396 (home). In the course of reunion-planning outreach, I was delighted to reconnect with **Hank (Henry) Hahm**, who sent along the following update: "Welcomed into the world son #2, Ezra Stanley Hahm



Do these children look ready for their 25th Reunion?

on 10/19/2012. I was re-assigned to RAF (Royal Air Force) Mildenhall, UK for a 3-4 year assignment. We moved here July, 2012. Loving the country and the culture. The culture shock took us by surprise because we speak the same language for the most part. Jean (wife), Eli (1st son) and I are really enjoying ourselves here." I can't wait to connect with all of you in person this October. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions about reunion – I hope we're able to celebrate this milestone together! - **Eileen**

1989

Adam Fruitbine
375 Faletti Circle
River Vale, NJ 07675
(201) 391-3040
AFruitbine@aol.com

JoAn Monaco
315 East 72nd St., Apt. 18-L
New York, NY 10021
(646) 438-9264
joanLmonaco@aol.com

Greetings Class of 1989. I hope this update finds you well and enjoying the rest of a sweltering hot NY summer! Our

fellow classmates have been busy this season. **Kathryn Maris** has a new collection of poems titled *God Loves You* which has received fantastic reviews. From the Seren website, Kathryn's work is described as follows: 'There's a delicious sense of both open-mindedness and devilry in Maris' work. Her company is quirky, stimulating and sparkingly intelligent. You could say she's like Sylvia Plath with added chutzpah. But, really, Kathryn Maris is like no-one but herself.' – Carol Rumens. Kathryn Maris borrows rhythms, vocabulary and themes from the Bible in her new Seren collection of poems, *God Loves You*. The result is more than artful parody, although a sly wit is in evidence. It is an approach that accommodates large themes, unraveling them in new ways. The first section, 'What will the neighbours think?' is a kaleidoscopic view of the sins and sinners of the modern city and opens, appropriately enough, with a vision of a flood to rival Noah's. The poems feature domestic discord, gossip, suicide, celebrity and anxiety about the safety and behavior



Kathryn Maris' latest book is a new collection of poems.

of children and spouses. It says much about this poet's meticulous poise and tone that we are lured into these scenarios with our sympathies fully engaged. The following sections subvert scripture more directly. A mock-prayer opens: 'My father, who art in heaven,/ sits under an umbrella that is his firmament'; a sonnet begins: 'Kyrie eleison! I said it in the pub.' Such burlesque moments mask poignant themes of praise or blame, as well as being funny. A skillful use of form is characteristic, as in the sestina 'Darling, Will You Please Pick up those Books?' Other pieces are set out in the numbered style of psalms or parables but have an entirely contemporary edge. 'This has a Dorothy Parker air, metropolitan and crowded, intimate with other lives whose own limits may never be known' – George Szirtes, *Poetry London*. Congratulations Kathryn on another fantastic publication! **Joanna Lawrence Schwartz** also has exciting news! She reports: Everything is going great down in Miami. We've been here over 14 years and still love it. Our girls are growing super fast and we want to bottle them up just as they are now. The big news is that I recently joined EarlyShares.com as CEO. We are an equity crowdfunding business which is basically an online version of the show "Shark Tank." It's been very exciting! Anyone who needs to raise money for your business or who wants to invest in interesting companies, please check us out at www.EarlyShares.com. And as always, visitors to Miami are welcome anytime! Thanks for the updates classmates...keep them coming and happy rest of summer!

— **JoAn Monaco**

1990

If anyone from the Class of 1990 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1991

Michael Fox
1209 N. Citrus Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90038
(646) 373-7535
mfox789@gmail.com

Colleen Doyle Moran
10 Arbor Way
Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 656-1513
colleendmoran@aol.com

1992

Clayton Siegert

100 I Street
S. Boston, MA 02127
(617) 821-2867
csiegert@the8osgame.com

1993

Natalia Porcelli Good

2 Tondan Lane
Lattingtown, NY 11560
nataliagood@yahoo.com

Danielle Valenti Smith

1036 Park Avenue
Apt. 12d
New York, NY 10028
(646) 334-3888
danvalenti@hotmail.com

Believe it or not, it's our 20-year reunion on October 5th! We really hope that many of you will be able to attend. We will be having the reunion at a restaurant near Friends. Stay tuned for further details and look out for an invitation in the mail... It was so great to celebrate with **Jillian Stile**, who recently earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the New School for Social Research. Her clinical work focuses on adolescents and young adults in transition from high school to college. Jillian writes, "I am enjoying living in Manhattan with my boyfriend and two dogs, BonBon and WoofWoof. BonBon was recently featured in *GQ Magazine* and on the *Today Show* as the "downtown dog" and is relishing her 15 minutes of fame." **Sandy Lyon** writes, "I am still living just outside of Charlotte, NC with my family. We have four beautiful children, three dogs and a guinea pig :) I recently spent time with **Rachel Cagner** at her brother's 40th birthday extravaganza. Rachel is doing great, living in Manhattan and working as a physical therapist. **Jesse** and **Amanda Levy Laserson's** children just finished their year at East Woods and are happily attending West Hills camp for the summer. The family is looking forward to a visit from Jesse's sister Kayla and her family, who recently moved from Kenya to Delhi, India. **Cliff Cohn** lives in Manhattan with his family and works as in-house counsel at Jeffries, an investment banking firm. **Chris Rovegno** recently moved to Manhasset with his wife and son. **Angeliqua Mitra** writes, "I got my doctorate this spring and am studying for my licensing exam. Much in line with FA's spirit

TOP 10 THINGS DONE BY F.A. SENIORS ON THE WEEKEND

10. Yearbook.
9. Make excuses to do homework.
8. Have tea parties.
7. Wash their Volvos.
6. Everyone loves forming a committee.
5. Decide what to wear during the week.
4. Inkwell.
3. College Applications.
2. Co-ed trips to McDonalds.
1. Yearbook

TOP 10 REASONS TO GO TO FRIENDS ACADEMY

10. Great Yearbook.
9. Great hand ball team.
8. FBLA
7. School functions
6. No annoying "A,B,C, D, F" grading system to confuse you.
5. All those *crazy* group discussions.
4. Everyone loves a committee.
3. No cliques.
2. The liberal dress code.
1. No room for distractions like individualism.

of service, I work for a community mental health clinic with many of the underserved and disenfranchised, but also get to do all sorts of interesting stuff aside from just therapy. And as you know I love it:) I'm looking forward to our 20-year reunion." **Atul Chugh** is Chief of Cardiology at a hospital in Louisville. **Jesse Shafer** and his lovely wife had a baby boy, Lincoln, in April. **Josh Sussman** recently marked one year since moving to Los Angeles where he lives with his girlfriend, Katya. Josh oversees Business & Legal Affairs for Electus, a new studio that produces TV shows like *Get Out Alive with Bear Grylls*, *The Hero*, *King of the Nerds* and many others. In his spare time, Josh serves on the advisory board of a new digital media company founded by **Michael Fox '91**; that company's mission is to cultivate future generations of globally-engaged citizens through interactive entertainment that generates funds, awareness and action

for causes. **Danielle Valenti Smith** writes, "We are spending the summer in Oyster Bay Cove, which has been fantastic. We will be returning to NYC in September where I am excited to start a part time position at St. Ignatius Loyola School, where I used to teach, and where two of my children Siena (7 years old) and Luca (5 years old) go to school. In the fall, my youngest, Marco, will be starting pre-school. I am looking forward to seeing everyone for our 20-year reunion!" Danielle has been in touch with **Chantal Pauporte** and they have recently started playing tennis together. As for me, **Adam** and I are doing great. Our son Julian is entering 3rd grade at Friends in the fall and our son Landon will be 8 months August 3rd. I ran into Mr. Baskind today and he asked about many of you. As he did when we were at FA, he continues to play an integral role at the school. Mr. Baskind's oldest son, who is going to be a college sophomore this coming fall, is coaching Julian in lacrosse this summer at Friends camp! That really puts things in perspective in terms of how long ago high school was... Anyway, I'm sure it will feel like yesterday at our reunion so we really hope that many of you will be there!

1994

Heather Upton

269 Ohio St.
Pasadena, CA 91106
(626) 507-8524
hupton@mac.com

The Class of 1994 mourns the loss of classmates and dear friends **Adam Bernstein** and **Amanda Scholl Boudry**. A memorial gift is being organized. For details, please contact **Kim Colombo Aberman** at kaberman1@gmail.com. An obituary for Amanda will appear in the next issue of *The Meeting House*.

1995

Thomas A. Pascarella

156 Lewis Avenue
Westbury, NY 11590
tompasc@tompasc.com

Kelly Reid Walsh

96 Grove Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
(781) 237-2893
reidkel@gmail.com

1996

Luke Cass

350 Chardon Ave.

Suite 1202

San Juan, PR 00918

lukecass@gmail.com

Joanna Johnson Woods is enjoying life in Connecticut. On June 18, 2012, she and her husband welcomed their third baby, Abigail Katherine, into the world. Abigail is welcomed by Joanna's son, Hunter, 5 ½, and Hailey, 4. **Brett Jacobson** and his wife, Laurie had a son on June 30, named Matthew Blake. Brett reports that Matthew's older brother, Ryan Hunter, 18 months, has already learned to share his toys. Laurie is recovering nicely. **Michael D'Addario** is the manufacturing manager for his family's string division and recently added a third daughter to the mix on February 15. Mike and his wife now have twin girls that are 4 years old and a baby girl. Mike is keeping busy with family and work. **Nicole Nadel** and Co. are enjoying their new life in Charleston, South Carolina. Nicole says that after being a NY resident for 34 wonderful years, her family recently moved to Charleston and couldn't be happier. Nicole, a physician, is working at the local emergency room, Nason Medical. Her husband, Stanley Wilhelm, continues to work in investment banking at WRSequence, a small boutique firm. Nicole and Stanley's twin boys, Sebastian and Tristan, pictured in their sporty caddy, love Charleston too. The Class wishes them all the best and our heartfelt congratulations. As for me, Melissa and I continue to enjoy Caribbean life; and a challenging work schedule and steady stream of visitors keeps us busy. If anyone from the class makes their way this far south, please drop us a line.

-Luke



Nicole Nadel's '96 twin sons Sebastian and Tristan hit the road in their sporty caddy convertible

KATY
DISSINGER '07



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Katy Dissinger '07 speaks to Upper School students and faculty at the Spring Sports Assembly.

COLLEGE LESSONS A PREP FOR COACHING

Katy Dissinger '07 always knew she wanted to play at the college level. An award-winning three-sport varsity athlete in field hockey, basketball and lacrosse, Dissinger wanted to find a college that would allow her to fulfill her athletic dreams as well as challenge her academically.

In the fall of 2007, Dissinger headed to Bowdoin College to play lacrosse and started learning some valuable lessons. "I fell behind academically my first semester," said Dissinger. "But it was lacrosse that helped me get through."

Dissinger recalls her college years like rungs on a ladder. "Freshman year was about getting support. Sophomore year, I learned about teamwork and how best to get emotional support." After a difficult year dealing with four challenging senior teammates and her coach, Dissinger knew she wanted to always work to "bring out the best in people." Junior year taught her about stepping up and by her senior year, Dissinger was learning about how to become a natural leader.

Tapped as captain her senior year,

Dissinger led Bowdoin to the NCAA finals, finishing 2nd, and then later as a coach at rival Trinity College. An assistant coach in both field hockey and lacrosse (while working on her graduate degree in Public Policy), Dissinger helped lead Trinity to its first-ever national championship. "I had to use my experience as a player to break down barriers," said Dissinger. Trust, teamwork and accountability were hallmarks of Dissinger's expectations for her players.

At Trinity, though laden with graduate work, Dissinger still manages to sit on the Trinity College Marketing and Communications Committee, the Sports Medicine Committee, conduct numerous lacrosse clinics throughout the Hartford area, and be actively involved in Green Global Initiatives at Bowdoin along with sustainability and environmental studies.

In closing, she urged Upper School students to find an outlet. "Get involved in an extracurricular or club sport," said Dissinger. "A place where you can set a goal and work to attain it."



The Class of 2003 will celebrate their 10-year reunion this fall.

1997

Devon Broderick Carroll
28 Bedford St., Apt. 23
New York, NY 10014-4471
(917) 531-7579
devon.broderick@gmail.com

Devon A. George
163 West 18th Street, Apt. 9b
New York, NY 10011
(516) 457-8082
devon@dmvcapital.net

1998

Justin J. Boults
222 Gates Ave., Apt. #2
Brooklyn, NY 11238
boultsman@hotmail.com

Justin P. Meli
1500 Chicago Ave., Apt. 620
Evanston, IL 60201
(713) 553-4108
justinpmeli@gmail.com

1999

John F. Reid
15 Wood Valley Road
Chatham, MA 02633
reidjohnny@gmail.com

Jennifer Ryan Woods
2 Meadow Spring Lane
Glen Cove, NY 11540
(516) 398-0888
JenniferLynnWoods@gmail.com

2000

Paul P. Corrigan
1 The Preserve
Woodbury, NY 11797
(516) 448-2228
ppcpaul@aol.com

Meredith A. MacKinnon
46 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
(516) 759-2063
meredith.mackinnon@trincoll.edu

2001

Hadley Devon Mongell
245 E. 63rd Street
Apt. 517
New York, NY 10065
(516) 759-1377
hmongell@yahoo.com

2002

Lauren Marie Bebry
8655 Edgewood Park Drive
Commerce, MI 48382
(631) 875-5725
Lauren.Bebry@gmail.com

Michael Jason Weiss
40 Cow Neck Road
Sands Point, NY 11050
(516) 883-1572
michael.jason.weiss@gmail.com

2003

Jessica Jakobson
434 East 11th Street
New York, NY 10009
jess.jakobson@gmail.com

William Gambling writes, “When I was asked to write two paragraphs on my happenings since college graduation for the upcoming issue of *The Meeting House*, I thought “I really hope I have more than two paragraphs worth of life experiences over the past six years to contribute,” and I do! I won’t share all the details in order to keep it brief, but what an amazing six years it has been. From travel to work, to friends, to relationships, to life; my post-graduate existence has been good to me. For such a small school, I am always amazed by the gravitational force Friends Academy still holds on my life; both personally and professionally. I am most proud to have just moved in with fellow graduate of the Class of 2003 **Whitney Wortman**, who I have been dating for four years. I am still best friends with **Brian Dooley**, **Andrew Picoli**, **Adam Giardina**, and **Gregg Minutoli**, all of whom have graced the halls of The Academy at some point along the way. I am approaching my third year working at Clever Devices in Woodbury, NY which is run by Frank Ingrassia, father of **Peter Ingrassia** who is also my colleague at the company. As you can see, in this great big world of ours, my world is greatly influenced and enriched by the relationships and friendships which began at my alma mater. Without Friends Academy, my life would look very differently than it does today – and for this I am grateful. After graduating college, **Tara Hanna** went on

to receive her masters in Mental Health Counseling. Since then she has been working in both counseling and higher education. Currently, Tara is working at Columbia University in the office of Residential Programs. She is also completing a masters in Higher and Post Secondary Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. Tara is living in New York City and frequently connects with other members of the class of 2003. Our 10-Year Reunion will be held on Saturday, September 14th from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm in New York City. More information can be found on Facebook. Details to follow.

2004

Angela Teresa Batista
2 Greenway
Muttontown, NY 11771
(516) 857-6572
batista1023@gmail.com

Jonathan Harley Koenig
31 Yukon Drive
Woodbury, NY 11797
jonathan.koenig@aya.yale.edu



Jackie Palma '04 with Ashley Levien Dooley '04 and Alexis Maruca '04

Jackie Palma tied the knot last month out in Jackson, Wyoming to Nick Wingate. Included in the bridal party were two other classmates of ours, **Ashley Levien Dooley** and **Alexis Maruca**. Jackie graduated Dental school last May and is currently finishing her Pediatric Dentistry residency at Temple in Philadelphia while Nick is a medical student at Jefferson Medical College also in Philadelphia. **Zach Rosenow** will be getting married on July 20 to his college sweetheart, Shaun Leddy. The wedding weekend is at Skytop Lodge in Pennsylvania and Friends will be well represented as **Jason Jacobs**, **Dave Greene**, **Sam Eisner**, **Ben**

Ryan, Matt DiLorenzo and I are all in the wedding. He'll also be celebrating another new start as he begins working for the online music provider Spotify once he returns from his honeymoon in Europe. As for myself, I graduated Einstein Medical School in May and began my Orthopedic Surgery residency at Lenox Hill Hospital where I'll be training for the next 5 years. Hope everyone else is doing well and can't believe it will be 10 years out of high school next spring. Hopefully more than just **Zach Rosenow**, **Paul Wagner** and I represent our class at the next NYC Reunion. -**Jonathan**

2005

Helen Simpson Hatch
137 Linden Farms Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 609-3239
helen.s.hatch@gmail.com

2006

Brian T. Alessi
50 Shore Drive
Plandome, NY 11030
(516) 365-3983
alessib@bc.edu

2007

Rebecca Pacchiano
93 Tenth Street
Hicksville, NY 11801
516-932-0002
rebecca.leigh17@gmail.com

Christine Farrell
1971 Cedar Swamp Road
Glen Head, NY 11545
(516) 606-1300
farrellcl@bc.edu

Caitlin Koufakis
239 Cleft Road
Mill Neck, NY 11765
(516) 627-5222
caitlin.koufakis@trincoll.edu

2008

Laura Berke
310 3rd Avenue, Apt. 1906A
New York, NY 10010
(516) 680-4437
laura.berke@nyu.edu

Alexandria Phillips

801 N. Monroe St., Apt. 719
Arlington VA 22201
(631) 421-3332
afp1013@gmail.com

The Class of 2008 celebrated their Five-Year Reunion on a beautiful Saturday evening in June at the Marion Jackson House. In attendance were **Ally Phillips**, **Laura Berke**, **Shant Keskinian**, **Lexi Nastos**, **Samantha Sharf**, **Millie Satin**, **Raja Arumugam**, **Katie Scialabba**, **Olajide Osanyingbem**, **Jeff Fattal**, **Jenny Witthuhn**, **Sam Menzin**, **Clemins Baumgart**, **Catie Grasso**, **Hannah Zucker**, **Brendan Dooley**, **Bryce Robinson**, **Joseph Zambratto**, **Alex Becker**, **Hayley Harrington**, **Torre Taylor**, **Elizabeth Sharpe-Levine**, **Ari Pappas**, **Ruchir Patel**, **Billy Reggio**, **Alex Williams**, **Nicolas Amodeo**, **Spencer Wolf** and **Evan Schreiber**. More members of the Class of 2008 met up with the group in New York City to continue the celebration. It was great to have a fun group of alumni back together to reconnect and celebrate.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Or are thinking of moving?

If so, be sure to alert

Kathy Fox in the
Alumni Office

at (516) 465-1796

or kathy_fox@fa.org,

so that your subscription
to *The Meeting House*
continues uninterrupted.



CLASS OF 2008 5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2013 AT THE JACKSON HOUSE



Members of the Class of 2008 celebrates their 5-Year Reunion at the Jackson House.



Class Reps Ally Phillips and Laura Berke organized an amazing evening for the class of 2008, beginning with a cocktail reception at the Marion Jackson House.



2008 alumni reminisce about the not-so-old good old days.



Upper School History teacher Herb Lape catches up with the class.



FA alumni, students compete at triathlon in honor of Brian Hom '11. Back row: Glenn Lostritto '15, Kira Garry '11, Anthony Russo '11, Kyle Grady '11, Jon DeFrancesch '11, Alex Trautwig '08, Greg Gavin '78, Tripp Gavin '11, Donna Gavin '79; Front row: Sunny Lostritto '14, Kirsten Grady '13, Varsity Track coach Louisa Garry, Katrina Garry '14, Kayli Kemperle '11, Jessica Granger '11, Alexandra DeFrancesch '09, Lauren Russo '09 and Kelly Granger '09.

2009

Nell C. Kucich

316 Manhasset Woods Road
Manhasset, NY 11030
(516) 965-0635
NellKucich@gmail.com

John E. Mascari

Dartmouth College
3153 Hinman
Hanover, NH 03755
john.mascari@dartmouth.edu

John Mascari writes, "I graduated last month from Dartmouth College and have a Dartmouth public service fellowship to work at a research and development charitable non-profit in London next year. It's called the Rix Centre. I'll be developing new technologies to help non-verbal people with developmental disabilities communicate. After that, I'll be returning to Dartmouth for medical school. I'll be living in London with fellow '09 grad **Griffin Collier** who has a design job at Heatherwick Studio in London."

2010

Alexa Gordon

24 West Creek Farms Rd.
Sands Point, NY 11050
alexa.gordon@wustl.edu

Renee Pindus is interning in the marketing/PR department of IFC Films this summer.

One of IFC's films, *Dirty Wars*, was recently released in Manhasset. The film's emphasis is on social justice and human rights. In it, investigative journalist Jeremy Scahill is pulled into an unexpected journey as he chases down the hidden truth behind America's expanding covert wars. Here is a link to the trailer: <http://www.ifcfilms.com/videos/dirty-wars-trailer>

2011

Holly Constants

52 Ayers Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
hol9331@aol.com

Gabrielle McPhaul-Guerrier

188 Leaf Avenue
Central Islip, NY 11722
gmcphaul-guerrier@live.com

On Sunday, July 21st, Friends Academy alumni, current students and faculty competed in the 18th annual Montauk Lighthouse Sprint Triathlon to honor the memory of former student and athlete **Brian Hom**. The triathlon included a 1/2-mile swim, 14-mile bike ride and 3.1-mile run. All FA competitors successfully finished the race, with **Kira Garry** placing 4th woman overall, and her sister, senior Katrina Garry, finishing 6th woman overall. Team Hom raised over \$5,000 for the Brian James Hom Scholarship, a Friends Academy fund created in Brian's name that annually honors students who embody Brian's qualities and live according to his motto, "I am the me I choose to be." **Kyle Grady** and other alumni established an online fundraising site through Fundly to make it easier to give. Proceeds will directly benefit the Brian James Hom Scholarship Fund and the Brain Injury Association.

2012

Gabrielle Rechler

58 Hoaglands Lane
Old Brookville, NY 11545
grechler11@hotmail.com
516-404-4105

Jake Ingrassia

95 Feeks Lane
Lattingtown, NY 11560
jake.ingrassia@gmail.com
516-236-6064



Sigal Markowitz '12 competes at the 19th World Maccabiah Games in Israel.



Congratulations to the Class of 2013!

Chris McCann

170 Linden Farms Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
Christopher_mccann@me.com

Sarah Chartash

19 Serenite Lane
Muttontown, NY 11791
schartash@gwu.edu
516-941-7309

Erika Vidal was recently featured in the Student Voices section of Erase Racism's April 2013 Newsletter. In her article Erika discussed the importance of a summer program she attended at a boarding school in New Hampshire, where she learned about the importance of diversity in a community. It was this experience that played a large factor in her college search. As Erika explains, "My experience that summer made me realize I want to continue my education in an environment where diverse opinions are valued and people with different viewpoints can work together and learn from one another." Earlier this year **Sigal Markowitz** was named to the U.S.A. Rowing Team that competed at the 19th World Maccabiah Games. The games took place from July

17-30 in Israel. The Maccabiah Games is the third-largest international sporting event



Sigal Markowitz '12 won gold in the double scull and bronze in the single.

in the world. The Games draws more than 7,000 athletes from 60 countries and features high-level competition in 34 sports. The games are held every four years in Israel as the best Jewish athletes from throughout the world compete in Open, Masters, Juniors, and Disabled competitions. Sigal medaled in two categories. In the double sculls she and her partner came in first to win the gold. In the single scull, Sigal placed third to win the Bronze. She will be returning home shortly and will begin to prepare for her second year at Brown University.

2013

Sydney Menzin

6 Tappenwood Drive
Lattingtown, NY 11560
sfmenzin@gmail.com
516-639-2083

John O'Brien

16 Wishing Well Lane
Old Brookville, NY 11545
johnob12@yahoo.com
516-375-9860

FA's Alumni Association warmly welcomes the class of 2013! You will be missed on campus, but remember, you always have a home here on Duck Pond Road. Keep us posted on the next exciting chapter of your lives. Find your passion, follow your dreams, and make a difference! We wish you happiness and peace.

Charles Peter Hokanson '63 Decorated Naval Aviator, designed hundreds of medical devices

We mourn the loss of Charlie Hokanson, who died on June 1, 2013 after a nine-month battle with Myelodysplasia.



Charles Hokanson
from the 1963
yearbook

He is survived by his wife Ellen; his son Peter; his daughter Courtney Smith and son-in-law Brad Smith; his grandchildren Anna Lee and Connor Scott; his sister Tina Hokanson '66; his brother John Hokanson, and his nephew Diego Muscoso.

Charlie was a member of the Friends Academy Kindergarten Club – he attended Friends from Kindergarten through 12th grade.

He received his BA from Syracuse University, and his MBA from the University of Miami. He was a decorated Naval Aviator, who served for two tours in the Vietnam War on the USS Midway from 1970-1973.

He was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, five Air Medals, four Gold Stars, one Bronze Star, and two Navy Commendation Medals for meritorious service.

Charlie worked for Davol in Providence, RI and Cordis Corporation in Miami, FL, specializing in medical devices. In 1993 he started his own medical device manufacturing company specializing in Hydrocephalus valves, support products, and hand surgery products. He also served as President and CEO of Vygon US.

He was responsible for the design, development, and manufacture of hundreds of medical devices, resulting in many patents issued in his name.

His humanitarian efforts included hand delivering boxes of medical supplies to third world countries as well as sending crates of donations to countries in need worldwide. He was very active in the Knockabout races on "Luciole" at the Woods Hole Yacht Club and was a member of the Cape Cod Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Charlie believed everyone deserved opportunity, guidance, and education to develop personal gifts.

A memorial service was held on June 8th at the Woods Hole Yacht Club, in Woods Hole, MA.

Obituary notices

Please send announcements and memories to Kathy Fox at kathy_fox@fa.org or call (516) 465-1765. Feel free to include a photo with your message.

Gregory Zuroski: Horace Mann School Director of Alumni Relations

Gregory Allen Zuroski, former Director of Development, passed away on May 16, 2013 at the age of 62.

Son of Josephine Boccardi and Frank Zuroski, Greg was born in Rome, NY on May 15, 1951, and grew up in Bemus Point, NY, a loving older brother to Ellen, Christopher, and John. A proud graduate of Cornell University (BA) and the University of Michigan (MA, Chinese Studies), he lived in Penfield, NY from 1980-97, working first for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester, and then as Director of Development at Allendale Columbia School. From 1997-2013 he lived in Riverdale, NY. He served as Director of Development at Friends Academy, Vice President of External Affairs at the Brooklyn Children's Museum,

and, most recently, Director of Alumni Relations at Horace Mann School.



Former Director
of Development
for Friends
Academy

Since 2006 he served on the board of the Greater New York Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Greg was well known for his warmth and generosity; his devotion to education and building communities; and his deep love for books, music, shared meals, conversation, travel, friends, and family.

He shared his life with his wife of 40 years, Patricia Zuroski; his daughters Eugenia (Derek Jenkins), Kathryn, and Emma (Andrew Norman); and his granddaughter, Ruby. He is remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, son-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, colleague, and friend.

Linda Hesselman '67: Career economist, gardener, devoted friend

Linda Hesselman grew up in Sea Cliff, New York, on the north shore of Long Island. She graduated from Friends Academy in 1967 and from Vassar in 1971. Linda worked for a year in the Department of Applied Economics in Cambridge, England and then from 1972 to 1974 she received an MA in Economics from Cambridge. We met in 1972 in Cambridge and started living together in Easter 1973. We eventually got married in 1988 and had 40 wonderful years together.

In 1974 she returned to the U.S. and worked as an economist in the Office of the Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, in Washington DC. She returned to the U.K. in 1976 and worked as a Consultant at Economic Models preparing forecasts of the car industry (1976-1978); as an Economic Adviser, UK National Economic Development Office (1978-1983); and as Managing Director, Cambridge Econometrics, a forecasting consultancy (1983-1986). She continued as a non-executive director from 1986-2000. From 1986 to 1993 she was a Senior Economist, Unilever PLC and was made redundant when the economics department was closed. She set up a firm with two former Unilever colleagues – The Leading Edge Strategy Co Ltd. She was a Director (1993-1995). This was a joint venture with KPMG, which still flourishes. She was a Lecturer (1994-2002) and a Senior Lecturer (2002-2009) at the Management Studies Centre, later Department of Management Science and Innovation at UCL (University College London). She retired in 2009.



Left, Linda's friend Sande took this picture of Linda at the Tate Britain shortly before she died.



Linda was really enjoying her retirement. She was on her third year of attending gardening courses in Regents Park run by Capel Manor College. She was attending calligraphy classes at City Lit College in Holborn as well as doing her needlework. She was a member of the Victoria & Albert Museum Society and the British Museum Society and regularly attended lectures and special events at both of them, and she continued to be involved in the

Society of Business Economists and the Vassar Club of London. Her friend Irene had contracted early onset Alzheimer's some years ago and was now in a home and Linda used to visit her regularly. She would go to the gym, swim, do yoga or play badminton at the YMCA near Tottenham Court Road, then come and have lunch with me and my colleagues

at Birkbeck. She was treated as an honorary member of the department and really enjoyed their company.

Linda collapsed on Friday, May 31 and suffered brain damage, possibly during cardiac arrest. She did not regain consciousness, and was only being kept alive by a ventilator. They withdrew treatment on June 7, and she died very quickly and peacefully. I was with her. She donated various organs, which she always wanted to do. She was very well cared for both at the Royal Free and the London Hospitals. She will be sadly missed by all her friends and family, particularly her older sisters Barbara Dodson and Judy Lawson.

– Ron Smith

Caroljane Werner Munzel '56: Dedicated social worker

Longtime Riverhead resident Caroljane Werner Munzel died Jan 15th at her home. She was 74 years old. Caroljane was born on May 19, 1938 in Roslyn, Long Island to Carl and Toni Werner. She was the eldest of four children. After graduating from Friends Academy and Syracuse University, she worked as a social worker.



On August 19, 1963 she married John Munzel in Roslyn. They were just shy of their 50th wedding anniversary. Together they made their home in Northport until moving to Riverhead in 1968. She is survived by her husband John, brother Carl Werner '58, two daughters, Laura Venugopalan and Jessica Munzel, and two grandchildren, Anjali Venugopalan and Marlo Gordon. She loved walking and could often be seen walking around Riverhead town or at one of her favorite Sound or bay beaches. A family memorial service was held on Jan 26. Memorial donations should be made to East End Hospice who so thoughtfully supervised her last days, making it possible for her to die at home.

Caroljane Werner Munzel from the 1956 yearbook

Fred Laing '46: Habitat for Humanity volunteer

Frederick Creighton Laing, age 84, passed away on Oct. 18, 2012, following a brief battle with prostate cancer. He was lovingly cared for by his beloved, Alice Murphy. Fred attended Friends Academy and although he left before his graduation, he remained an active member of the alumni community, most recently attending Fall Fair and Homecoming in 2011.



Fred taught biology for 32 years in the Massapequa public schools. He was a sports enthusiast who enjoyed paddling and hiking. His wide range of interests included contra dancing, photography, and storytelling. Additionally, Fred was a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and a Korean War veteran. He will be dearly missed by his loving family and friends.

Fred Laing from the 1946 yearbook

WE REMEMBER...

Fred Laing '46

Caroljane Werner Munzel '56

Charles Hokanson '63

Linda Hessleman '67

Adam Bernstein '94

Gregory Zuroski

Adam Laurence Bernstein '94: Love of music, food and (above all) fun

Adam Bernstein '94 was special. His interesting blend of attributes and (perhaps) flaws made him unique, engaging, and frankly, fun to be around. Despite our relatively young age, our friendship has spanned over 20 years. During these decades, Adam and I always spoke (in whatever format) almost every week (almost without fail) and it was based on one key ingredient in many forms – fun (more making fun, relaying something funny, making fun of ourselves, etc.). It was William Shakespeare in his Henry the IV plays that created a character in Falstaff that was most reminiscent of Adam (thanks Mr. Herscher).

I first remember Adam entering my junior year at Friends Academy (which was my first). For reasons I cannot explain, he was doing a flawless imitation of Harvey Fierstein from Torch Song Trilogy ("David you're my lover"). Was it insensitive and politically incorrect, absolutely (one of his flaws I loved the most). But, it was funny – especially given his Metallica and Grave Digger sense of style. I now recognize that part of our bond was due to the parents that raised us.

Part of our bond was being able to recognize the involvement of our respective mothers in our lives. Yes, to many degrees, our relationship with our mothers reflected the cliché of Jewish upbringing, but it was also much more – overbearing (yes), heartburn-fueled, heavily involved, nurturing, loving, value of education and culture. We both easily identified with this common aspect of our lives, which provided the high octane that fueled all those weekly conversations. Adam was my first friend that truly shared my sense of humor, upbringing and value system. Our sense of humor, evolved with technology, and texting a picture and comment of the absurd, became another one of our favorite hobbies.

One of the areas that I always looked forward to was our lunches. After graduation from the college and entering the corporate world ('98-ish), Adam and I would try to meet for lunch at least twice a month. This fluctuated over the years, and was easiest when we both worked in NYC; it became our tradition. I loved going out to eat with Adam. Like Falstaff, he had a love of food. He loved exploring the menu and had such a deep-rooted interest in hospitality, pointing flaws out in every meal

along the way. He talked to me about his step-father's belief in customer service and quality control above everything else. Our favorite lunch spot was Keen's Steakhouse (the pub portion). I would have the amazing hamburger and Adam (typically) ordered the chicken under brick. Despite eating there easily 50 times, we were fascinated and always commented on the smoking pipes that decorated the room.

We theorized about the DNA left behind given the famous "smokers" in their collection. Our conversations were wide ranging, but somehow we always reintroduced the feasibility to bring Babe Ruth and Teddy Roosevelt back to life (more GI Joe style than Jurassic Park). These were some of our funniest conversations.

It was actually at one of our lunches that I first heard Adam's declaration of love for Jessica. Granted, women entered the conversation often, but words like "love" and "rest of my life" were not used. He said with absolute conviction that he'd found the one. He knew Jessica was his future. We recently celebrated New Year's Eve together with our friends Jay Z and Coldplay. It was actually at this time (watching my wife Jamie and Adam's wife Jessica

together) that I reflected how our lives had evolved together (20 years ago that would have been Kim Colombo Aberman and Amanda Scholl Boudry) and in the future our kids would go with us to the concerts.

Our passion for music expanded beyond our love of concerts, but also in the way we both loved to buy guitars despite limitations with our respective skill set. My song book, similar to Adam's, had the same 20 to 30 songs I'd played over the last 20 years. My wife would question why I needed another guitar, but Adam understood and shared this trait. Between Adam and me, we probably had more guitars than songs we knew how to play.

Most would say that Adam's physical attributes also resembled Falstaff, but it was his sense of humor and wit that always shone through and left their endearing mark. His loyalty was uncompromising. It was what made him such an amazing friend – son, husband, and brother.

Adam, thank you for everything. I miss you brother!

– Josh Martin '94



Adam Bernstein from the 1994 yearbook





FRIENDS ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni are the living legacy of Friends Academy.

ALUMNI UPCOMING EVENTS>>



Take a stroll down FA Memory Lane under the Alumni Tent... Plan ahead now for the 2013 Homecoming Weekend October 4-6. Bring your family and reconnect with friends and faculty!

HOMECOMING WEEKEND AND FALL FAIR

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
TO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2013**

50TH REUNION LUNCHEON FOR THE CLASS OF 1963

Friday, October 4 at noon

FALL FAIR AND HOMECOMING

Saturday, October 5 from 10 am to 4 pm

4:30 pm to 6:30 pm – Homecoming Reception for all alumni at the Jackson House on campus

7 pm on – Class dinners off-campus

MEETING FOR WORSHIP IN MATINECOCK MEETING HOUSE

Sunday, October 6 at 10 am



ANNUAL ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAME

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2013

MORE INFORMATION IS ON THE ALUMNI PAGES
OF THE FRIENDS ACADEMY WEBSITE: WWW.FA.ORG/ALUMNI





FRIENDS ACADEMY

270 Duck Pond Road, Locust Valley, NY 11560

516.676.0393 | www.fa.org | www.facebook.com/friendsacademyNY

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hicksville, NY
Permit No. 438

SAVE THE DATE!

SEPTEMBER 3

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

SEPTEMBER 28

FAMILY COMMUNITY
SERVICE SANDWICH MAKING
PROJECT, 10 AM (COMMONS)

SEPTEMBER 30

SPIRIT WEEK BEGINS

OCTOBER 5

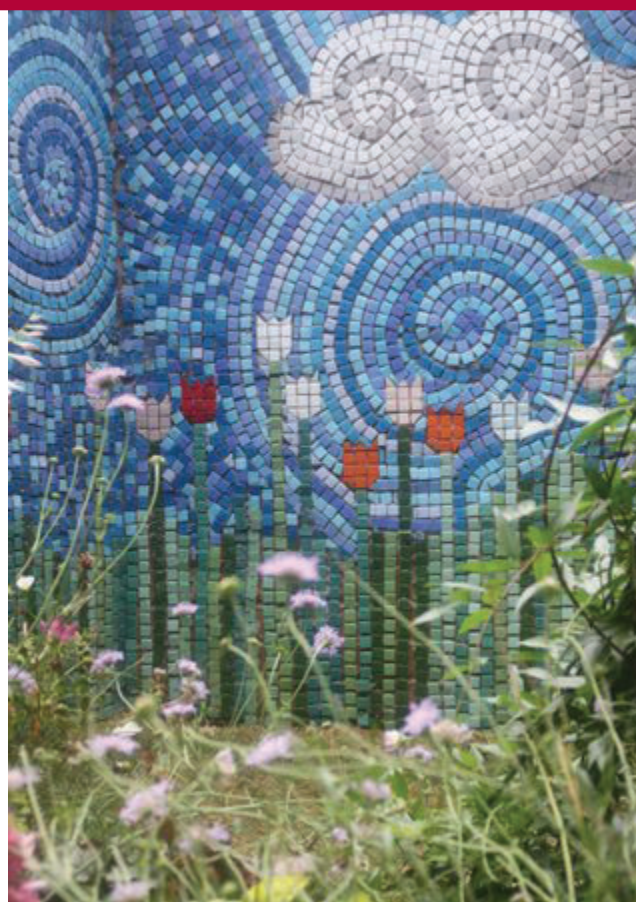
FALL FAIR & HOMECOMING,
10 AM TO 4 PM

NOVEMBER 5

MIDDLE SCHOOL/UPPER
SCHOOL ADMISSIONS OPEN
HOUSE, 8:30 AM

NOVEMBER 7-9

UPPER SCHOOL FALL PLAY,
7:30 PM (THEATER)



Amanda Fisk '99 created this whimsical corner in the Artist's Institute Garden and used it to teach AI students the art of mosaic tiling.

LSA WALDSTEIN/ARTIST'S INSTITUTE

FIND US ... AND JOIN US ONLINE

OUR WEBSITE

WWW.FA.ORG

Visit our official school site to see regular slideshows of school and updates on campus life.

FACEBOOK

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
FRIENDSACADEMYNY](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FRIENDSACADEMYNY)



Become a member of our Friends Academy Facebook page and see behind-the-scenes videos, alumni updates and campus life photos.

TWITTER

[WWW.TWITTER.COM/
FRIENDSACADEMY](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/FRIENDSACADEMY)



Sign up and follow instant updates about athletic wins, art and theater openings, news coverage, and more.

LINKED IN

WWW.LINKEDIN.COM

Register and join the Friends Academy Alumni group to network with fellow alums.

