

# MISS HALL'S

B U L L E T I N

SPRING 2008



*Pride of Place*



## MISSION

Miss Hall's School inspires and encourages each girl to pursue the highest standards of learning and character; to contribute boldly and creatively to the common good; and to seek a purposeful life based on honor, respect, and personal authenticity.

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# MISS HALL'S

B U L L E T I N

Volume XXVII      Number 2      Spring 2008

Jeannie Norris

*Head of School*

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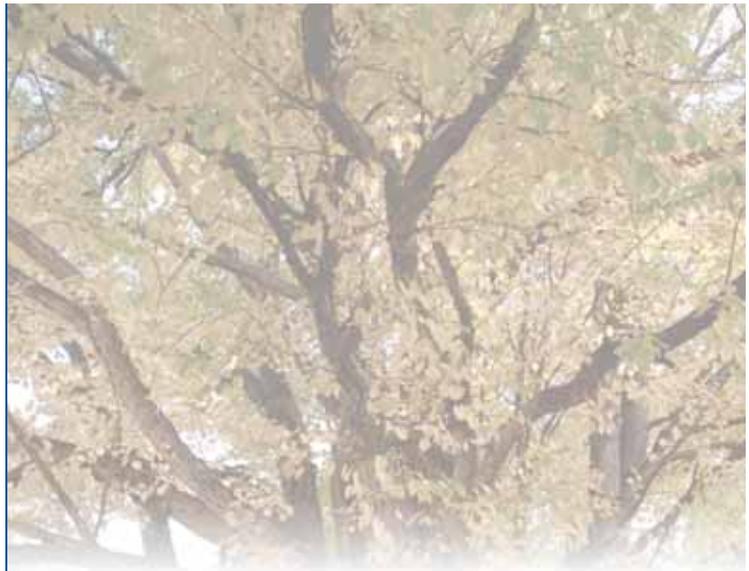
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# A MESSAGE

from the head of school

*Jeannie Norris*



## *Pride of Place*

*Adults and girls  
recognize the privilege  
of coming together  
in this place where  
the close sense of  
community is  
a source of pride.*

Mira Hall moved her school to its current location in 1909. At the time of the founder's death in 1937, Ella Hurtt Barnes, the first teacher Miss Hall hired when she bought her school in 1898, wrote "...we roamed the countryside together to find a suitable site for a permanent home. I shared with her the thrill of the final decision...where the beautiful school now stands." Gently rolling hills, shimmering ponds, soaring green pines, and scented lilacs create our sense of MHS, the place. But the pride that generations of women and the girls in the School now associate with this spot on Holmes Road is about far more than the landscape.

What alumnae have made clear in hundreds of conversations over the years is that their pride in belonging to this extraordinary school is grounded in what they learned through the connections made here. Faces light up and eyes brighten when women share stories of having had fun with friends, being listened to by a beloved teacher, being taken seriously when it mattered, being challenged to reach ever higher, being inspired to achieve in ways unimagined, and being valued and accepted. Memories of those moments last a lifetime and create the grand legacy that is at once collective and personal.

The thick cloak of loyalty, shared values, pride, and gratitude that stretches across decades of alumnae around the globe was woven by generations of teachers who cared deeply about their young students.

They taught well, mentored, and advised. More importantly, however, they stood sentry at the door, keeping the glittery distractions of the outside world from rushing in.

In *The Shelter of Each Other*, what psychologist Mary Pipher says about families is true for schools. She writes that “to be strong the family [or school] must build walls that give the family definition, identity and power” and that this happens “by making conscious choices about what will be accepted [allowed in] and rejected [kept out].” The walls, she adds, protect “time, space, celebrations, stories, traditions and connecting rituals.” [230]

It is more difficult every year to keep the clamor of a materialistic culture on the outskirts and to prevent technology from robbing us all of actual, not virtual, time together. We prevail, however, because both adults and girls recognize the privilege of coming together in this place where the close sense of community is a source of so much community pride.

The School’s values, the immutable standards by which we live, also generate pride of membership. Pipher says that institutional values give members “meaning and purpose.” The longer a girl is in the School, the more she integrates the principles of growth, authenticity, respect, and honor into her own life. Several months ago, a visitor from another school noted that he had never been on a campus where students were so aware of the community’s core values. What we must remember is that the structure of knowing what one stands for is tremendously reassuring for teens and for all of us. Values keep us grounded in what matters most and define the boundaries when we have difficult decisions and ethical dilemmas.

No essay on pride of place is complete without mentioning the collective pride we all feel when the graduating seniors emerge from the Main Building, process across the Front Circle and through the lilacs on Commencement morning. The day is full of promise and hope, and the Berkshires dazzle with the beauty of a June morning. The faculty sees the fulfillment of the School’s purpose: young women who have achieved in myriad ways and who are prepared to contribute boldly and creatively to the common good. Parents see daughters who are competent to lead lives of their own making. The young women themselves know that this exceptional place has changed their lives. There is pride in abundance.

## Message from Board President, *Susan O’Day ’77*

For each member of the Board of Trustees, Miss Hall’s School holds a unique and special meaning. We each have chosen to serve MHS for our own reasons and to give in each of our own ways. Regardless of our varied contributions to the School, we have one thing in common—our deep pride in MHS.

As members of the Board of Trustees, we take personal responsibility for your School. We keep an eye on the long horizon, seeking opportunities and guarding against potential threats, all the while attending to the ongoing strength of MHS. That high level of scrutiny and care extends from the purely practical to the philosophical, from touring the buildings and grounds to monitoring the adherence to our values and the delivery on our mission. You could say we are the watchful eye of the School, and in that role we take pride in what we see, starting with the passion and commitment of the staff and faculty who educate girls for lives of purpose.

The women and men who lead MHS are dedicated professionals committed to providing a world-class education to girls, while tirelessly working to develop methods and practices that are at the leading edge of all-girl education today. Because the adults at Miss Hall’s are responsive and innovative, the programs here not only incorporate the latest research and most enlightened thinking but also push the boundaries of ideas about girls and their futures. Because of the superb teachers at MHS, when the Board expresses its “pride of place,” that notion takes in not only the beauty of the Berkshire campus and our affection for the institution but also the place the School holds as a leader in the field. I applaud their efforts and am proud to be a part of helping to make these remarkable educators’ work come to life at Miss Hall’s.

As always, I extend my thanks to the MHS community for spreading the good news about Miss Hall’s and for sustaining the School through volunteer hours and financial support. Because of you, greatness begins here.



# The Katsura Tree



*The term “cercidiphyllum japonicum” (ser-si-di-fil’-um ja-pon’-i-kum) might not sound familiar, but it is a fair bet the campus landmark with this name is well-known to MHS students and alumnae alike. It is the Japanese katsura tree, the stately pondside tree that has offered welcoming shade and displayed striking foliage to generations of MHS students.*

Exactly when the katsura tree first made its appearance on campus is difficult to determine, but Greenhouse manager Judy Graves Clarke ’63 suspects its arrival dates to the early part of the 20th Century. The tree may well have been part of the original Olmsted Brothers landscaping plan for the campus. “Clearly it must be of the age of the plantings done about that time,” says Ms. Clarke.

Olmsted Brothers, the landscape architecture firm that succeeded the firm founded by the renowned Frederick Law Olmsted, who died in 1903, worked between 1913 and 1924 on a landscaping plan for the campus. The tree is not explicitly shown on the 1917 Olmsted plan, but the plan does include a number of unidentified existing trees, one of which could be the katsura tree. It is also quite possible that it pre-dates the Olmsted plan—or even the School’s 1909 arrival on Holmes Road.

Olmsted, considered the father of American landscape architecture, included the katsura tree in a number of designs, including the Arnold Arboretum (1879) in Boston, Smith College—Mira Hall’s alma mater—(1893) in Northampton, Wellesley College (1902), and the Institute of Living in Hartford, Connecticut (1860s). It should also be noted that Olmsted and his Brookline, Massachusetts-based firm were no strangers to the Berkshires, having completed designs for Zenas Crane’s estate in Dalton, Williams College, Naumkeg—the Stockbridge mansion of Joseph Choate, and the Wheatleigh estate in nearby Lenox. Additionally, what is now Cranwell, also in Lenox, offers both features: It was an Olmsted-designed project, and katsura trees can still be found on the property.

The katsura tree, native to China and Japan, was introduced in the United States in 1865, according to Michael A. Dirr, professor of horticulture at the University of Georgia. In his book, *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, he offers a detailed description of the katsura tree.

“New leaves emerge a beautiful reddish purple and gradually change to bluish green in summer; fall color varies from yellow to apricot,” Dirr writes. The tree, he notes, “. . . tends to be early leafing and should be in full fall color

Mira H. Hall acquires Miss Salisbury’s School at South and Reed Streets in Pittsfield.

1898

Miss Hall moves the School to the Learned mansion, also known as Elmwood Court, at 153 Bartlett Avenue.

1900

Miss Hall’s School moves to Meadow Farm, the estate of the late Colonel Walter Cutting, on Holmes Road.

1909

Mira Hall buys the former Holmes School building, now called the Gate House.

1911

## FAVORITE PLACES ON CAMPUS

The Living Room is the place where I would most like to curl up with a book.

— *Accounts Payable Officer Patty Winn*

Outside: On the fields and cross country trail, of course.

Inside: My office, it's like a second home.

— *Administrative Assistant and Assistant Director of Athletics Christie Higuera*

I like the gazebo because it is near the pond, and it is a very relaxing place just to sit and chill out.

— *Saniya Jesupaul '10*

I love the fields, just because all my favorite things happen there. During sports (lacrosse and field hockey) is when I spend time with my friends.

— *Leah Sullivan '11*

The darkroom in the photo lab. This is the one place on campus where I can be completely alone. Even when there are people in there, I am able to escape into my own world and express myself creatively.

— *Alex Schwinn '08*

My favorite place is definitely the art room, especially when the sun is setting, a record playing, and a piece of art being created. That is my heaven.

— *Amy Inglis '08*

In front of the [Buerger Fireplace Alcove]. It's quiet, warm, has inviting and comfortable chairs, and is a wonderful place to read on a cold winter's day. For me, it is the epitome of Miss Hall's. Every time I settle down there with a book for a few minutes, it makes me calm and happy to be here.

— *Chemistry Teacher Heather Zimmer*

My favorite place is the athletic fields early in the morning in late summer or early fall. I am an outdoor kind of guy and I have good memories of going out to line the fields in the fall. The sky was blue, the temperature was in the 60s, the geese were flying overhead to Morewood Lake, and the fields were very quiet.

— *Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Crosier*



photo by Nuria Garcia Gonzalez '08

by mid October; the senescing (fall coloring) leaves give off a delightful spicy (cinnamon)/brown sugar odor." He adds, "(O)ne of my favorite trees, overwhelming in overall attractiveness; if I could use only one tree this would be my first tree."

The katsura tree also comes in both male and female forms, explains Dennis Mareb, owner of Windy Hill Farm in nearby Great Barrington. Mareb, who started Windy Hill Farm in 1980, has been involved in the horticulture business since he was a student in the late 1960s at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where—coincidentally— he was a classmate of Dirr. The male trees, Mareb says, tend to grow in a more upright form, whereas the female trees tend to spread out more and also grow seed pods. Both the male and female trees are needed for the tree to self-seed.

"It is a beautiful tree," he says. "It is a very adaptable, ornamental tree, and it has no insects or diseases. The only thing is that it doesn't like to be planted on really dry sites." Indeed, Mareb was called to the MHS campus a few years ago, when our katsura tree was losing leaves during a particularly dry summer. That trait, he says, is typical of the tree, which was shedding its leaves to conserve water and keep the rest of the tree alive. "It's a sturdy tree, very durable and very, very long-lived," he explains. "In Japan, it's grown as a timber tree, from which they make high-quality furniture."

The species is one of the largest hardwoods in Asia and can reach heights of 130 to 150 feet, with a trunk diameter of 7 feet, according to the website for the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois. Until 2004 the oldest known katsura tree in North America stood in front of Amherst's Grace Church, according to the church's September 2003 newsletter, *Grace Notes*. The tree was brought to the country in 1877, according to a 2005 University of Massachusetts alumni magazine.

That the katsura tree is found on a number of properties dating to the late 1800s or early 1900s is not surprising, Mareb explains. "Because of the adaptability, disease resistance, and durability, a lot of them were probably specified on jobs," he said. "They were considered an outstanding tree."

Ours, it should also be noted, is a female.

The Alumnae Association forms.

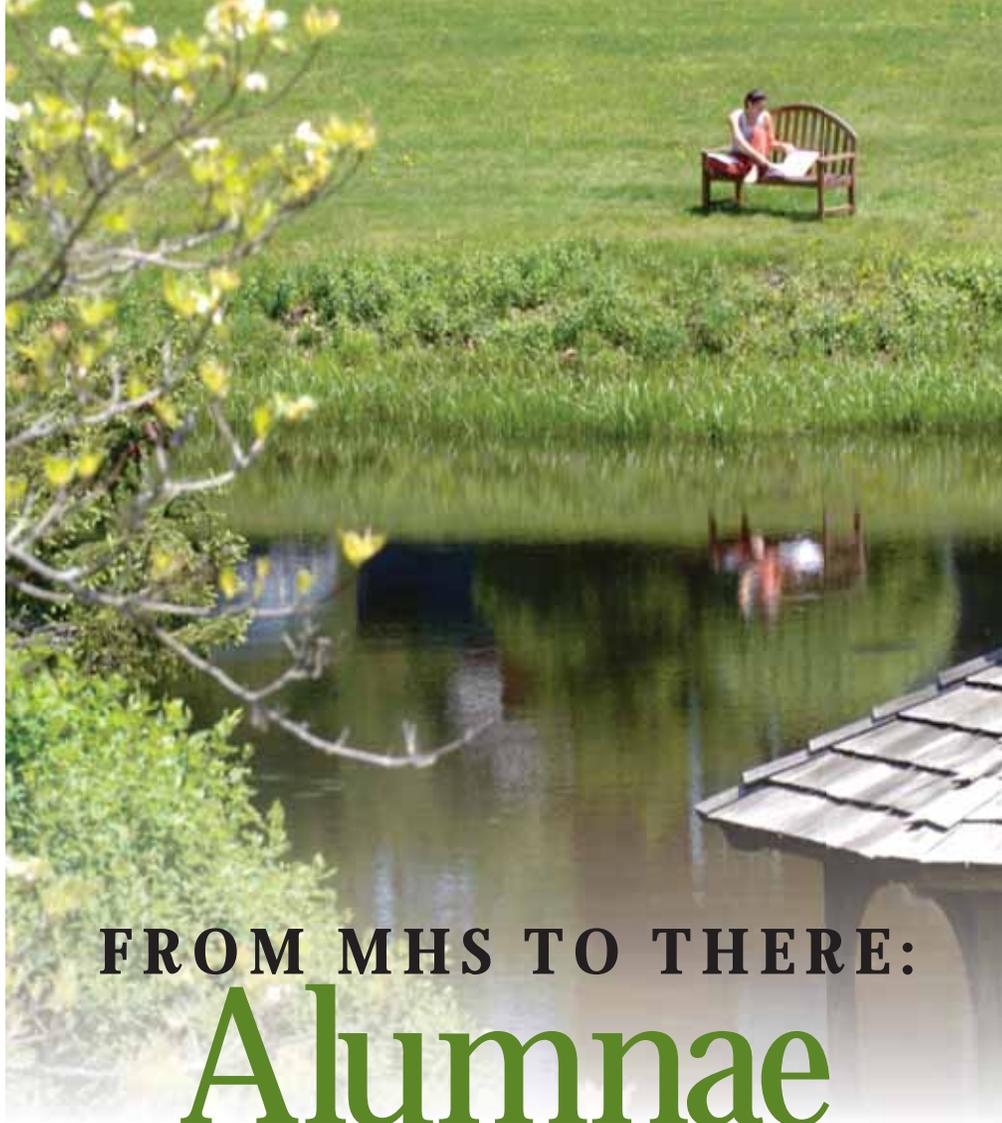
1920

Fire destroys the Cutting Estate, the facility that housed Miss Hall's School.

1923

The "new" school is finished and incorporated as a nonprofit, educational institution. The first Board of Trustees forms.

1924



## FROM MHS TO THERE: Alumnae Career Paths

### Anne Goodwin Wagner '58

Anne Goodwin Wagner '58's journey into the world of botany has taken her through southern New England's swamps and thickets in search of rare, indigenous plants and to Newfoundland to photograph native orchids. And all along the way she has been sharing her knowledge with others.

Since the early 1990s, Wagner has been leading interpretive walks for the New England Wild Flower Society, Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Trustees of Reservations. By her best estimate, she has led "dozens and dozens" of such walks in Rhode Island and Massachusetts for groups of all kinds.

"These are walks where we identify the plants as we go and talk about some of the natural history and their life cycles," says Wagner, who in 2000 received the New England Wild Flower Society Rhode Island State Award for mentoring and education. "I love to talk. I love to walk. I love plants, and this allows me to do all three."

The Gymnasium (now Centennial Hall) is built as an addition to Main Building.

The first yearbook is printed. It is named only *MHS*. The name is changed in 1951 to *The HALLMARK*.

The Athletic Association reorganizes, with the Betas and the Gammas split into two new teams, the Blues and the Golds.

1928

## FAVORITE PLACES ON CAMPUS

My favorite place on campus is what we call “The Riverbend.” There’s a spot on the cross country trail where you run out past the intersection in the woods toward the river. About a tenth of a mile in, there’s a tight turn to the left where the trail goes uphill, wandering through birches up to the power line. There’s a nice view of the river there, and it always smells like the woods. It’s a beautiful place. Another favorite spot is the trail along the northeast side of the lower pond, where you meander along a shady, pine-needle-softened path along the edge of the pond. Both are great places where you can feel the gentle strength of nature.

— *History Department Chair Matt Rutledge*

In front of the fireplace in the Living Room . . . when a fire is burning. It is beautiful and comfortable. There is room for a lot of people. I also love to see the girls studying there or just relaxing with friends.

— *Director of Horizons Marcia August*

In the winter I love to walk for about 10 minutes on my lunch break in Centennial Hall. I love the brightness of the room in the winter and the wide open space in general. In the other months, sitting by the pond is very relaxing, and a walk around campus on the dirt roads is spectacular, especially among the trees and leaves in the fall. I love the feel of the sun as I relax on one of the benches.

— *Accounts Receivable Officer Barbara Kurek*

Woods Theater. I go in often by myself to drink in the energy of all those who have graced those boards before. It helps center and focus me. The space itself is magical by its very nature and in how it can transform itself for each event.

— *Drama Teacher Jennifer Jordan*

The gazebo by the pond because I can escape from worrying about classes and relax with friends.

— *Maggie Kittner '11*

My favorite place is the [Jessie Paull Quick '63 Ski Chalet] in the spring. I enjoy the Chalet because it is a nice place near the pond where you can sit in the shade but also enjoy the warmth of the nice weather. It’s just a really pretty place when all the trees are green and the sky is clear.

— *Dana Carr '08*



photo by Eliza Chase '08



She has also presented, at all types of venues, illustrated lectures on rare and native plants, with her talks covering topics such as “Gardening With Native Plants,” “Wildflowers in Four Seasons,” and “Native Plants With Shade.” And, after two mid-1990s visits to Newfoundland—trips partly prompted by an interest in the region’s botany, but also because her father had been a physician at the rural Grenfell Mission in Labrador—she added travelogues to her repertoire.

For Wagner, the journey into botany began with a natural interest in herbs and a quest to learn more about the local Wampanoag and Narragansett tribes. “It is a move that certainly had a lot to do with sense of place,” she says. “Specifically, I wanted to know, ‘What

did the Wampanoag and Narragansett peoples use as herbs?’ That was the question I asked that started my obsession with native plants.” In the early 1990s she became a volunteer for Brown University’s Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology in Bristol, Rhode Island. The museum, one of the leading anthropological teaching museums in the Northeast, houses collections from native peoples from around the world. “To be a docent there required certain training and education, and you start with learning about lives of the native peoples,” she says. “That’s how I got started with the wild plants. When I discovered I was becoming a botanist, I started taking all types of classes. I wanted to educate myself on the whole thing.”

It was a lot of hands-on learning, and Wagner says she thanks MHS for helping her develop those skills to learn on her own. “I loved the joy of being in a community where being a good student was expected and praised, and I was challenged academically, probably for the first time,” she says. “We were not spoon-fed. That helped develop the whole process of learning how to learn.”

Mira Hinsdale Hall dies while on a trip to Maine.

1937

The Mira H. Hall Library is dedicated.

1951

The School’s first literary magazine, *Rumor*, is published.

1953



Bev Walker '80, left, and a colleague at work in the Columbia River

## Bev Walker '80

Bev Walker '80 fell in love with marine life while still in grade school. Today she is an environmental educator at the City of Vancouver's Water Resources Education Center in Vancouver, Washington, just across the Columbia River from Portland, Oregon. The Water Center opened in 1996 as part of an effort to increase awareness of the city's water supply and water reclamation and to educate visitors to make wise decisions about water resources.

"We do hands-on education programs for the community," says Walker, who has worked at the Water Center for ten years and is a past president of the Environmental Education Association of Washington. "We have an exhibit hall, as well as fifty acres of wetlands where we do outdoor education and other programs. We see about 5,000 students each year for educational programs."

Part of Walker's job is to coordinate and develop those programs, which cover everything from nature and wetlands tours to hands-on activities involving water, plants, and fish. "No two days are ever the same," she says. "Also, the city of Vancouver is fairly progressive in many ways. It's great to be in a community that is so environmentally aware."

Walker, who graduated from the University of New England ('84) with a degree in marine biology, started her career in marine education fifteen years ago in Indiana, where she was an aquarist in the Great Barrier Reef Exhibit at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. She realized there was room for an educational component, so she started offering marine education programs

there, which led to starting her own business offering programs concerning marine invertebrates.

After a half-dozen years—and a decade overall in Indiana—she decided she needed more transition in terrain and wanted to be closer to an ocean. She flipped a coin in a choice between Baltimore and Portland, Oregon, and headed west. After three months, she had a position at the Water Center.

"A great thing about being on the Columbia River is there are a lot of anadromous fish," she says. Those are fish, such as Pacific salmon and sturgeon, that spawn in fresh water and live part of their lives in salt water. Walker not only runs educational programs on both fish, but she also helps coordinate the area's popular Sturgeon Festival, *A Celebration of Columbia River Ecosystems*, held annually in late spring. "So I still get to tie my love of the ocean in with what I do," she says.

That interest in the ocean dates back to annual family camping trips to Plymouth. On one such trip, while in the fourth or fifth grade, the region was hit by a hurricane. "I remember after the hurricane, helping to pick up the sea stars and urchins that had been stranded and helping to get them back in the water. It was just fascinating," Walker recalls. "That started my whole love of the ocean."

## Cate Foster '95

Structure and creativity may at first seem to be contradictory concepts. One implies a certain degree of rigidity, the other, the possibility of freedom. Yet it is precisely those contrasting elements that Cate Foster '95 most enjoys about architecture.

"This is the best of both of those worlds," says Foster, an architect with the renowned Pei Cobb Freed & Partners in Manhattan. "I do get to be creative, but, at the same time, the work can be very structured and mathematical. Most of what I do is problem-solving."

Foster's main focus is a building's "exterior envelope," or exterior walls, rather than the interior structure. "For example, if the design architect envisions his building clad in brick, I need to design a realistic way to hang it off the structure so that it won't fall off," she says. "If he changes his mind and wants his building to be clad in limestone, I would redesign that system to work with the new material."

Foster got her first taste of architecture while still a student at Miss Hall's. She credits former Art Teacher Steven Masters

One tennis court is built and two are re-topped. . . . The School receives a gift of \$50,000 from John Hay Whitney (Kate Roosevelt Whitney '54). Parents contribute funds for the project. It is the School's single-largest gift received to date.

with steering her toward the field. “I always wanted to do something creative growing up, and when I was at Miss Hall’s, I was really involved in the art program,” she explains. It was Masters who suggested she consider architecture for a career. Then came a more in-depth look at the field during her senior year, when she and a handful of her classmates were chosen to help MHS pilot Horizons, the School’s off-campus, experiential learning program. Foster interned for the late Terry Hallock (Gail ’74, Kimberly ’76) in his Pittsfield offices.

“That was my first taste of architectural work and working in an office,” she says. “Also, the mid-1990s was just about the time when architecture firms, in general, started moving away from the drafting board and onto the computer, but Mr. Hallock, being from the old school, taught me the importance



of good pencil skills and would have me hand copy his drawings as practice. He also taught me how to use a drafting scale and other basic tools of the trade. When I got to Syracuse University in the fall, I was definitely one step ahead in the drawing courses.”

After graduating from Syracuse, Cate took a position with Davis Brody Bond Architects & Planners in New York. She was hired in May 2007 by Pei Cobb Freed & Partners specifically to contribute to the exterior façade design of a 35-story office tower in San Diego. The project, designed by Henry Cobb, is located in a major seismic zone. “My challenge is to take Mr. Cobb’s aesthetic visions and design a wall system that accommodates both those visions and the pending earthquake, which is proving to be no small task,” she says. “I work directly under Mr. Michael Flynn, who is widely regarded as the leader in the industry of exterior wall system design, so I consider my place here at PCF to be an incredible opportunity.”

## FAVORITE PLACES ON CAMPUS

I really enjoy sitting in the Student Center because there are a lot of comfy chairs and couches.

— *Lea Needham-Wood '08*

My favorite place on the campus is my room because something about loving the room I am in is very important. The arrangement of the desk, the books, the bed makes me feel good when it is well-arranged. I love my room because there is everything I need in it, it is calm most of the time, and there are good energies when I enter it every time.

— *Daisey Anglow '09*

My favorite place is outside during the spring because it’s a nice quiet place to study and just hang out with friends.

— *Alexandria Esheyigba '11*

The big [katsura] tree by the pond. It is different and beautiful.

— *Housekeeping Supervisor Annie Bennett*



photo by Helen Donfried '09

The Student Center because it is laid back and comfortable.

— *Malina Filkins '10*

My favorite place on the MHS campus is the Student Center, because it has a TV, comfortable couches, and internet access.

— *Andreinna Marmolejos '11*

My favorite place on campus is the Quad, because in the spring it is such a relaxing and calming spot where you can sit and enjoy the sun while listening to music and reading a book.

— *Tsega Meshesha '09*

The [Craig Ferguson Sun Room]. Being so warm and bright, it helps me to relax.

— *Business Office Manager Risa Maynard*

My favorite place on campus would have to be Centennial Hall because I have had so many great Vocal Ensemble practices in there, and I love the way sound travels while we sing!

— *Lauren Kushner '08*

My favorite place is the Gazebo. I enjoy gazing at the pond and listening to the bullfrogs; it’s very relaxing!

— *Math Chair Pam Walters*

Construction begins on a \$650,000 expansion—the Schoolhouse Wing and the John Hay Whitney Science Lab. The Dining Room is enlarged.

1957

The Schoolhouse Wing is completed. It includes 14 classrooms, an art studio, day student locker room, faculty room, and additional offices.

1959

The Music Wing, the Biology Lab, eight additional bedrooms, and two faculty apartments are completed.

1964

The Jessie Paull Quick '63 Memorial Ski Chalet is dedicated.

1965



From left: Amanda Klay '09, Isabel Filkins '10, Jessica Garzon '10, Leah Sullivan '11, Tara Mah '10, Malina Filkins '10, Gwen Slagle '08, Dana Drugmand '08, and May Beattie '08, with faculty advisor Mercedes Pour in the back

# Making the Campus Greener



“Environmental sustainability” is a popular phrase these days. To some girls on the MHS campus, however, it is more than just a saying. They are actually taking steps to put those words into action.

The Environmental Club, one of more than 30 student-led organizations at MHS, raises environmental awareness and promotes a culture of sustainability within the MHS community. From reducing electricity and water usage to cutting down on the amount of junk mail, students are addressing a number of issues related to environmental sustainability, which some believe will be *the* defining challenge for their generation.

“I feel we’re trying to initiate this powerful movement that needs to be going on in this school, because it’s going on in the world now, and we need to be a part of that,” says Gwen Slagle '08, club co-president. “We need to make sure we are on the

map as a ‘green’ school and progressing.”

To that end, the group has launched a series of initiatives during the last year. It sold reusable Nalgene water bottles to help raise money to pay for its projects and is working with the School’s dining services provider—Aramark—to find ways to reduce water and electricity use in the Dining Room and kitchen. The Club also held a catalog cancellation drive designed to help people cancel unwanted mailings and to reduce the overall amount of junk mail.

Among its more ambitious efforts this year has been a project to install motion-sensitive light switches throughout the campus to reduce energy use. The Club and the School are splitting the costs of installing the sensors in 28 spaces—namely in bathrooms in the dormitories, Cross Center, and Klein Center—where lights are typically left on for extended periods. Instead

Hill House becomes a faculty residence. The Photography Lab and Ceramics Studio are completed.

The Ara West Grinnell Greenhouse is dedicated.

The Tennis Hut formally opens.

The Board of Trustees approves the enrollment of male day students and the change of the School’s name to The Hall School.

1971

1972

1974

1975

## FAVORITE PLACES ON CAMPUS

My favorite place at MHS is the spot along the main driveway when you first start to make the turn up the hill. The line of trees (preferably in bloom) sit along the driveway, and you just start to see the top of the columns of the Main Building. It's such a pretty view of the School.

— *Special Projects and Events Manager Lynelle Weaver*

My favorite place on campus is the [Humes Euston Hall Library] because it is beautiful, cozy, peaceful, and serene.

— *Development Office and Travel Manager Sheila Wallace*

The Gate House—it is our cozy home; the Music Room—lots of music, musical instruments, A-V toys, and a few posters on the walls; the back path behind the big pond by the river—it is beautiful; the old gnarly willow tree near the Elizabeth Gatchell Klein Arts Center—it has character.

— *Expressive Arts Chair Gary Miller*

My favorite spot on the MHS campus is right in front of the [Elizabeth Gatchell Klein Arts Center]. I love looking at the main building from out there; with just one look I can fully appreciate the beauty of my school and my home.

— *Hillary Fitch '08*

My favorite place is the [Leonhardt Academic Skills Center], of course. First, it is part of our beautiful Library of which I am so proud and second, it is where I have the pleasure of working with our enthusiastic and hard-working students. It is best when the place is abuzz with girls! The atmosphere we have created is, we think, homey and friendly. In the ASC we use a "kitchen table approach," and the space enhances that feeling. I also love to be around my two wonderful colleagues, Fredi and Emily.

— *Director of Academic Skills Center Vaunie Graulty*

I have several. The Living Room: Not a day goes by that I don't walk through, admire the beauty of the room, and imagine the thousands of conversations that girls and women have enjoyed over the last 83 years in that lovely space. My Office: The view from the large window of a gorgeous grove of pines (Olmsted design). The trees are enormous, and knowing how long they have stood in that place symbolizes for me the durability of Mira Hall's ideas about girls and their education. The Pond: Looking at the pond in any season makes me smile.

— *Head of School Jeannie Norris*



photo by Amy Inglis '08

of simply asking the School to install the sensors, the students took a more real-world approach, says faculty advisor Mercedes Pour. They prepared a detailed proposal—much like a grant—that outlined why they were pursuing the idea, how much it would cost, who would pay for it, and how it would proceed. They then presented the proposal to the Student Council and administrators.

“The girls did a great job with that,” said Ms. Pour. “They researched the products, the reasons why, and the numbers. It took us all semester to complete.” And while the project provided a nice opportunity for the girls to see how they could make changes at the School, it is an experience they can also take off campus. “We need to be thinking about making the building environmentally sustainable, and we also need to empower these girls to see where they can start making changes in their communities. These are initiatives they can work on here as well as in their hometowns.”

Gwen agrees, adding that what she likes about the Environmental Club is its progressive nature and its ability to take action. She joined the group last year and became more active when working on the first of its Nalgene sales. “I really learned what was needed to take initiative and then take that next step from thought to action,” she said. “What I also like about the club is that we have to keep up with the times. We’re not just doing what people have done in the past. We’re constantly innovating.”

Co-President Dana Drugmand '08 has also noticed the group's increased activity this year. “The initiative we took with the motion sensor lights, for example, is a huge step in promoting energy conservation for the School,” Dana said. “The Club is not only a fun way for students to be involved in environmental projects, but it directly gives back to the School by taking initiative to make the campus ‘greener.’”

Club Vice President Amanda Klay '09, who joined the club as a freshman, enjoys that the group is able to effect change on campus. “From motion-sensor lights to the unwanted catalog drive and attempts to promote a greater consciousness about environmentalism, we are well on our way to making a big impact in the School,” Amanda says. That is an important step for today's students, who will be dealing with environmental issues well into the future. “I do think that it is one of THE issues of my generation because it overlaps with so many other world challenges. It is in our hands to make change happen.”

The School discontinues coeducation and resumes use of the Miss Hall's School name.

1984

Witherspoon Hall, named in honor of former Assistant Headmistress Margaret Witherspoon, is dedicated.

1986

Groves Hall, named in honor of Benjamin A. Groves, President of the Board of Trustees, is dedicated. Four older tennis courts are renovated, four new tennis courts are built, and a new athletic field is built.

1987

# 110 YEARS OF HISTORY

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photo by Katie Anania '10

## *A Century on Holmes Road*

Within its first decade, Miss Mira Hall's Pittsfield school was already bursting at the seams. Boarding enrollment had grown by a factor of five (to 25!) and total enrollment stood at 68 girls **and** boys, including primary school students. Since buying Mary Salisbury's School in 1898, Miss Hall had already expanded it once and had even moved to larger quarters just two years later. But, by 1908, Miss Hall's School already needed another new home.

The School purchases 565 Holmes Road (current Head's House).

1990

The Weston House, at 465 Holmes Road, is purchased.

1997

The Centennial Campaign, a \$15 million campaign to build and renovate more than 44,000 square feet, is launched.

1998

Mira Hall found that new home about a mile away, atop a small knoll with a sweeping view east over fields leading down to the Housatonic River. The site upon which she settled—the expansive Meadow Farm estate of the late Col. Walter Cutting—sat on the outskirts of Pittsfield, along a gravel road that also passed by the former homes of Oliver Wendell Holmes and Herman Melville. By the fall of 1909, Miss Hall’s new school was hosting its first students.

Exactly why Miss Mira Hall chose Pittsfield has been lost to history. However, though she was born in LeRoy, New York, about 50 miles east of Buffalo, Miss Hall did have deep family ties to the Berkshires. It was in 1800 in Pittsfield, after all, where her great aunt, Nancy Hinsdale Hall (the nearby town of Hinsdale is named for the family), opened the first girls’ boarding school in Massachusetts. She would close the school in 1813, however, moving to help her cousin, Emma Hart Willard, run her school in Troy, New York. Miss Hinsdale’s school was followed by a handful of successors, including the Pittsfield Young Ladies Seminary, until Mira Hall arrived in Pittsfield.

It is also quite possible that the Berkshires simply presented Mira Hall with the best opportunity for the 1883 Smith College graduate to open her school. In a 1942 letter to alumnae, Miss Margaret Hall—Miss Hall’s niece and successor as Head of School—noted that as early as the 1890s, her aunt was “greatly interested in” having a school. “She finally, in 1898, bought one whose head [Mary Salisbury] was then elderly and wished to retire.”

The School Mira Hall bought from Miss Salisbury occupied the corner of South and Reed Streets, just south of today’s downtown Pittsfield. There were five “house pupils” (boarders) and forty-nine “day scholars” that first year. Two years later, the School’s population had grown to ten boarders and fifty-four day students, and, despite renting a nearby house, Miss Hall still found the School outgrowing its quarters.

The solution was a move two blocks east and south, to 153 Bartlett Avenue, where Mira Hall rented a sprawling mansion owned by the Learned family.

Financier and industrialist Edward Learned, who died in 1886, had built the home in 1854, according to *The Berkshire Eagle* newspaper of Pittsfield. Also known as Elmwood Court, the home later became an inn and today is an apartment complex, but at one point had been a center of social life in the city. The 1900 school year there opened with 88 pupils, and the mansion housed Miss Hall’s School for the next nine years, until “demand for better facilities,”

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Source:

*A Backward Glance*, a booklet by Mary E. Salisbury and written around the time of the 1898 sale of Miss Salisbury’s School to Mira Hall.

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“Where will the school of the future be, do you ask? Surely we may not look for it here. . . . I should imagine its location might be nearer Lenox. And the school building? You must remember that you will then be in and of the twentieth century. Instead of one school building there will be a number of buildings. The main building with accommodations for various departments, furnished with telephones and audiphones and many other kinds of ‘phones’ still in embryo, to be born ere long out of Edison’s brain, will communicate with the homes of all the students. Recitations of absentees will be conducted through these ingenious, all penetrating, everywhere pervading ‘phones.’ No matter where girls are, they will be reached by means of wires or without wires. Go where they will in term time, to New York to buy new dresses, or from Maine to California to make delightful visits to their friends, they will not escape the omnipresent eye of the school nor its summons to duty.”

The Pamela Humphrey Firman '31 Technology Laboratory and Anne Meyer Cross '37 Athletic Center are completed.

2000

The Elizabeth Gatchell Klein Arts Center, Humes Euston Hall Library, Craig M. Ferguson Sun Room, Student Center, and Centennial Hall are completed.

2001

The Living Room is refurbished.

2003

The Centennial Campaign closes having raised \$25.5 million for facilities, program, and endowment.

2004

according to *The Berkshire Evening Eagle*, sent Miss Hall yet again seeking a new location for her school. She did not have to look far.

\* \* \*

Meadow Farm, at the intersection of Holmes Road and Pomeroy Avenue, was already well known to Miss Hall's students. They regularly walked the mile or so there from Bartlett Avenue, and accounts in the MHS archives recall the estate as a favorite destination. "The girls liked to walk, and many people had horses down here," explains MHS History Teacher and School Archivist Sarah McFarland. "Although the old school was on the edge of the city, and this was out in the country, the School on Bartlett Avenue was not so far away."

Colonel Walter Cutting's family had lived on the estate since 1898, though Colonel Cutting had owned the property for some years prior. Cutting, who "in mid-life inherited a 'comfortable fortune,'" according to one Pittsfield history, had moved to the city shortly after discharge from service in the Civil War. He married into Pittsfield's prominent Pomeroy family, was active in state politics, and raised horses and cattle on the property, which at one time encompassed 650 acres.

In those days, says Ms. McFarland, the entrance to the estate was on Pomeroy Avenue. The School still owns that swath of land, and though it's now overgrown, traces of the driveway's path can still be found. The drive to the main building passed by Hill House, through an orchard (in front of today's Cross Center), and up the hill near where Groves Hall now stands. "Everyone who came to the estate came that way," Ms. McFarland says. "The front driveway likely didn't go in until Miss Hall rebuilt the building (in 1923)."

In addition to its sizeable main house, the estate included barns and several other outbuildings, explains Ms. McFarland. Remnants of foundations for large greenhouses can still be seen behind Hill House, which was then the home of the estate's manager, and Colonel Cutting also kept bees—likely near today's high ropes course. The estate also included a dairy and vegetable garden, according to a 1969 independent study project compiled by Susan Gordon '69. "The gym was a glass-

enclosed arcade and the student rooms were primarily doubles with private baths," Ms. Gordon wrote in *The History of Miss Hall's School*. In the early 1900s, the farm was the principal milk supply for the city, according to an October 1907 *New York Times* account of a fire that killed 58 cows and 12 horses and destroyed two large barns on the property.

"The girls and Miss Hall were aware this estate was here, and the school where they were was getting too small," Ms. McFarland continues. "By 1908, I imagine Mira Hall thought it would be a nice place for a girls' school. It was not too far from town, but far enough." The Holmes Road property also offered considerable surrounding acreage, which was lacking on Bartlett Avenue.

Mira Hall purchased Meadow Farm in January 1909 from the estate of Colonel Cutting, who had died in 1907. She paid an estimated \$35,000—more than \$750,000 in today's dollars—for the main house, several outbuildings, and about 45 acres

**A school which chose its pupils from different parts of the nation and world would give them a broader concept of life.**

of land, according to property records. The Class of 1909—12 students in all—was the last to graduate from the old school on Bartlett Avenue, and Mira Hall was not finished making changes. That same year she also abolished the primary school and eliminated coeducation, choosing to focus solely on educating high school girls. The School opened at its new location in the fall of 1909 with nearly 60 girls between ages 14 and 20, and a teacher-to-student ratio of one to six, according to MHS records. So began a new era for Miss Hall's School.

\* \* \*

By the 1922-23 school year, Miss Hall's School was firmly established, with 56 house pupils and 13 day scholars. Boarding and tuition totaled \$1,600, plus "extras," according to MHS archives, and a number of traditions had already taken shape. The Athletic Association, for example, was already about two decades old, and the Snake Dance was

already into its second decade. On the academic side, the School offered two tracks, general academic and college preparatory. Students were graded in some three-dozen areas, which along with traditional subjects such as algebra, English, and mathematics, also included concentration, consideration for others, speaking voice, and posture. The School was one of the nation's preeminent schools. Then tragedy struck one bitter-cold February morning.

By the afternoon of February 17, 1923, Mira Hall clearly faced a monumental task. That morning, fire destroyed the School. All students and faculty escaped unharmed, but a maid, 44-year-old Agnes Coote, died in the blaze. The fire broke out around 9:30 a.m.—a Saturday—in the ceiling of the gymnasium. The girls were ferried by special trolley to Dalton, and then sent home for an early spring vacation. They ultimately finished the School year in Lenox, at The Curtis Hotel, which agreed to open earlier than usual to house the School.

The cause of the fire has never been determined. Losses, however, were estimated at \$150,000, or roughly \$1.75 million, when adjusted for inflation. The challenge was immense, but Miss Hall was determined to reopen her school. One popular account describes her on the telephone with architects for a new building, even as her “old” school was burning. That may have been the case, but the School's future in Pittsfield was most certainly in doubt. Shortly after the fire, Miss Hall said she was entertaining offers to move the School. “The school will be continued, and we will be housed in a modern, fireproof building,” she told *The Berkshire Evening Eagle*. “Whether that will be in Pittsfield or elsewhere, I cannot say now. I have had offers already to locate in Florida and California.”

Miss Hall, as we know, did remain in Pittsfield. She engaged the services of architects Edward York and Philip Sawyer, both of whom had trained under the renowned McKim, Mead, and White, to design her new school. York & Sawyer's specialty, not surprising considering Miss Hall's desire for a fire-safe building, was the design of banks. Their prominent works included the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, as well as the New York Athletic Club, the New York Historical Society, and others throughout the city. “Because the Cutting estate had burned, Mira Hall wanted a fireproof building,” says Ms. McFarland. “She had friends in New York and people on the board from New York, and they may have been her contacts with York and Sawyer.”

Mira Hall wanted fireproof, and fireproof was what she got. The result was the Georgian-style Main Building, which

## ALUMNAE FAVORITE PLACES

### Joan Dunbar Binkerd '38

My favorite place was the Living Room, where we got our mail, had drama tryouts, slurped high tea over the Thanksgiving weekend, listened to Mr. Buhler talk about opera, listened to Miss Hall tell stories and lead discussions about school happenings, and visited with our friends before meals.

### Ann Starbuck Gelser '39

My favorite place was the pond. We did a lot of skating on that pond, and we walked what we called “the circuit,” which was a well-defined pathway around the building. We would do that on Sunday afternoon and you got points for your Blue or Gold Team. We also played a lot of field hockey.

### Christine Whipple Farrington '63

My favorite place was the pond, especially in the spring. I grew up on a farm, and the pond felt like home to me. Also, we observed the mating frogs in the springtime, which was quite an introduction to sex in that era, at least for me!

### Alexandra Blodget Heidinger '90

When I return to Miss Hall's for my reunions, the place that evokes the most emotional response is the soccer fields. Even the dreaded warm-up run around the fields brings back great memories of being a part of a team. I wish someone had told me that, after high school, team sports would be a thing of my past. One of the greatest friendships of my life began on the varsity soccer field and continues today. The fields remind me how terrific the girls I played with were and how good it felt to run and laugh and sweat and cry with all of them. I miss it. I guess place, in this regard, is about common interests, common goals, common strengths, and being a part of something great.

### Cecily Platt '04

One of my favorite places at MHS was Ms. Chandler's old office with her comfortable blue couch. I always enjoyed going in and reading on the couch when I had some free time. I also liked Ms. Virden's old office, and the [Melissa A. Leonhardt '76 Academic Skills Center] was nice as well. My favorite places were also people's apartments, and I liked my sophomore room, which faced the quad and the pond.

### Kristine Schlachter '04

The place at MHS that is the most special to me should be pretty obvious if you know me: Woods Theater. When I came in as a freshman, we were still working out of the Arts Barn, which—honestly—wasn't really much of a theater, but it was always less about the space itself and more about the things that happened inside the space. I found my voice and my calling in the theater; and although that dream has changed slightly from my freshman year of high school, when I desperately wanted to be an actress, to my senior year of college, from which I will be heading out into the world with a stage management degree, the fundamental truths that one learns while working in theater still stay with me. My best memories will forever remain in the two theaters in which I spent most of my high school career.

### Ellen Kritzman '54

In the early 1950s, the campus looked very different, with little other than the handsome Main Building of red brick and white columns. I would say my favorite place was around the edges of the pond behind the Main Building.

was built to house 91 boarders. “Everything is brick and concrete. Everything—the walls, the floors, even the dorm rooms,” says Jeff Crosier, MHS Maintenance Supervisor. “All of the original pipes, when they were put in, even they were encased in concrete.” The building’s early wiring, all of which has since been replaced, was run through conduit, which was also surrounded by concrete, Mr. Crosier says. The building’s supporting walls are 18 inches thick, and even walls on subsequent levels are built from concrete. “It was reported at the time as one of the most fireproof schools in the country,” Ms. McFarland said. “And that’s what Mira Hall was looking for—something safe, to get the students back and to reassure the parents.”

\* \* \*

The students indeed returned. The “new” school opened in October 1924 with a record enrollment of 90 boarders and 12 day students, according to MHS archives. Graduating classes, which were as low as 15 in 1922 and 19 in 1924, approached—and even surpassed—40 girls. But the School faced another sizeable challenge just before the start of the 1937-38 school year: 74-year-old Mira Hall died suddenly while on a vacation trip to Maine. Thirty-nine years after its launch, the School had lost its formidable founder. More than 400 people attended her funeral at the School, according to *The Berkshire Evening Eagle*. Two days after her death, the newspaper recalled Mira Hall’s character, the success of her school and students, and her contributions to the city—not the least of which was an annual \$1,000 check to the mayor for work on city roads near the School.

Five years before she died—on the occasion of her 50th reunion from Smith College—Mira Hall received an Honorary Degree of L.H.D. from her *alma mater*. In its account of the event, *The Eagle* wrote that Pittsfield was justifiably proud of Miss Hall, who, the newspaper noted: “... came to Pittsfield with an idea. In essence it was that a school could be operated with greater benefit to the pupils if financial position were not paramount. She felt that a school which chose its pupils from the daughters of parents of various professions and from different parts of the nation and world would give them a broader concept of life. And she has not deviated from the path which she laid out in 1898. That her idea was a right one is attested to by the fact that today her pupils come from all over the world.”

They still do.

During the last ninety-nine years, some 3,500 girls have crossed Mira Hall’s Holmes Road campus, excelled in her classrooms, and studied in her library. They have sat in the shade of

the katsura tree, competed on her athletic fields, warmed themselves by the Living Room fireplace, and forged lifetime bonds with classmates.

Many of the familiar landmarks—Centennial Hall, the pond, and Flagpole Hill—remain campus fixtures, but there has also been a host of changes, inside and out. The School added new academic and athletics facilities in the 1950s and residential facilities in the 1980s. Uniforms long ago became things of the past. Dual educational tracks gave way to a single college preparatory curriculum. Instead of living in isolation on campus, students have become increasingly involved in the community. Each year they now volunteer more than 8,000 hours locally through their participation in the Horizons program, for example.

There have also been dramatic changes in the last decade, with the addition of new facilities and programs, and work is ongoing to determine what needs must be addressed now and in the future. Trustees, senior administrators, and faculty agreed last month to hire The S/L/A/M Collaborative, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, to conduct a comprehensive assessment of campus and facilities needs, some of which are already well known. This master planning process will determine the scope of the work to be done as well as the approach that is most efficient, environmentally sound, and cost effective. The report, expected by the end of the year, will surely help shape the campus for years to come.

Such evolution is natural for an institution, and much change has occurred since Mira Hall moved her school to Holmes Road. Faces, buildings, curriculum, and the School itself, which survived a devastating fire and the sudden loss of its founder’s sturdy hand, shift over time. The guiding principle of educating girls for lives of purpose, however, is the constant, the endurable blueprint our founder envisioned for her school a century ago.

#### Sources:

Miss Hall’s School Archives  
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by Susan Gordon ’69.

#### Interviews with:

Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Crosier  
History Teacher and School Archivist Sarah McFarland

By the time Mira H. Hall arrived in Pittsfield and acquired Miss Salisbury's School in 1898, Berkshire County was already well known as an area that valued education, independent thought, and creativity. Pittsfield and the surrounding towns had long been a destination for some of the nation's foremost literary figures, inventors, and educators, who created some of their best works while living in the region. Here are just a few:

- **Susan B. Anthony** (1820-1906) — The crusader for women's suffrage was born in nearby Adams and lived there until age 6. She went on to become president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association from 1892-1900, and her work helped lead to the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Adopted in 1920, the amendment gave women the right to vote.
- **William Cullen Bryant** (1794-1878) — The prolific poet, who published his first poem at age 10 and his first book at 13, was raised in Cummington, just east of Pittsfield, and later maintained a summer home there. Before his poetry brought him international acclaim, Bryant practiced law in Great Barrington.
- **W.E.B. DuBois** (1868-1963) — The author and civil rights leader was born in Great Barrington and later helped found the NAACP. He was the first African-American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard, in 1895, and was an influential leader in the black community in the early 20th Century.
- **Elizabeth Freeman** (c. 1744-1829) — Born a slave in nearby Claverack, New York, and later acquired by Colonel John Ashley in Sheffield, Freeman sued Ashley for her freedom in 1781. With the help of prominent Stockbridge attorney Theodore Sedgwick, she succeeded in arguing that slavery was illegal under the Massachusetts Constitution.
- **Daniel Chester French** (1850-1931) — The noted sculptor owned a home and studio in Stockbridge and summered there from the late 1890s until his death. French is perhaps best known for his works, *The Minute Man* (1875) in Concord, Massachusetts, and the seated *Abraham Lincoln* (1922) at the Lincoln Memorial.
- **Nathaniel Hawthorne** (1804-1864) — The author of *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) lived briefly in nearby Stockbridge, next to today's Tanglewood. Hawthorne and his family moved into a small cottage there, where he finished *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851). The family returned in February 1852 to Concord, Massachusetts.
- **Oliver Wendell Holmes** (1802-1894) — The popular poet and physician spent seven summers in the 1830s and 1840s at Holmesdale, located across Holmes Road from the MHS campus. In 1962, the main house was given to the School and used for faculty housing until its sale in the 1970s.
- **Frances Ann Kemble** (1809-1893) — Known as "Fanny," the popular English actress moved in 1834 to Lenox, where Hawthorne and Melville were among her closest friends. There, in 1848, she gave the first of many successful public readings of Shakespeare. Although she returned in 1862 to England, the street passing her former Lenox "cottage," *The Perch*, has long since been renamed Kemble Street.
- **Herman Melville** (1819-1891) — Herman Melville wrote his most famous work, *Moby-Dick* (1851), while living less than a mile from today's MHS campus. As a child, he spent time with nearby relatives before buying a neighboring farm in 1850 and naming it Arrowhead. He lived and wrote there until 1862.
- **Catherine Sedgwick** (1789-1867) — A member of Stockbridge's prominent Sedgwick family, Sedgwick gained international prominence with her book, *A New-England Tale, or, Sketches of New England Character and Manners* (1922). She is among those credited with helping attract literary figures to the Berkshires.
- **William Stanley** (1858-1916) — William Stanley invented the electrical transformer, which enabled electric distribution over a wide area. He demonstrated the system in Great Barrington and founded, in 1890, the Stanley Electric Manufacturing Company in Pittsfield. It was later bought by General Electric Co. and became the city's largest employer.
- **Edith Wharton** (1862-1937) — Edith Wharton built The Mount—her Lenox home and surrounding gardens—in 1902 and lived there nearly a decade. The author of *Ethan Frome* (1911) and more than forty books in forty years, Wharton was the first woman to receive the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction (1921).

# student SPOTLIGHTS

## AP Scholars Recognized

Eleven MHS students—six current Seniors and five recent graduates—were named by the College Board as AP Scholars, in recognition of exceptional achievement on the 2007 Advanced Placement (AP) Exams.

*AP Scholars* from the MHS Class of 2008 are Dana Drugmand, Caroline Ellis, Natasha Malkani, Nora McCloskey, Lauren Melle, and Elizabeth Rutledge. They each earned the designation by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3 or better on the College Board's 5-point grading system. Brooke Marks '07, now at Gettysburg College, and Jeanette Valli '07, now at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, were also named *AP Scholars*.

Beth Anne DeGiorgis '07, now at the College of William and Mary, was named an *AP Scholar with Honor* by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or better on four or more of those exams. Masha Jones '07, now at the University of Pennsylvania, and Holly Crane '07, who will begin her freshman year at Williams College this fall after spending a year in Sweden, have been named *AP Scholars with Distinction*. They received that honor by earning an average grade of 3.5 or better on all exams taken and grades of 3 or more on five or more of those exams.

## Student Council Fundraising for Kibera

When Student Council members discovered children in one African school going without pencils, they decided to do something about it. They collected pencils, erasers, and other badly needed school supplies for students in Kibera, an extremely poor area in Nairobi, Kenya. They also raised money to help the African school buy additional supplies.

It was a situation brought to their attention by French Teacher Aurelie Cressin, who volunteered last summer in Kibera and showed them photos. According to School President Eliza Chase '08, "People saw a connection between education and opportunity, and that's what we're all about at MHS." The project reflects Student Council's philanthropic mission, which this year centers on international education and children, explained School Vice President Eliza Rodrigs '08.

## Art Exhibited at NRM

Works from the following students were chosen for the 22nd Annual Berkshire County High School Art Show at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge:

**Photography:** Eliza Chase '08, Lyssa Goodrich '10, and Gwen Slagle '08

**Ceramics:** Marissa Lowe '10, Lauren Meregildo-Santos '09, and Hyun Sun Seo '09

**Painting and Drawing:** Jeong Hyeon Kim '09, Hsin Yueh Poo '08, Sei Young Shin '08, and Jo Sulin '09



Amy Inglis '08 (left) and Jesy Sherrod '08 were named league all-stars for the Western New England Prep School Volleyball Association (WNEPSVA). It is the second consecutive year both have been named all-stars.



Ire Lim '10 was selected for the Massachusetts Music Educators Association's (MMEA) Western District Festival Concert as an alto voice in the festival's District Chorus.



May Beattie '08 (left) and Tegan O'Neill '10 turned in notable performances during the 2008 Bay State Winter Games. May placed 4th in Alpine Skiing Giant Slalom for girls in 11th and 12th grades, and Tegan placed 4th in Novice Ladies Figure Skating.

## MHS Students Presented a “Cassie”

Pittsfield Community Television (PCTV) presented MHS Horizons students with a 2007 “Cassie” Cable Access Member Award for “outstanding contributions to the quality of community programming through excellence in television production.” Last year MHS students contributed 528 hours of volunteer intern time to PCTV. This year six juniors and two seniors interned at the station, learning how to use the cameras and the basics of studio and audio production, as well as graphics, editing, and directing.



From left: Seon Ah Yoon '09, Hyun Sun Seo '09, Hannah Minifie '09, Hester Godfrey '09, Eliza Chase '08, Site Supervisor Shawn Serre, Caroline Vreeland '08, Jo Sulin '09, Helen Donfried '09

## The Boston Globe Scholastic Art Competition Winners



From left: Sharon Huang '08, Madison Newbound '09, Hannah Minifie '09, and Hyun Sun Seo '09

Four MHS art students received honors for their participation in the 55th annual Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards. Madison Newbound '09 received a Gold Key award in photography, Hannah Minifie '09 received a Silver Key award for her photography, Sharon Huang '08 received a notable achievement award for her photography portfolio, and Hyun Sun Seo '09 received an honorable mention for painting. Madison and Hannah also had their artwork displayed at the state Department of Transportation Building in Boston.

## National Merit Students



Seniors Liz Rutledge (left) and Katie Sagarin were named *Commended Students* in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program. The designation means they placed among the top 5 percent of students who entered the 2008 competition for National Merit Scholarships. It also recognizes their exceptional performances on the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, or PSAT/NMSQT, and their academic promise.

## Pickett Scholars

The Lenox School Alumni Association named four-year MHS seniors Janice Brea and Sheniqua Little as recipients of this year's Mansfield Pickett Scholarships. The awards, named in memory of the late Mansfield E. (Peter) Pickett, are given annually to



From left: Tabitha Pickett Vahle '78, Janice Brea '08, Sheniqua Little '08, and Paul Denzel at the scholarship presentation

two seniors who exhibit outstanding performance in academics and extracurricular activities. The scholarships were recently presented by Paul Denzel, a representative of the Lenox School Alumni Association.

Janice is a member of PAaLS, a proctor, a three-year Admission Ambassador, and a four-year member of the varsity field hockey team, which she co-captained this year. She represented the School in 2006 and 2007 at the NAIS Student Diversity Leadership Conference and is also involved in a PAaLS program through which she mentors middle school girls in developing confidence in their critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Sheniqua is a member of PAaLS, a Big Sister to two new MHS students, and a member of the Spanish Club and Social Committee. She is also a three-year member of the soccer team and a contributor both to *Hallways*, the School's student-run newspaper, and *SoL*, the School's literary magazine. Sheniqua is also part of the PAaLS “skill-building” group developing communications workshops for MHS freshmen and juniors.

Mr. Pickett taught at both the Lenox School and at Miss Hall's School and was beloved by students and faculty alike. Mr. Pickett, the father of Tabitha Pickett Vahle '78, died in 1996, and this is the fifth year the Lenox School alumni have honored Miss Hall's students with scholarships, which are designated to help seniors with tuition and the added costs of senior year.



## Bill Botto, Director of Security

Bill Botto was promoted to lead the School's Security Department. He is responsible for developing policies and procedures regarding campus security, as well as for supervising the security team. He has seventeen years of security experience, including eight as manager of retail security operations and three at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield. Bill also has experience in both OSHA workplace requirements and in fire and safety compliance. Bill joined MHS in October 2006 as an on-call Security Officer and was named Security Supervisor in December 2006. Bill is also attending college and working on a liberal arts degree, with a focus on psychology. Bill and his family live in Pittsfield.



## Marcia August to Retire

The MHS community offers best wishes to Director of Horizons Marcia August, who will retire at the end of the school year. Marcia joined Miss Hall's in 1997, as the Horizons Program was beginning its second year, and her vision has allowed Horizons to become a model program for experiential, off-campus education.

As the program's director, Marcia believed that real-life experiences in the family, the School, and the community, helped girls develop an authentic sense of self and competence. "That development comes from doing worthy work, from making mistakes and learning from them, and from contributing to others," says Marcia. "Horizons nudges the girls out of their comfort zones and challenges them to figure out how they can successfully contribute to the larger society that has supported them—directly or indirectly—their entire lives. The challenge is that each girl comes to the program with different expectations and different preparation. Each creates her own success or, as in some cases, her own failure. In both cases, however, the experience teaches her valuable lessons, though for some, this learning may not occur until well into the future."

Marcia and her husband, Stephen, plan to retire to Bath, Maine, where she expects to enjoy bicycling, swimming, hiking, snowshoeing, ice-skating, learning to cane chairs, stained glass artistry, and a lot of volunteer work. Marcia and Stephen have two children, Rachel '95 and Abigail '00, and granddaughters, Elizabeth and Frances Amelia. Stephen, Director of Budget Studies for the Ways and Means Committee of the New York State Assembly, is retiring when the current fiscal year budget is finished and the Assembly closes its session.

# Because you make the gift, they'll make the difference.

## The Fund *for* MHS 2007-2008

At the half-year mark, the Fund for MHS had safely passed the half-way mark toward our goal of \$725,000 by June 30th. We welcomed Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy '00 and Maressa Bell-Deane '06 to the ranks of Class Representative. Class Representatives solicit gifts from classmates for the Fund for MHS and maintain ties between classmates and the School. This is important work, and we are grateful to our volunteers for their commitment to their jobs. The Parents' Fund Committee set its participation goal at 70 percent and hopes to raise at least \$100,000 from parents of currently enrolled students. At this writing, parents have contributed \$52,000 and their participation stands at 43 percent. Plans are for a March break Student Phonathon and year-end June Student Phonathon.



### *Tripodity Tales—Live*

MHS Expressive Arts Chair Gary Miller and Emily Duff '06 announce the release of their CD *Tripodity Tales—Live*. The cost of the CD is \$10.00, plus \$2.00 for mailing within the US (\$4.00 mailing outside the US). The CD may be ordered through the MHS Development Office by calling Sandra Tucker at 413-395-7061, or through the MHS website, [www.misshalls.org](http://www.misshalls.org). \$5.00 from each sale will support the Fund for MHS.

## Faculty/Staff Anniversaries

<b>Paul Van Sickle</b> .....	30 years
<i>Math Teacher</i>	
<b>Fredi Hungate</b> .....	20 years
<i>Math Teacher, ASC Instructor</i>	
<b>David Leslie</b> .....	15 years
<i>Security Officer</i>	
<b>Norvelene Contakos</b> .....	15 years
<i>Director of Wilderness Program</i>	
<b>Linda Coll</b> .....	10 years
<i>Registrar</i>	
<b>Teresa Gentile</b> .....	10 years
<i>School Counselor</i>	

*In photo:*  
HOUSEKEEPING  
Annie Bennett  
Della Gallagher  
Debra Morawski  
Denise Roller  
Bob St. Sauveur  
Roger Welch  
Sue-Ann Zuber

*Missing from photo:*  
HOUSEKEEPING  
Melodie Effendi

*In photo:*  
MAINTENANCE  
Marc Allesio  
Tom Boino  
Jeff Crosier  
Dave Gibbs  
SECURITY  
Willard Baird  
David Leslie  
Francis Wilk

*Missing from photo:*  
MAINTENANCE  
Wayne Filan  
Richard Kovacs  
SECURITY  
William Botto  
James Lyman Jr.

## *By the Numbers: Maintenance*

- 2 elevators
- 3 cords of wood burned a year in fireplaces
- 5 miles walked by a security officer over the course of one day or night round
- 6 fire hydrants
- 6 maintenance staff
- 8 housekeeping staff
- 8 school vehicles
- 11 washers and dryers
- 14 campus buildings
- 17 faculty residences
- 25-30 miles driven around campus by security personnel daily
- 26 vacuums
- 27 yards of mulch put down last summer
- 48 bathrooms
- 56 hours to mow and weed-whack the grounds each time
- 62 tons of sand put down a winter
- 64 light bulbs in dining room
- 68 air filters in buildings
- 79 acres of property
- 82 dorm rooms
- 90 gallons of paint used on athletic fields a year
- 127 parking spaces
- 128 locks replaced this year
- 138 parking permits issued
- 188 light bulbs in dorm rooms
- 210 windowpanes to clean in Dining Room
- 220 doors checked by security officer during a nightly round
- 470 windows checked by security officer during a nightly round
- 494 windowpanes to clean in Centennial Hall
- 567 gallons of gasoline used in a month
- 650 chairs set up for commencement
- 60 x 100: size of commencement tent
- 700 light bulbs changed a year
- 2,238 feet of carpet replaced this year
- 143,500 square feet of carpet and floor
- 3,300 work requests a year
- 3,800 trash bags used a month
- 12,760: number of chairs set up for Morning Meetings this year
- \$140,000 annual electric bill
- \$200,000 annual heating bill

# LEGACIES

**Catherine Anania '10**

*Sister of Victoria Anania '11*

**Victoria Anania '11**

*Sister of Catherine Anania '10*

**Alison Ault '10**

*Daughter of*

*Nancy Gustafson Ault '73*

*Niece of Gail Gustafson Lintern '70*

**Karissa E. Barnes '11**

*Sister of Samantha Barnes '07*

**Caroline E. Barry '09**

*Niece of Patricia Barry*

*Altomare '79*

**Shelby C. Boos '10**

*Great Great Niece of*

*Frances White Cosmos '30*

*Great Granddaughter of*

*Grace Ellsworth White '32*

*Granddaughter of*

*Elinor Ellsworth '59*

*Great Niece of*

*Starr Ellsworth Sayres '60*

*Great Niece of*

*Ann-Toy Ellsworth Broughton '65*

*Second Cousin of*

*Alexandra Ellsworth Greene '91*

**Allison A. Carey '11**

*Sister of Shannon M. Carey '09*

**Shannon M. Carey '09**

*Sister of Allison A. Carey '11*

**Emma E. Donfried '11**

*Sister of Helen L. Donfried '09*

**Helen L. Donfried '09**

*Sister of Emma E. Donfried '11*

**Isabel J. Filkins '10**

*Sister of Malina L. Filkins '10*

**Malina L. Filkins '10**

*Sister of Isabel J. Filkins '10*

**Ariel E. Fusini '09**

*Daughter of Dennis Fusini '79*

*Niece of Suzanne Fusini-Collins '75*

*Niece of Anthony L. Fusini '79*

*Cousin of Laura E. Fusini '07*

*Cousin of Sarah A. Fusini '07*

*Sister of Bethany T. Fusini '11*

**Bethany T. Fusini '11**

*Daughter of Dennis Fusini '79*

*Niece of Suzanne Fusini-Collins '75*

*Niece of Anthony L. Fusini '79*

*Cousin of Laura E. Fusini '07*

*Cousin of Sarah A. Fusini '07*

*Sister of Ariel E. Fusini '09*

**Saniya Jesupaul '10**

*Sister of Sharmila Jesupaul '08*

**Sharmila Jesupaul '08**

*Sister of Saniya Jesupaul '10*

**Alysha S. Kercado '09**

*Sister of Kelsey Kercado '10*

**Kelsey Kercado '10**

*Sister of Alysha Kercado '09*

**Hannah G. Knoblauch '10**

*Cousin of Emily C. McCloskey '08*

*Cousin of Nora E. McCloskey '08*

**Megan A. Krentsa '09**

*Sister of Kerry E. Krentsa '11*

**Nora E. McCloskey '08**

*Niece of Jane Magner Pixley '82*

*Sister of Emily C. McCloskey '05*

*Cousin of*

*Hannah G. Knoblauch '10*

**Alexandra M. Meregildo-Santos '11**

*Sister of Lauren V. Meregildo-Santos '09*

**Lauren V. Meregildo-Santos '09**

*Sister of*

*Alexandra M. Meregildo-Santos '11*

**Eliza H. Rodriqs '08**

*Sister of Häna Rodriqs '05*

**Eleanor C. Rutledge '11**

*Sister of Elizabeth H. Rutledge '08*

**Elizabeth H. Rutledge '08**

*Sister of Eleanor C. Rutledge '11*

**Hyun Jae Seo '11**

*Sister of Hyun Sun Seo '09*

**Hyun Sun Seo '09**

*Sister of Hyun Jae Seo '11*

**Amanda K. Shunamon '08**

*Sister of Nicole M. Shunamon '05*

**Gwendolyne M. Slagle '08**

*Great Niece of Joan Phippen Marsh '34*

*Great Niece of Betsey Phippen '34*

*Granddaughter of*

*Nancy Dunn Wolcott '39*

*Niece of Wendy Wolcott Mackey '63*

**Lauren L. Stair '08**

*Sister of Vanessa E. Stair '06*

**Beatriz E. Vallarino '09**

*Second Cousin of*

*Beatriz Guevara Madonado '53*

*Daughter of*

*Beatriz Pino-Gomez Vallarino '85*

*Second Cousin of*

*Pilar Orrantia Quentin '88*

**Hope R. Ward '11**

*Sister of Joi R. Ward '09*

**Joi R. Ward '09**

*Sister of Hope R. Ward '11*



photo by Amy Inglis '08

## New Student Fact Sheet

	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04
Applied	231 (186/45)	182 (154/28)	198 (131/32)	153 (105/30)	156 (138/18)
Admitted	134 (98/36)	113 (93/20)	115 (88/27)	95 (72/23)	105 (91/14)
Enrolled	74 (52/22)	63 (50/13)	66 (43/23)	59 (41/18)	66 (56/10)
Legacies	14	7	7	6	6
<b>Sending School</b>					
Public	36	34	23	37	29
Private	33	28	38	19	29
Parochial	4	1	3	2	6
Homeschool	1	0	2	0	2
<b>Diversity</b>					
African	0	0	1	0	0
African-American	8	8	7	1	3
Asian	22	11	9	11	3
Asian-American	0	3	3	0	0
Caucasian	36	24	35	37	39
Latina	3	12	8	9	2
Native-American	0	0	0	0	1
Multiracial	4	4	2	1	4
Persian-American	0	0	1	0	1
South American	1	0	0	0	0

- Top 5 states of total student body: Massachusetts (82), New York (29), New Jersey (12), Connecticut (6), and Vermont (4)
- Countries represented by total student body: Bermuda, Bhutan, Chile, China, Ecuador, Germany, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, United States



### Education

BA, Wheaton College (Music)  
MM, New England Conservatory of Music (Composition)

### Title and Duties

Choral Director, directs Vocal Ensemble and Merrie Melodies, coaches Grace Notes, teaches private music instruction in Voice, Piano, and Flute, advises Student Council.

### Years at Miss Hall's

Twenty-one

### Favorite Authors

Some of my favorites were those I read when I was a student—early twentieth century American authors—John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald. Presently, I enjoy reading fiction and mystery, in particular, Anita Shreve, Maeve Binchy, and Jodi Picoult.

### Favorite Pastimes

It is probably no surprise that I enjoy anything to do with music, whether it is playing piano or singing, accompanying, arranging, or listening. I also enjoy reading, doing daily crossword puzzles, cooking, baking, and spending time with my family.

### Greatest Satisfaction

I get the most satisfaction out of my family and teaching. I have always loved music and decided I wanted to teach when I learned how to read music in elementary school. Teaching a piece of music to students, either in a group situation or one on one, and figuring out how to get it to work for them is the best. The moment when they are able to appreciate what they have done and express that they like what they hear is truly its greatest reward. This may happen in rehearsal or may not until performance, but it is always a wonderful feeling to experience the joy and satisfaction students feel after all of the many hours of rehearsal and hard work.

### Family

I live with my husband, Gordon, our two children, Emily '06, age 19, and Matthew, age 17, and our cat, Figaro. We live in the house Gordon was building when we first met, 23 years ago, and it has been a special place to raise our family.

### Profile

Debbie is such a steady and gracious presence in our school community . . . unflappable in every situation, she is always cool-headed . . . an amazingly patient and gentle soul . . . she is a pleasure to work with and has a great sense of humor, which she sustains through upsets, changes, problems, difficulties . . . she is kind and considerate to everyone—she never speaks unkindly or says anything negative about anyone—she sees the good side in all . . . a great musical talent . . . an avid crossword puzzle solver . . . a great cook . . . a flower gardener . . . gracious, talented, interested, loyal, supportive . . . always a professional and an optimist . . . she is forward motion regardless . . . she has accomplished a great deal with Student Council, leading them through recent issues such as internet and cell phone use . . . she provides the accompaniment for life at Miss Hall's, especially for girls who sing . . . she is a caring and reliable colleague, a devoted and skillful music teacher, a great friend, and a very proud but modest mother



Left: Trustee Alice Butler Burnham '65, Trustee Robin Brown Woods '58, Clare Chester Stone '58, and Jacquie Smith Littlejohn '71 at the Arts Advisory Board reception at the New York School of Interior Design in October



Right: Trustee Lee Auchincloss Link '61, Trustee Alice Butler Burnham '65, and Cassie Sheffield Kernan '62 at the Arts Advisory Board reception following the showing of "The Collector," a film about the life and work of Clare Chester Stone's '58 husband, Allan Stone, at the New York School of Interior Design

# Arts Advisory Board



Left: Ellie Ellsworth '59, and Arts Advisory Board co-Chair Louise Lins Ducas '61, at the Arts Advisory Board reception following the showing of "The Collector"

## Early Bird Program Offered for Alumnae Weekend

In response to years of feedback from alumnae looking for a little extra activity during the time-limited Alumnae Weekend schedule, Alumnae Council conducted a survey to investigate the potential for an “early bird” program. Questions included “What is your greatest motivation for attending Alumnae Weekend?” “What would entice you to arrive early to your reunion?” and finally, “On what topics would you be interested in hearing a speaker or participating in a group discussion?”

Response was an overwhelming success with 150 submissions. It was clear from your recommendations that MHS alumnae cherish reconnecting with classmates, sharing memories, and learning about the School today. Results also revealed that those attending Alumnae Weekend are interested in the current leadership landscape for girls and women and how these girls prepare for life in a global society.

This new program, to kick-off at NOON on Friday, May 16, will respond to these interests and include “hot-topic” group sessions, speaker(s), and the opportunity to interact with MHS students—all while getting to know alumnae from other classes. We ask that you stay tuned to the MHS website for more details as this year’s Alumnae Weekend planning unfolds. We do hope you will join us for this exciting addition to an already successful event.

## Alumnae Council President’s Commendations

*Alumnae Council President’s Commendations are given at the recommendation of the Alumnae Council and at the discretion of the President to recognize individuals whose exceptional actions have strengthened connections within the MHS community.*

**Nancy Gustafson Ault ’73**, MHS Trustee, parent of Alison ’10, Centennial Celebration co-Chair and Chair of the Fund for MHS since 2003-04, for her commitment to helping ensure the success of the School and its mission. Her continued efforts as Class Representative and Reunion Chair for the Class of 1973 and for the Fund for MHS have contributed to a 25 percent increase in annual giving that last year reached another record level.

**Sheila Scranton Childs ’57**, former Trustee, two-term Alumnae Council President, and Reunion Chair in 1997, 2002, and 2007, for continuously inspiring support for MHS among her classmates and fellow alumnae. Sheila’s invaluable efforts have helped bolster alumnae pride and participation in many areas of the School community, and she has served as an effective liaison among several MHS stakeholders, including Alumnae, the School, and the Board.

**Christine Whipple Farrington ’63**, for selflessly helping classmate Sandy Perkins White ’63 when Sandy’s son, Spencer, underwent an emergency appendectomy in Portland, Oregon. Sandy could not make it to the hospital in time from Colorado, so she called Christine in Portland. Though they had not been in touch since their days at MHS, Christine and husband Carl gladly stepped in to give Sandy the peace of mind that all parents need.

# M I L E S T O N E S

## BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

- Vanessa L. Rooks '89, a daughter, Scarlett, July 23, 2007  
Patricia Jackson Sheridan '90, a son, Kieran, June 25, 2007  
Allison Scherer Thomas '93, a daughter, Leni, July 3, 2007  
Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy '99, a daughter, Lillian, June 18, 2007

## MARRIAGES

- Carolyn Harris '73 to Kevin Raymond, July 7, 2007  
Pam Adler '87 to Jeff Frole, September 2007  
Marie Anne Dreher '88 to Daniel Ewig, October 20, 2007  
Sarah Rich '93 to Daniel Chace, June 30, 2007  
Allyson Bricken '95 to Steve Quirk, September 30, 2007  
Hadley St. John '96 to Jesse Dutra, October 6, 2007  
Jenny Miller '99 to Daryll Gatie, August 18, 2007

## DEATHS

- Peggy Ewing Waxter '22, September 18, 2007  
Frances Partridge Coulter '27, September 4, 2007  
Helen Curtis Dudley '27, July 12, 2007  
Margaret Stanley '32, September 10, 2007  
Harriet Curtiss Coughlin '34, January 19, 2008  
Alice Truesdale Mueller '39, May 29, 2007  
Audrey Walker Perkins '39, October 2, 2007  
Anne Trowbridge Bliss '45, October 28, 2007  
Eve Prime Fout '47, December 5, 2007  
Lois Ford Vochoska '47, August 23, 2007  
Barbara Cusack Geer '48, January 18, 2008  
Mary Fentress Glenn '50, December 1, 2007  
Pattie Martin Armesto '56, September 20, 2007  
Lynne Belknap Crowley '56, August 22, 2007  
Michele Morrison '69, September 2007  
Allison Eckardt Ledes '71, January 8, 2008

*When submitting Milestones, please send complete information. For births and adoptions, include daughter's or son's name and date of birth. For marriages, include name of spouse and date of wedding. For deaths, include date of death.*

# Class Notes

'22

The School was sorry to learn of the death of **Peggy Ewing Waxter**, of Baltimore, Md., who died on September 18, 2007 at the age of 103. When she celebrated her 100th birthday, all of the MHS girls sent her a signed birthday card that they had created for the special occasion.

'27

From her daughter Margaret Coulter McBride, we learned of the death of **Frances Partridge Coulter** in September. Ms. Bride told us her mother was always grateful for her education at Miss Hall's, and went on to tell us a little about her mother's life. Frances was born in Proctor, Vt., oldest of five children. She was home-schooled with a French teacher during her early years, and thus, French was her first language. After graduation from MHS, she attended Vassar, graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a major in German. She and John Wesley Coulter, a teacher of geography at the University of Hawaii, were married in July 1941. After World War II, the Coulters settled near the Partridge family in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they raised three children. After her husband's death in 1967, Frances stayed in Middlebury, Vt. and eventually moved to Wake Robin retirement community in that state, where she lived happily and with very good care until she died. We are grateful to Ms. McBride for the generous gift to MHS in her mother's memory.

We received a note from Kim Snyder that her mother and our alumna **Helen Curtis Dudley** died on July 12, 2007 at the age of 98. Besides her School, Helen's other charitable interests were the Kimberly-Shirk

Association, the Country Friends (Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.), Rancho Santa Fe Library Guild, and Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club. We send our condolences to the Curtis and Dudley families.

'28

**Laura Orr Trostel** tells us, "I liked Miss Hall's School a lot. I especially liked Miss Hall herself. She looked very stern but she had a twinkle in her eye."

'32

**Grace White Ellsworth** and daughter **Ellie Ellsworth '59** came to MHS with great-granddaughter Shelby Boos '10 and parents, when Shelby returned for her sophomore year.

We regret to report the sad news that **Margaret Stanley** died on September 10, 2007. Head of School Jeannie Norris and her husband Peter attended the memorial service in Holyoke, Mass. Miss Stanley worked for ten years as a catalog librarian at William Stanley Library at General Electric Co., Pittsfield, Mass., and later as librarian and board member of the Berkshire County Historical Society of Pittsfield, where she also developed and equipped the Margaret H. Hall Library. At the Loomis House Retirement Community in Holyoke, Mass., Miss Stanley helped to establish the Loomis LARA Scholarship Fund. Miss Hall's is grateful that Miss Stanley requested that memorial contributions be made to the Miss Hall's School Endowment.

## Former Faculty

Alexander Stewart, a friend of former MHS French teacher and resident Helen Anders, called to say that Miss Anders died on June 10. Her MHS career spanned 24 years from 1947-71. Mr. Stewart wanted us to know how much it had meant to Miss Anders to read in an alumna profile of **Rebecca Bromley '57** in COLUMNS that Rebecca said how much Miss Anders and her French class had meant to her. It let her know that "her life had meaning." Miss Anders had no family, but Mr. Stewart's family "adopted her." Miss Anders earned her degree in French from Mt. Holyoke College and did graduate work at Middlebury College.

We received a postcard from Anne Ludlum, former MHS teacher of theater, that said she would be doing an adaptation of Don Quixote at the Seattle Book-It Repertory Theater.

We heard from former Latin teacher Mary Quirk, in Morocco on an internship with the School for International Training where she is getting her master's, "One of my classes is children ages 6-10 years-old, which should be fun. Prepping takes a good amount of time, since this is my first time teaching EFL. My students are sweet and really enthusiastic (rambunctious!), and the time goes quickly. The people are very friendly, and we already have two invitations from students to come to their house for dinner so we can learn to cook tagine and couscous."

In a message to Head of School Jeannie Norris, former Admission Officer Jen Yomoah wrote, "I've had a few lunches with recent graduates who attend area colleges. So far I've met up with **Valentina Delfino '05**, and '07 alumnae **Sam Barnes** and **Leigh Wormelle**, who all go to Northeastern. Others from the class of '07, **Lauren Johnson**, **Claire Everhart**, and **Eliza Pope**, also joined us for a lunch. I ran into **Sarah Fusini '07** near my campus. I have yet to see **Jill Rich '05**, but I hear we were once in the same building at the same time! We all agree that we miss Miss Hall's School."

'34

Class Secretary  
Anne Pyle Dennis  
P O Box 526  
Keene Valley, NY 12943-0526

We learned of the death of **Harriet Curtiss Coughlin** in Cleveland, Ohio on January 19. Her husband Barrington died on January 2. Harriet, a sixth-generation Clevelander, counted early settlers of the Western Reserve among her ancestors. As a young woman, she promoted family planning with the Maternal Health Association, a forerunner of Planned Parenthood of Greater Cleveland. She held leadership positions with local organizations such as the Western Reserve Herb Society, Friends of University Hospitals, and the Junior League. She will be missed.

In October **Anne Pyle Dennis** wrote, "My son, Thomas G. Dennis, Jr. received the Good Citizen Award in Grand Junction, Colo. for his organization which collects food and clothing to donate to the needy Native

Americans in the area. My daughter **Dianna Dennis '72** is living in Ireland where she rides horses and is writing music. I miss her!"

'37

Class Secretary  
Dorothy Riddell Thatcher  
The Cypress  
3 Hadley Lane  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

'38

Class Secretary  
Reunion Chair  
Joan Dunbar Binker  
183 Putnam Park  
Greenwich, CT 06830-5782

Class Secretary **Joan Dunbar Binker** writes, "Two weeks in Nova Scotia was a wonderful vacation this summer with my daughter Marcia; added memories to the bank."



Want an easy way to make your annual gift? Automatic withdrawal is now available.



The Thatcher family at the wedding of Katie Thatcher, granddaughter of Mouse and former Trustee Dorothy Riddell Thatcher '37

"I am still working on my second novel, *The Crystal River*, endless!" writes **Anne Sweetser Watson**. "A small book of prose, *On the Way to the River*, is available from me. I'm glad to hear about Miss Hall's School today. Miss Mira must be smiling."

### '39

Class Representative  
Ann Starbuck Gelsler  
605 Universe Blvd.  
T-712  
Juno Beach, FL 33408

Class Secretary  
Nancy Dunn Wolcott  
142 West 82nd Street, Apt. 5  
New York, NY 10024-5592

Waxing poetic, Class Representative **Bucky Starbuck Gelsler** penned: Hey, '39ers, now shrunk to 18 from our original 32, Boo hoo! We miss you! So, now, here we are in our mid-eighties, decrepit alum, Still giving a pretty good sum (by June 30th) To the very important MHS Fund. Truly, is there anything finer than a giving '39er?! From School and Bucky, too: Eternal thanks for all you do.

Class Representative **Bucky Starbuck Gelsler** says, "Guess what? I'm still here, and George also, though his weak legs are no fun, but his motorized chair takes him

around our building, to supper, men's exercise, and to walk in the pool. As Class Representative I'm also very thankful to you faithful givers to be the Fund for MHS!"

"Bob and I moved from Lake Forest, Ill. to the Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community in Asheville, N. C. in July," writes **Mouse Naylor Gillispie**. "We're enjoying it a great deal and are glad that we finally made the decision to establish a residency near our daughter Diana and her family, plus having the benefits of continuing care, and situated in this lovely location where the winters are mild and the people are very friendly, as southerners reputedly are. I'm sorry to report the death of my dear roommate **Audrey Walker Perkins** who died on October 2, 2007. She and I kept up our close relationship ever since MHS. She later graduated from Barnard and became a distinguished artist with an impressive résumé. Her step-sister is **Cynthia Fabian Brown '38**. I saw her occasionally when she visited Audrey and Dick at their home in Jupiter Island, Fla."

At holiday time we heard from former trustee **Cynthia Dalrymple Newman**, who said, "Happily all of my family are well and are still talking to 'CinkyBa'! I still get called for travel after retiring two years ago, and would like to do more myself but I'm on oxygen part-time which makes flying a real project, not to mention a nuisance for all involved. I go three times a week to an exercise class and try to keep up with current politics, but the Republicans in Vir-

ginia have been nearly taken over by the far right wing, giving us 'I like Ike' Republicans a rough time, particularly when the Democrats run intelligent attractive candidates, which they have done lately in Virginia. I have a group of 'moderate' buddies and we are looking forward to helping nominate and elect a good GOP team in Washington next year."

In a holiday card to Head of School Jeannie Norris, **Sally Parsons Oriel** told us that she has moved to Fox Hill Retirement Home outside Boston but she is keeping her Florida apartment. She misses New York City and is trying to adjust to her new life in the Boston area.

**Martha Smith Lovejoy** wrote, "I am off to Washington, D.C. to watch one of my granddaughters receive a high award from the Justice Department. She worked for the Justice Department for two years before attending Yale Law School, where she is in her second year."

The School was sorry to learn of the death of **Alice Truesdale Mueller** who died on May 29, 2007. MHS sends condolences to her family.

Trustee **Terry Thompson '64** spoke with **Jean Clark Talmage** in the fall and learned that she planned to move to Hendersonville, N.C. in mid-October. She will let us know her new address when she is settled.

### '40

Class Secretary  
Sally Manny Cross  
38 Dusty Miller Road  
Falmouth, MA 02540-1702

Class Representative  
Margaret Stuart Hart  
2085 Middle Mesa Drive  
Wickenburg, AZ 85390

In a note to MHS during the holiday season, **Sally Manny Cross** wrote, "I am so honored to have the Woods Hole Research Center call me and ask if I would be interviewed for an article. My life has changed now that I am known as a 'Sea Glass article!' I'm having a lot of fun."

Over the winter holiday season, when School was closed for vacation, **Lila Deyo Garnett '40** and her family stopped by MHS. Head of Security William Botto gave Lila and her family a brief tour of the campus. Lila mentioned that she has a few photos of the original building and was interested in seeing more.

**Janet Kerr Howell** writes, "Everything is fine with us. Still enjoying life in our mountain community."

### '41

Class Secretary  
Louise Ransom  
245 East 72nd Street, #2C  
New York, NY 10021-4516

### '42

Class Secretary  
Alice Cook Bosworth  
2552 E Alameda Avenue, Unit 1  
Denver, CO 80209-3324

Head of School Jeannie Norris and Director of Development Janis Martinson had lunch in Providence, R. I. with **Barbara Tomkins Ridgely**, **Robin Whiting Hall '64** and **Louie Safe Mauran '52**. Jeannie and Janis learned during lunch that Barbara and Robin are friends. Her husband was a French professor at Brown. Barbara recalls Miss Pitman and Miss Lovering.

**Alice Whitman Sailer** writes, "I had an absolutely wonderful cruise on the Seine last spring with my daughter. Paris was so special and on to Giverny, Rouen and Normandy. Such a lovely way to go."

If you are headed to the Berkshires, contact [dbriney@misshalls.org](mailto:dbriney@misshalls.org) to arrange a visit to the School.



Bob and Syd Hinkle Buffum '47 with the Buffum and Crampton families

### '43



Reunion Chair  
Kathleen Oliver Parker  
1170 Fifth Avenue #6B  
New York, NY 10029-6527

### '45

From her daughter, we learned that **Anne Trowbridge Bliss**, who lived in South Freeport, Maine, died on October 28, 2007. Anne was a loyal member of her class and will be missed.

In a note to Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney, **Elisabeth Claypool Dudley** wrote, "The arboretum (now just plain Highstead, since the operation has expanded) is in a temporary state of upheaval as we're in the early stages of building an addition to the headquarters and undertaking a geothermal installation to heat/cool the whole place. The well-drilling process necessarily produced a sloppy grey mess of mud just in time to freeze. But it bears out the old adage of breaking that egg to make the omelet—those people on the MHS campus are well aware of this, having gone through quite an expansion process there!"

MHS send condolences to **Dorothy Ford Marlin** upon the death of her sister **Lois Ford Vochoska '47**.

### '46

**Suzanne Rice Morse** writes, "My first great-grandchild was born in New York City. He is a tremendous pleasure to us all!"

### '47

Class Secretary  
Sydney Hinkle Buffum  
7660 Manasota Key Road  
Englewood, FL 34223-9344

In July, Bob and **Sydney Hinkle Buffum** stopped by MHS en route to their summer home in Weekapaug, R.I. from Syracuse, N.Y. Syd hadn't seen all the new buildings on campus. Development Assistant Sandie Tucker was happy to give them a campus tour. Both were delighted with what they saw.

From her classmate **Syd Hinkle Buffum**, we learned of the death of **Eve Prime Fout** on December 5, 2007. Eve was a passionate, lifelong horsewoman with deep roots in fox hunting and equestrian sports, and it was fox hunting that Eve believed helped develop an equally passionate facet of her character: her love of the Virginia countryside and her fierce determination to preserve it. An active supporter and chairman over the past decade of the nine-county, Warrenton-based Piedmont Environmental Council, she is widely credited with saving thousands of acres of open land in the region from commercial development. Eve leaves siblings Bill of Warrenton, Vir., Doug of The Plains, and Nina of Middle-

burg, as well as two grandchildren. In Eve's memory, Syd made a gift to the School of a beautiful book, *Famous Horse Women of Virginia*, by Francis Marion Bush, which features a picture of Eve on its cover.

The MHS Development Office was notified of the death of **Lois Ford Vochoska** in August 2007. After MHS Lois, attended Vassar College where she received a degree BA in music. She was a long time member of the Anchorage Concert Chorus. MHS sends condolences to her sister **Dorothy Ford Marlin '45** and family.

### '48



"After 25 years in the Foreign Service, Westy and I retired to Chapel Hill, N.C. where I worked for 10 years with a mediation center, for which I still volunteer," writes **Betsy Young Fenhagen**. "Westy died three years ago and I now share my house with one of my daughters, along with her husband and my 2-year-old granddaughter. The arrangement seems to work well and, although I am 77, I am fortunate to feel about the same as I did when I graduated from MHS."

From her son Cornelius, we learned that **Barbara Cusack Geer**, of East Haddam, Conn. died on Friday, January 18, 2008. She was a graduate of Goucher College and was married to the late Abbot Montague Geer for 52 years. A 30-year resident of Armonk, N.Y., Barbara was an active parishioner in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church serving the Altar Guild, the Episcopal Church Women, and the church. She was also a sustaining member (35 years) of the Junior League of Northern Westchester, and a member of the East Haddam Garden Club, and East Haddam Historical Society. She is survived by her daughters, the Rev. Victoria McGrath of Chatham, N.J., and Sabra Donovan of Orange, Conn., and her son, Cornelius of Chicago, Ill., their spouses and five grandchildren.

**Lucretia Witt** tells us, "Both grandsons are married and Brian is to give me my first grandchild. I still golf, bowl, and volunteer both at schools and Swedish Hospital."

### '49

Class Secretary  
Judith Hill Kittredge  
444 Main Street  
Dalton, MA 01226

"Mike and I had a wonderful trip to Tuscany with friends in June and a lovely trip to Savannah, Ga. in October," wrote **Kip Macdonald Farrell**. "This summer we had eight of our eleven grandkids visit us at Point O'Woods on Fire Island. **Sue Tower Wood '50** came up to introduce herself in church in New Canaan, Conn. What a lovely surprise."

From **Liz Pitlik Kruidenier** in southern California, who wrote about the devastating wildfires, we heard, "I'm just fine for the second time. We were alerted but never evacuated, thank goodness. My son-in-law lost his recently deceased Dad's home in Rancho Santa Fe, which one sister still called home, and she was devastated by the loss of all her personal belongings. Philip stayed on in his and Wendy's home to look after their horses. They have four friends they have learned of so far who were not so lucky. For so many further from the coast it has been an even worse nightmare that will go on for years, and my heart goes out to them. Compared to New Orleans and the Cedar fire, this disaster has been far better managed, but we can still do much better. There is beginning to be coordination with the military, but it still takes far too long. With the climate changes happening at the speed they are, we need to learn how to marshal our forces faster to put out the fires before they get out of control. So much still to learn about living in harmony with our planet, so please continue doing the wonderful job you all are doing of educating our young women."

### '50

Class Representative  
Maureen Vincent Beck  
PO Box 823  
Nantucket, MA 02554

Class Representative **Maureen Vincent Beck** wrote, "Greetings to you all as we head toward our 60th Reunion in 2010! The School is most grateful for your support both as alumnae who take pride in its strong positive education of girls and for helping build the endowment funds so necessary to its success. Because of our long connection with MHS, we count as graduates who have a retrospective understanding of what has stayed with us in our schooling and strengthened our lives. That feeling came alive for us in the last two years

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Bill and Class Representative Carol Reineman Rees '52 (5th from left, standing) with daughter Caroline Pratt Cleary '78 (2nd from left, standing), and the rest of the family

when **Phoebe Ashley Chardon** in 2006 and **Sue Tower Wood** in 2007 invited us for a weekend to visit with each other. Six of us joined Sue last September at her house in Lake Sunapee, N.H.: **Phoebe Ashley Chardon**, **Kitty Ladd Ward**, **Sheila McKenzie Warner**, **Terry Bryant Law**, and me. **Bobby Duval** wanted to come but could not and sent instead some great pictures of her glamorous self and her children. We're hoping to meet again somewhere next year and will let everyone know. We particularly remembered "Kingman," **Helen Kingman West**, who lost her battle with cancer last summer. Some of us had had telephone conversations with her in the last two years. Terry and the rest of us agreed that she was a serious, honest strength in our class. We congratulated Kitty on achieving at last her BFA from the Massachusetts College of Art & Design with distinction and honors in art history. What an ongoing tribute to Miss Gatchell Kitty's hard work reflects. She's now developing her thesis into a book."

From her daughter, we learned the sad news that **Mary Fentress Glenn** died on December 1, 2007 in Florida. She is survived by her daughter, son, and six grandchildren, and by her sister in Chicago. Mary was a lifelong gardening enthusiast and member of the Coconut Grove (Fla.) Gardening Club. She was also an accomplished quilter and member of the Ocean Wave Quilters. She will be sorely missed by her MHS classmates.

## '51

The 28th Annual Salute to Women in Sports that benefits the Women's Sports Foundation, which **Eva Seed Auchincloss** took from a fledgling organization to the national collective voice for women's sports that it is today, honored **Billie Jean King** and **Wilma Rudolph** for their contributions to women's sports, on October 15.

In a conversation with **Sally Reeves Edmonds**, Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney learned that Sally and her husband will be traveling to Egypt and Jordan. Their grandson is a sophomore at Deerfield, the alma mater of King Abdullah II of Jordan. The Edmonds's look forward to seeing the King's Academy, which is modeled after Deerfield. King Abdullah wants his school to be "a place where students set aside class, background, and pretense to learn and grow together while embracing personal and community values that include dignity, honesty, tolerance, and compassion."

From **Maggie Bayne Wall** we hear, "I'm playing lots of team tennis and have restarted my interior design company, which is going well. We love Vero Beach, Fla. and our new home!"

## '52

Class Secretary  
**Judith Vohr Niles**  
27 Warren Street East  
Raynham, MA 02767

Class Representative  
**Carol Reineman Rees**  
35 North Country Club Drive  
Rochester, NY 14618-3723

Class Representative **Carol Reineman Rees** wrote, "Memories and humor are the only way to handle these older years! Remember the third floor corridor our freshman and sophomore years? What a bunch of raw 14 and 15 year-olds. What innocent comedians we were. Wende and her hocus pokus! The worst things I ever did was read *Gone With the Wind* with a flashlight under the covers, and walk the railroad tracks with **Peggy Halsted Tenney** and **Gail Hitchcock Seed '51**. As you remember those days, send a check to MHS to support all these new young people and laugh at all the fun we had!"

At holiday time, **Anne Louise Luquer Clinton** wrote from the San Diego, Calif. area, "Happily, we can say that the nearest any fire got to our home was about six miles (by air) to the southeast. We enjoyed a brief trailer trip in July to visit old friends near the Bay Area. Then, in August we went to Oregon to sightsee at Crater Lake there, and then took another

kind of 'adventure'—two weekends to explore the 'Green Built Tour' of homes and businesses which have gone 'green.' These included a co-op supermarket, an older house being retrofitted without hazardous chemicals, and even a country house entirely self-sustained off the electric grid. . . . We're very concerned about global climate change."

On a lovely fall day in September Head of School **Jeannie Norris** and Director of Development **Janis Martinson** had lunch in Providence, R.I. with **Loulie Safe Mauran**, **Robin Whiting Hall '64** and **Barbara Tomkins Ridgely '42**. Loulie reported over the holiday, "Cal Groton and I will be married in Providence, R.I. at a small, family wedding on January 26."

In a note to Head of School **Jeannie Norris**, **Carol Reineman Rees** said that she and Bill will have three grandchildren entering college next year, one of whom will go to West Point.

Submit Class Notes via e-mail to  
[alumnae@misshalls.org](mailto:alumnae@misshalls.org) by  
June 30 for inclusion in the  
Fall issue of the MHS Bulletin.



Grandchildren of Trustee Patsy Manley Smith '55 in Tokyo

'53



Class Secretary  
Cecily Beal Mills  
56 Glendale Road  
Housatonic, MA 01236-9753

'54

Class Secretary  
Class Representative  
Dorothy Woods McLeod  
203 Evelyn Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37205-3307

**Sallie Coe Parkins** tells us, "All goes smoothly—that's how I like it! My husband Clarence was chosen to be District Governor of his Rotary district for this year."

'55

Class Secretary  
Kitty Riley Clark  
150 Payson Road  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

Trustee **Patsy Manley Smith** reported that her *SchoolHouseKitchen* Bardshar Chutney was featured in the November issue of Oprah Winfrey's magazine, "O," and her Sweet-HotSmooth mustard won first place at the Anaheim Food show in July of this year. Both may be purchased at her website [SchoolHouseKitchen.org](http://SchoolHouseKitchen.org), along with her Balsamic Vinaigrette Basico. The November issue of "O", Oprah Winfrey's magazine,

had good advice about how to use leftover turkey using Patsy's Bardshar Chutney. The following ingredients make a stellar sandwich: celery, sweet onion, lemon juice, olive oil, mayonnaise, raisin walnut bread, Bibb lettuce, leftover, sliced turkey, Bardshar Chutney, Stilton cheese, and salt and pepper.

Trustee **Terry Thompson '64** spoke with **Carla Higbie Stroh** in October and learned that she and her husband are building a new house. Carla had been a good friend of **Patty Hayden Hodgson '66**, from Aspen, before she died in March 2002.

'56

Class Representative  
Mary Fortmiller Cornwall  
1 Orfordville Road  
Lyme, NH 03768

We received the sad news from **Pattie Martin Armesto's** husband Mark, that Pattie died on September 20. We send our condolences to Pattie's family.

**Barbara Bijur Driscoll '59** sent us the sad news that **Lynne Belknap Crowley** died on August 22. She was a resident of Sarasota, Fla. and East Boothbay, Maine. Lynne managed *Sports Collection*, a sport clothing store in Scarsdale, N.Y. for many years, and was a member of Fox Meadow Tennis Club and the Junior League. Surviving her are her husband Donald Crowley and two daughters, Kimberly and Whitney. We send our condolences to the Crowleys and the Belknaps.



Ellis and former Trustee Katie Bentley Waller '57 and family



Olivia Plexico, granddaughter of former Trustee Ginger Penn Plexico '57

We learned from the *Smith College Magazine* that **Susan Whittlesey Wolf**, after a trip to Japan, feels that societal change for women in Japan has just begun, but that overall culture and traditional ways are much the same as they were in the '60s, when she taught there.

'57

Class Secretary  
Virginia Penn Plexico  
PO Box 148  
Chatham, MA 02633

Assistant Head of School Jenny Chandler and son Owen traveled to Vermont over the summer where they saw **Sheila Scranton Childs** in a production of *On Golden Pond*. By the Chandlers' reports, Sheila turned in a great performance as Ethel Thayer. "I'm off to Bennington, Vt. to meet with members of the freshman class of Southern Vermont College with whom I'm doing a project at the theatre," wrote former trustee and Alumnae Council President Sheila Scranton Childs. "I'm also doing an after-school 'theatre' workshop with the elementary school here

and teaching an adult acting class at Oldcastle in Bennington. How lucky can I be, to be working in the field I love at this stage of my life! Yea! *Life is really good.*"

Former Trustee **Ginger Penn Plexico** writes, "My son Jonathan and his wife had my first granddaughter on July 2. Miss Hall's School sent her a lovely receiving blanket prominently marked Miss Hall's School. There is no doubt as to where she is going for her secondary education."

Trustee **Patsy Manley Smith '55** spoke with **Katie Bentley Waller** in October. Katie's son Ellis is a family practitioner, was married in May, and lives in Madison. Son Steven is a lawyer in Milwaukee.

*Honor a past or present MHS faculty member with a gift to the Fund for MHS in his/her name.*

'58



Reunion co-Chair  
Eunice Davidson Burley  
170 Inlet Road  
Chatham, MA 02633

Reunion co-Chair  
Nancy Dow Grover  
777 Prospect Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06105

Reunion co-Chair  
Priscilla Fierman Kauff  
149 East 73rd Street, #9B  
New York, NY 10021-0255

Reunion co-Chair  
Claudette de Clairville Lauren  
1350 Main Street, Apt. 1402  
Sarasota, FL 34236

Reunion co-Chair  
Marban McGraw Sparkman  
990 Brower Road  
Radnor, PA 19087-2210

Class Representative  
Mary Ann Clow Wightman  
108 Calle Paula  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Reunion co-Chair  
Robin Brown Woods  
137 Five Mile River Road  
Darien, CT 06820

We learned from the *Smith College Magazine* that **Helen Burke** spent three glorious weeks in Wyoming last summer on family ranches. She and family members went for a long weekend into the Big Horn Mountains, an area devastated by huge forest fires in August that forced the evacuation of many residents.

**Wendy Ross Eichler** told us, "Eddie, one of our four sons, married his Hungarian girlfriend Timi over Thanksgiving at my 93-year old mother's house in Wiscasset, Maine. He met her while serving in Transylvania in the Peace Corps. They live in Cambridge while Eddie gets a master's degree in law and diplomacy from Fletcher. It's the first marriage of our sons so it was an exciting time with all three brothers in attendance. Tom and I are loving living in Maine, although the winters do get long. We will get away for a few weeks to Florida this year. I am looking forward to our MHS reunion in May."

**Priscilla Fierman Kauff** and daughter Melanie Wachtell stopped by MHS in August. They had a brief tour of the School before heading off.



Ten grandchildren, according to age and height, of Trustee Pete Jaques and former Trustee Sue Shepard Jaques '61 in Vinalhaven, Maine

New grandmother (again), former trustee **Claude de Clairville Lauren**, wrote, "Marion Hollis Hales arrived on Oct 26, weighing 10 pounds 2 ounces and 22 inches long. My goodness! It was exciting to be with Gywnne and Jamie for the birth. I stayed for ten days and lent a hand to the very busy household. I had time off from baby to go trick or treating in Lake Forest with Lydia."

From London, England **Dedie Brown Sanderson** wrote, "I heard wonderful news of the Class of '57 reunion and am hoping that '08 will be as well attended by our class. All is well with our transcontinental life, loving each place as much as the other. If in London, do call; after all, Head of School Jeannie Norris was able to squeeze some time in to see us!"

We were interested to read in the *Berkshire Eagle* that **Ticki Bisacca Winsor's** resort in Lenox, Eastover, is home to quite a collection of Civil War relics, amassed by her father, the late George Bisacca.

In a message to Head of School Jeannie Norris, we learned that **Laura X** is involved with The Center for New Words (where women's words matter). The Center is dedicated to a simple mission: "to use the power and creativity of words and ideas to strengthen the voice of progressive and marginalized women in society."

'59

Class Secretary  
Elizabeth E. Moore  
182 E. Keetley Close  
Deer Mountain, UT 84036

**Ellie Ellsworth** and her mother **Grace White Ellsworth '32** visited campus with granddaughter, Shelby Boos '10 and parents, when Shelby returned for her sophomore year.

**Harriet Reese Jensen** tells us, "I was blessed with two new grandsons in 2007, making a total of eight grandchildren! I was in the U.S.A. twice this year, including a week on Antigua with old friends from Wilmington, Del. I also took a trip to Ireland in August with Danish friends."

From her classmate **Meg Holmes Robbins**, we learned, "**Hetsy Bell McCoy** has moved back to Schenley Gardens, where she is happier than a clam to be back in the urban digs that she loves." Hetsy hasn't an e-mail address at this time."

'60

From the *Smith College Magazine*, we learned that **Dottie MacColl Woodcock** co-chaired a Garden Club of America zone meeting and completed seven years on the GCA scholarship committee. She is continuing her involvement with the local Maryland/District of Columbia chapter of the Nature Conservancy and the board of the Washington National Opera. Now that her husband Ken is semi-retired, they travel

more, including two recent trips to Southeast Asia. Daughter Laura and husband live in Seattle. Liz, who received her master's degree in water resources management, is seeking work there. The MacColls continue to balance their lives between Washington, D. C. and their Rhode Island home.

'61

Class Secretary  
Sue Shepard Jaques  
44 Otter Creek Road  
Skillman, NJ 08558

**Ellen Clark** is still traveling and taking pictures—in Southern India, the United Kingdom, and Quebec in 2007. "Next year, who knows?"

**Sue Shepard Jaques** wrote that a feature story about her 89-year-old father Thomas R. Shepard, Jr., who is also the father of **Molly Shepard '64**, appeared all over the country on a variety of public TV stations in conjunction with Ken Burn's PBS series "The War." The segment was filmed by Philadelphia's WHYY (Channel 12), where Molly is chair of the board, and was shown at a WHYY preview party attended by Sue, Molly and members of their family. (It can still be seen at: <http://www.whyy.org/tv12/thewar.html>.)

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Mitzi Cross Armstrong '61 and husband Bernie hiking in Tuscany

The segment, which intersperses live footage with family photos, is about their dad's experiences on a destroyer escort and his 67-year marriage to Sue and Molly's mother, Nancy Shepard. In the past 10 years, Sue has edited two books of her dad's memoirs and one of her mother's and, in the process, learned things about her parents that she never knew before.

## '62

Class Representative  
Charlotte M. Stetson  
10 South Street  
Middlebury, VT 05753

Trustee Charles Platt (**Cecily '04**) reported seeing **Hilary Prouty** in Mattapoisett, Mass. over the summer. She sang her class's rendition of the Alma Mater, much to the Platts' amusement. In addition, **Molly Cowgill '66** reported delivering a beautiful son, Aziz (Persian for "dearest one"), to Hilary Prouty's daughter Serena. Aziz is named after Hilary's late sister's late son.

## '63



Class Secretary  
Reunion co-Chair  
Joy Winder Ford  
411 Temple Street  
New Haven, CT 06511-6803

Reunion co-Chair  
Hylton Bravo Hard  
4316 N.E. 33rd Street  
Seattle, WA 98105-5302

Class Representative  
Reunion co-Chair  
Abbie Breene Hubert  
26 Lower Tuckahoe Road West  
Richmond, VA 23238

Reunion co-Chair  
Nancy A. Thompson  
9640 Leeds Landing Circle  
Easton, MD 21601-5562

"I have had a wonderful but very hectic arrival in the world of education as a teacher at a local Montessori School with 3-5 year olds," wrote former trustee **Wendy Sprole Bangs**. "I am eager, well almost eager, when the alarm goes off at 5:00 a.m. and I see those cute critters at 7:45 greeting me with 'Good Morning, Miss Wendy.' This job will make part-time school work easier to obtain when we eventually move to Colorado in 2010 or later, as I have no 'real' resumé work experience. See you in May."

**Peggy Bangs Bryant** writes, "After surviving the spoils of change at Tyco, I have a new and really interesting job at Morgan Lewis & Bockius as assistant to the partner in, and co-manager of, the Morgan Lewis Emerging Business and Technology Practice. I am also thrilled to report that my son Jay was married on December 31 in Jamaica to a simply wonderful girl Jennifer Dean. While they and my daughter Catherine and her husband were away, I had the joy of staying with my two wonderful granddaughters Eliza 6 and Olivia 3. I returned to Lawrenceville on January 7 happily exhausted."

From Class Representative **Abbie Breene Hubert**, "I can't remember if I announced the birth of my third grandchild, from my one child Breene, Samuel Harrison Wesson in January 2007. All is going well in Richmond, Va. Please keep in mind that our 45th reunion is in May, and wouldn't it be fun to reconnect?"

**Mary Herrick Shevaller** wrote, "Life is a little crazy in retirement. I thought we would settle down, but that is hardly the case. We split our time between New Hampshire and Nantucket, with a couple of trips to Sydney, Australia each year to see children, grandchildren, and old friends. We ski most days during the winter, sail in the summer, play tennis year round, and try to fend off old age. No complaints. Life is good. Sorry I won't be at the reunion this year -- we'll be in Sydney, but I'm aiming for the 50th. (That's scary!)"

**Suzanne Young Solenberger** tells us, "Now that both kids are in college, Tom and I have moved north of the Arctic Circle to Barrow, Alaska. It's a fascinating place—a real 'frontier' community out on the edge of North America."

**Sandy Perkins White** writes, "It's been a busy five years of travel with the most recent trip to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Japan. Sadly, I was without my companion Bill Harris who died in March. This is my first whole summer in Denver in years and I've become involved in loads of volunteer work. Fletch and Spence are well with son and daughter each. Love to all."

## '64

Class Representative  
Ellen Searle Abbott  
13 Mill Street  
Manchester, MA 01944

Class Secretary  
Nancy Henderson Hood  
26 Legare Street  
Charleston, SC 29401

From Class Representative and Alumnae Council member **Kip Searle Abbott**, we heard, "Thanks to each of you who have donated to the Fund for MHS this past year. Your contributions are appreciated."

Kip continues, "It has been fun hearing from classmates who I haven't been in touch with since 1964. **Robin Whiting Hall** met Head of School Jeannie Norris for lunch in Providence recently, and she enjoyed her immensely. Jeannie is special—if any of you get an opportunity to

meet her, take advantage of it. She is our contemporary. We had two mini reunions recently. In September **Robin Whiting Hall**, **Marcia Whitney**, **Kathy Sherman Zins**, and I had lunch in Manchester, Mass. In December Robin and I were guests at Kathy Zins' home in Wellesley, Mass. Both events were very enjoyable! Hope to hear from more of you."

**Jane Andrews** is living in Maine on a lake at the end of a dirt road with osprey, owls, loons, bald eagles, deer, fox and, "so far, one moose."

**Courtenay Compton McGowen** wrote from Coronado, Cal. in the midst of fires raging through the area, "I am safe; in fact, I am feeling blessed that I live in a place almost surrounded by water. I have offered my home to friends who have been evacuated and currently have a friend living here with me. Her home, as far as we know, did not burn, but she cannot go back yet. This has been truly frightening, but people have risen to the occasion in an incredible way, all very positive. Hotels which do not normally take animals were doing so, and I have friends who took in total strangers' dogs because they were not allowed at the hotel Del Coronado and would have to stay in the owners' cars overnight."

## '65

Former trustee **Robin Brown Woods '58** sent us a clipping from the *Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror* with the news that **Mimi Havemeyer Beman** found a buyer for her longtime family bookstore Mitchell's Book Corner. In a letter to the editor it was said, "It is time to acknowledge all she has done as the force behind Mitchell's. Through her taste, care, and untiring hard work, she has created more than just a special bookstore. For the past three decades, Mimi has been nothing less than the guardian angel of Nantucket readers and writers. . . . Meanwhile, quietly and behind the scenes, she has helped countless local authors find a publisher and an audience. She reads manuscripts, offers advice and encouragement, and stages wonderful book signings. It is difficult to imagine how she has found enough hours in the day to accomplish it all."

**Anne Darneille Snodgrass** wrote during the holiday season, "I am well and busy. My oldest daughter was married this past summer at our summer home in Maine. My son is working in residential real estate in D.C.; one daughter is working in Boston at Oliver Wyman Assoc.;

Get listed! Add your email to the MHS On-Line Directory at [www.misshalls.org](http://www.misshalls.org).

and the youngest daughter graduates in June from Stanford University. I saw **Alice Ingraham** several times over the summer. She helped me celebrate my 60th birthday and I went to her son's engagement party. Both were fun. I also saw **Elaine Silverman Ducharme** last spring when she was in D.C. for a meeting."

'66

Class Representative  
Patricia L. Thatcher  
80 Laurel Road  
New Canaan, CT 06840

We read in the local news that **Joan Bancroft** had been appointed to the Colonial Theatre Board of Trustees.

'67

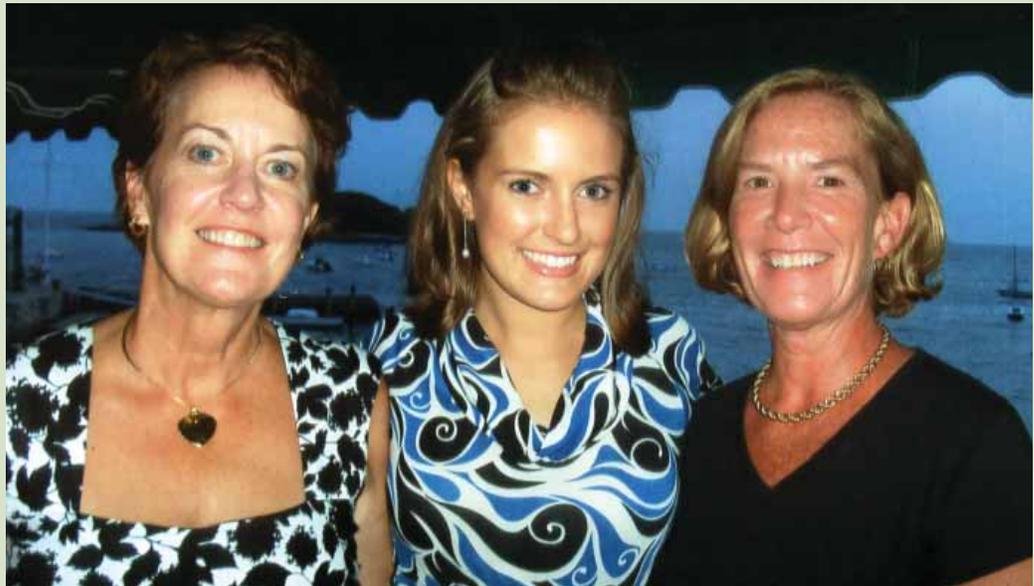
Class co-Representative  
Gretchen B. Knowlton  
PO Box P-75  
Dartmouth, MA 02748-0301

Class co-Representative  
Sarah Daniels Morse  
315 Cordova Lane  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-0617

Class Secretary  
Virginia Breene Wickwire  
98 Arnold Road  
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

From Class Representative **Sarah Daniels Morse**, we heard, "It is hard to believe that it was almost a year ago that a record number of us gathered for our 40th reunion where we got to know each other again, laughed, sang, reminisced, and mourned the loss of our friend **Dale**. We also saw what 40 years can do for a school! Here's to all our fond memories of what was positive in our experiences at MHS, and to our active support, promoting strong girls and everlasting growth at the School. Many thanks to everyone who made a gift to the Fund for MHS. These gifts were part of our special reunion class gift, which provided new chairs for Centennial Hall in Dale's memory. We are still *Wishin' and Hopin'* for your continued and enthusiastic participation in this year's Fund for MHS. Please join your other classmates with a gift by June 30, 2008."

From London, **Elizabeth Sacks Chase** wrote, "I am now a qualified City of London Guide, as well as a Freeman of the City of London. If you know anyone vacationing in England, please contact me. I have guided walks this autumn for the Lord Mayor's Show, London Open House, City of London Informa-



Joanne DuBosque '68, Amanda Guy, daughter of Joanne DuBosque, and Mimi Dolph Adkins '75

tion Centre, and British Red Cross. Next week I am taking the Royal Town Planning Institute for their Christmas Walk. I am happy to customize walks for any friends and associates."

**Hilary Pender** was in Atlanta, Ga. in October in a ballroom dance competition. Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney heard from Hilary over the holidays and learned that Hilary is the proud owner of a brand, new RV. She'll be on the road visiting '67ers.

Trustee **Edie Stetson Yovu** wrote to Head of School Jeannie Norris, "My son Nate married this summer in Virginia. I am thrilled."

'68



Reunion co-Chair  
Winifred Lattner  
PMB 235  
225 Crossroads Blvd.  
Carmel, CA 93923

Class Representative  
Reunion co-Chair  
Kathryn Mohn Wooters  
85 E. India Row #16B  
Boston, MA 02110-3398

In a note to Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney, **Joanne DuBosque** said, "**Mimi Dolph Adkins '75** and I became fast friends when my family moved to Madison, Conn. in 1995. Enclosed is a picture of us celebrating at my daughter's college graduation in September at the Madison Beach Club. I plan to attend our 40th reunion (how can that be?) in May. Kudos to **Patricia**

**Peters** for challenging our class to name a dining room table in honor of the MHS faculty, past and present, as our class reunion gift."

"I am sorry I can't come to the reunion," wrote **Gail Shawyer Bate** from Suffolk, England. "I am still in touch with **Marnie Adriance Dent**, but would love to hear from any others. Have fun! Come over and see me! We have plenty of room."

**Dan Knight Henderson** writes, "I have had wonderful e-mail contact with **Joanne DuBosque**, **Susie Howard Canada**, and **Suzanne Starr Curran!**"

**Patricia Peters** is looking forward to seeing classmates at Alumnae Weekend in May.

'69

Class Secretary  
Helen S. Joline  
PO Box 1462  
Duxbury, MA 02331

We learned from our Trustee **Barbara Cooperman '73** that **Susan Gordon's** father died recently. We send Susan and her family our condolences. **Helen Joline** e-mailed the Development Office with the sad news of the death of classmate **Michele Morrison** in early September. We extended our sympathy to Michele's family.

**Tricia Casey Shepherd** tells us, "In February I will finally receive a B.A. in art from Goddard College where I'm currently enrolled in their creative writing program. From January until June 2008 I will be in Cairo,

Egypt while my husband is teaching at the American International School. I don't know yet if we will be there in 2008-09."

We received a complimentary message from **Nancy Shulman**: "I just went to the MHS website and want you to know that it really looks fantastic! One of my master's degrees is in internet strategy management, so I am always conscious of the readability, organization, navigation, and content of websites. This one, in my opinion, is very good."

'70

Class Representative  
Anne Peterson Conolly  
1 Callaway Circle  
Loudonville, NY 12211

Former trustee **Cynthia Dalrymple Newman '39** and mother of **Stair Zimmerman Calhoun**, wrote to tell us that Stair's daughter Austin graduated from Washington and Lee University, and is now the Assistant Director of Sports Information for the college. Cynthia Katherine is a graduate of Marymount College and currently assistant basketball coach at Frostburg College. Son Carson Clay is now a senior in engineering at his grandmother's alma mater, the University of Virginia, in Charlottesville.

Let us know if you're moving . . .  
update your contact information  
at [www.misshalls.org](http://www.misshalls.org) or  
(413) 395-7060.



Gerry Welles '70 and son Jensen

Gail Gustafson Lintern wrote, "My older son James and his wife Cathy gave birth to their first child on August 7, 2007, a baby boy named Elliott James Lipp. He's adorable, of course!"

"I talked briefly with **Addie Knight**," writes **Dorothy O'Brien Schopfer**. "I'm hoping we can get together, maybe sometime this spring. I'm still working for Chemcoat, but I'm also very active with Red Cross. I'm on the Board of our museum, plus this and that. Doing some traveling when I can—keeps me out of my girls' hair. **Elyse '92** is still in school (she keeps adding minors) and is working for the Education Foundation at the Lockhaven University of Pennsylvania. She loves it and they love her. She's now thinking she would like to also teach math to middle school kids. She 'gets' them, but is still very involved with literacy projects. My oldest, Bridget, is still cooking, but is no longer the head chef at The Peter Hedic House. She now works for Wegman's and is doing very well there. She does want to get back to her first love in the Arts. Life is good and if the market holds, someday I might retire."

## '71

The School is deeply grateful to **Deborah Fickling** and her sisters **Anne Fickling Brainard '75** and **Martha Fickling '83** for directing the bequest from their mother, Barbara

*Make your gift to the Fund for MHS on our website at [www.missalls.org/supportmhs](http://www.missalls.org/supportmhs)*

Fickling, long-time MHS Registrar, to the School.

We recently learned of the death of **Joan Rosengarten van der Grift's** mother this spring. MHS sends condolences to Joan and the Rosengarten family.

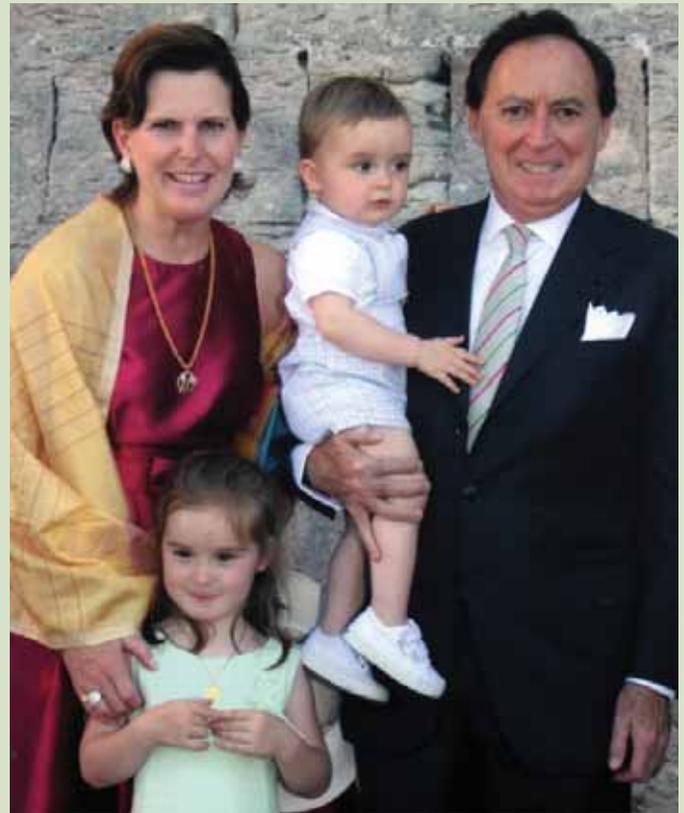
## '72

Class Secretary  
Mary Paull Hubbard Taylor  
2224 Marshall Avenue  
Wheeling, WV 26003-7440

From Alumnae Council member **Nancy Shulman '69**, we learned, "**Lee Garvey-Carmel** is married to Chris Carmel and they have a 15-year old daughter Nathalie and an 11-year old son Henry. After 11 years in investment banking, Lee went into business for herself and now makes artistic, hand-crafted lampshades for designers, which she has been doing for 20 years."

Trustee **Paula Leuchs Moats** reported, "My brother-in-law, David Bohrman, husband of **Catherine '74**, won the Emmy as Senior Executive Producer for CNN's coverage of Election Night with Wolf Blitzer, Anderson Cooper, Lou Dobbs, and Paula Zahn."

Trustee **Paula Leuchs Moats** sent us news from the *Memphis Business Quarterly* of her classmate **Debbie Heye Neal**, who founded the School of Protocol in Memphis in 2005, making it her life's work to help people behave themselves. She got the idea for the school after spending years appalled by the bad etiquette she encountered when conducting



Nini Alig Saman '71 with husband Alain and children Olivia and Alexandre

her own business. Debbie offers a complete business-behavior makeover: she schools people in business etiquette, appearance, wardrobe, body language, networking, dining, and e-mail etiquette. Her company's motto is 'Outclass your competition.' "I can teach anyone from 5 to 105," because it's never too soon—or late—to learn how to make a great first impression, according to Debbie.

"Paul and I are loving our Wyoming home," writes **Mary Rives**. "We're planning lots of travel this year including Maui, Dominica in the Caribbean, and Holland in the springtime. I was sorry to have missed my 35th reunion. Hopefully, I will make our 40th!"

## '73



Reunion co-Chair  
Jane Tracy Ahrens 1973  
52 Sammis Street  
Rowayton, CT 06853-1516

The Fund for MHS, Chair  
Class Representative  
Reunion co-Chair  
Nancy Gustafson Ault  
P.O. Box 1274  
42 Alison Lane  
Damariscotta, ME 04543-1274

Reunion co-Chair  
Barbara J. Cooperman  
639 West End Avenue, Apt. 8A  
New York, NY 10025

Reunion co-Chair  
Jennifer Gregory Ely  
251 Bayville Road  
Locust Valley, NY 11560-1401

Reunion co-Chair  
Angela W. Fowler  
49 East 96th St., #7A  
New York, NY 10128-0782

Class Secretary  
Cynthia Sitzer Packard  
135 Mandalay Road  
Lee, MA 01238-9455

From Trustee, Fund for MHS Chair, and Class Representative **Nancy Gustafson Ault**, we heard, "I was back at my old job today as a volunteer for the 'Antique Fair', where I met a lady from Georgia who was visiting relatives in Blue Hill, Maine. We got to talking about things and MHS came up—a favorite subject of mine! It turns out that this woman's name is Anne Bicknell, related to **Katie Bicknell Luzius '58** and her sister **Wendy Bicknell '61**, and also to **Cynthia Firman Webster '63**. She couldn't believe it and called Cindy so I could say 'hi.' There you have another small-world MHS story!"



Seated: Gail Gustafson Lintern '70 and Lynne Eckardt '70. Standing: former Trustee Allison Eckardt Ledes '71 (deceased), Angela Fowler '73, and Anne Eckardt Demas '75 on Fishers Island in September

We learned from her classmate and our Trustee **Barbara Cooperman**, that **Ruth Gordon's** father died recently, and we send her and her family our condolences.

In a note to Head of School Jeannie Norris, **Anne Pendergast** reported having been in Africa for the month of September. She hopes to be able to attend the MHS Board of Visitors meeting in October 2008.

"I was married on July 7, 2007 to a wonderful man named Kevin Raymond," writes **Carolyn Harris Rowe**. "We will reside in West Palm Beach, Fla. beginning in September. When I lost my wonderful husband 5-1/2 years ago, I never dreamed that I'd be this happy again. Life can be truly amazing! Boys are all in college and beyond, doing great things. Life is great!"

## '74

Class Representative  
Christine Collins Avery  
102 Church Street  
West Roxbury, MA 02132-1052

At holiday time, **Kathy Pryor Burgeson** wrote, "The Burgeson family recently relocated to Richmond, Va. The company I work for, Mead Westvaco Corporation, moved its headquarters there. Son Peter is a sophomore at The Taft School in Connecticut, and daughter Sarah is a freshman at Trinity Episcopal in Richmond."

## '75

Class Representative  
Anne Fickling Brainard  
6010 33rd Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20015-1606

The School is deeply grateful to **Anne Fickling Brainard** and her sisters **Deborah Fickling '70** and **Martha '83** for directing the bequest from their mother, Barbara Fickling, long-time MHS Registrar, to the School.



Mimi Dolph Adkins '75, former MHS Board President Ben Groves, and Mandy Groves Outerbridge '75



Fiona and Sydney, favorites of MHS Board President Susan O'Day '77

"A mini reunion was held on Fishers Island in September representing the classes of '70, '71, '73 and '75!" reports **Anne Eckardt Demas**. In attendance were: **Allison Eckardt Ledes '71**, **Angela Fowler '73**, **Gail Gustafson Lintern '70**, and **Lynne Eckardt '70**.

## '78



Class Representative  
Reunion co-Chair  
Jessica Mansell Ambrose  
20 Dunemere Lane  
East Hampton, NY 11937-2706

## '77

Class Secretary  
Cynthia Carey LaLone  
8850 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19118-2725

Reunion co-Chair  
Heidi A. Dittloff  
91 Brunswick Avenue  
Lebanon, NJ 08833

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your gift; we'll do the rest!*

**Karen Fleshler** writes, "Life is wonderful in Louisville, Ky. This is my third year living here. I'm planning a trip to London and Paris in June 2008, and am reading a lot of English and French history."

'79

Class Secretary  
Constance Houghton Van de Graaf  
267 Old Cart Way  
North Andover, MA 01845-6346

**Susan Corbo** moved to northern Italy near Milan. "I travel a lot and I'm seeing the world, and loving it!"

**Melissa Marcure Green** called from Mandeville, La. looking to replace her MHS yearbook and diploma, both of which were lost in Hurricane Katrina. She reported that her twins will be driving this year, and her youngest is also in school.

'80

Class Secretary  
Debra deCordova MacLeod  
2369 Green Street #2  
San Francisco, CA 94123-4653

**Ginny Watson** says, "After riding my bicycle from San Francisco to Los Angeles last June as part of Aids Lifecycle, I decided to do my first triathlon. Fun! I'm doing another on in 2008!"

'81

Class co-Representative  
Class Secretary  
Martha D. Bullock  
32 Woodmont Street  
Portland, ME 04102

Class co-Representative  
Susan Snead van der Vorst  
44 Walnut Avenue  
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Trustee and Class Representative, **Martha Bullock** writes, "I would like to thank all of you who write in to share what is happening in your life. It is so much fun and interesting to see what we are all doing with our lives. I would also like to thank those of you who support the School by giving to the Fund for MHS—you know who you are. Being on the School's Board of Trustees, I know that your gifts are needed



Cindy Smith Wesson '87 and son, Paige Crowder Covert '87, Susan Lupien '87, former Dean of Students Nancy Coleman, Laura Imbres '87, Polly Spadavecchia '87, Gaylen Bent '87, Amanda Ridgley '87, Nicole Chambers McCormick '87 and daughter, and Jen Simonian Albury '87 at their 20th Reunion

and much appreciated. Many of you have not been back since graduation day, so I invite you to take a look at the School's website ([www.mis-shalls.org](http://www.mis-shalls.org)) to see all of the wonderful changes. You can take a tour of the campus and see what beautiful and much needed buildings have been built. You can see what the girls are up to and what vibrant, dynamic girls they are. I take great pride in being a graduate. The School needs our support now more than ever to give these girls the education that they need to compete in the future. I hope this finds you all well and having a wonderful time living your lives. Please drop us a line to let us know what you are up to, and better yet, include a check! Thanks."

November news from Alumnae Council President **Martha Bullock** was, "Today was my first day at my new job. I am doing interim work for Maine Bank & Trust, which will give me an idea of the corporation and its culture. I hope to find something permanent with them in the future."

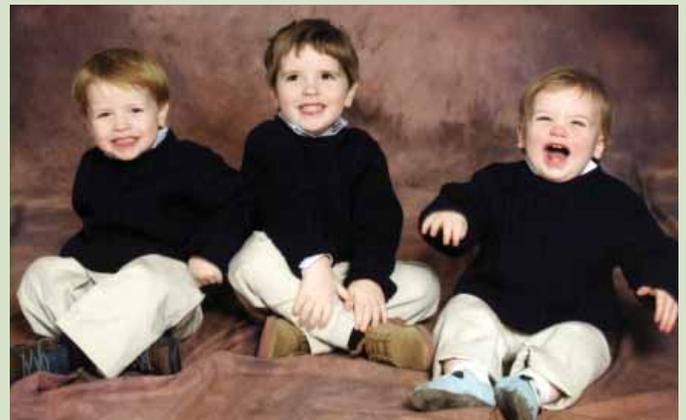
'82

Class Representative  
Class Secretary  
Brette Schiff Karp  
2 Medieval Road  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545-7735

We read in *The Berkshire Eagle* that **Jane Magnier Pixley's** mother Jean Magnier died on September 27, 2007. She was the grandmother of Nora McCloskey '08, and her sister **Emily '05**, and also, Hannah Knoblauch '10. Our condolences go to the Pixley, McCloskey and Knoblauch families.



Karen Lemons Hollins '87 with son Jackson, daughter Samantha, and husband Bayard



Liam, Ciaran, and Finbar, sons of John and Meaghan Mahony Mathews '87

*Not sure if your company matches gifts? Call (413) 395-7062 or e-mail ([alumnae@misshalls.org](mailto:alumnae@misshalls.org)) and we'll look it up for you.*



Amanda Ridgley '87, Gaylen Bent '87, Judy Kittredge '88, Rebecca Hajjar '89, and Kate Coughlin Dahmen '88 at a mini MHS reunion



Will, son of Gordon and Trustee Nina Cabot Whiting '89

**Hope Geier Smith**, husband Ted, and daughter Briell came to Miss Hall's in early October so Briell could tour the School and interview with Director of Admission **Kim Boland '94**.

From her mother and former MHS Trustee **Robin Brown Woods '58** we learned that **Whitney Woods** recently won several medals crewing at the nationals and will be competing at the Head of the Charles in Boston in October.

## '83



Reunion Chair  
Mary K. Atwood  
44 Pinecrest Road  
Portland, ME 04102

Class co-Secretary  
Grace Benson Edgar  
4908 E. Calle del Medio  
Phoenix, AZ 85018-4419



William and Payton, children of Kate Coughlin Dahmen '88

Class co-Secretary  
Alexandra Martin Mellor  
14 Stockade Road  
West Simsbury, CT 06092-2716

The School is deeply grateful to **Martha Fickling** and her sisters **Deborah '70** and **Anne Brainard Fickling '75** for directing the bequest from their mother, Barbara Fickling, long-time MHS Registrar, to the School.

## '84

In a note to Head of School Jeanne Norris, **Wendy Rohrbacher** wrote, "I have recently taken a job at Olympic College as their director of development. Friends of Avery is thriving under the care of Hospice of Kitsap County and Harrison Medical Center."

## '85

We were concerned about our alumnae and friends in California, as fires raged out of control. **Carolyn Bell Curtis** told us that her little town of Clairemont was between the fires, and hadn't reached her area. She did say the air was full of smoke, making breathing difficult, and ashes were

falling everywhere. She reported that the firemen and women had done a great job trying to keep people safe.

## '86

**Marie-Anne Dreher Ewig** called with the good news that she was married on October 20 to Daniel Ewig in Kohler, Wisc. They have a new address in Tribeca in New York City. Marie-Anne is now director of major gifts for the Central Park Conservancy, which maintains, restores, and preserves the Park.

From **Lisa Greenfield** in Encinitas, Calif., we heard, "We are back home, tired and dusty, but we are home. No words to express the gratitude at being refugees no longer! My sister's house in Ramona was saved, but the ones down the street were not—she is still not allowed back. The fires are still raging and the air is awful—my garage smells like an ashtray and it will be a long time before anyone will want to swim in my pool. However, we are blessed. The closest the fires got to us was two and a half miles, but that was close enough."

## '87

Class Secretary  
Meaghan Mahony Mathews  
363 Downing Road  
Riverside, IL 60546

Class Representative  
Amanda J. Ridgley  
1555 North Sandburg Terrace, #210  
Chicago, IL 60610

**Laura Witsenhausen Abruscato** writes, "John, Jared, and I visited NYC in September. My parents babysat while John and I attended the christening of **Trish Jackson '90**

and Eric Sheridan's son Kieran and the wedding of **Pamela Adler** and Jeff Frole."

**Wendy Jackson Robbins**, with her mother and MHS Board of Visitors member Robin Jackson, stopped by MHS while visiting Canyon Ranch in January. Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney had a wonderful time catching up with Wendy whom she had not seen in 20 years. Wendy and her family are thoroughly enjoying Tampa, Fla., their new home.

## '88



Reunion co-Chair  
Ana Maria O'Brien Chrysler  
88 Herrick Road  
Southampton, NY 11968-4942

Reunion co-Chair  
Mette Perkins Coughlin  
788 High Street  
Dedham, MA 02026

Reunion co-Chair  
Katherine Coughlin Dahmen  
26 Farrar Road  
Lincoln, MA 01773

From her father Tim Berg, we learned that **Danielle Berg** was married to Steve Goette. Steve is with Schmidt Siding & Window Co., and Danielle keeps busy at Taylor Corp., preaching each Sunday at Waldorf UCC, and parenting her two daughters.

"I can't wait to see everyone at our 20th Reunion," wrote **Kate Coughlin Dahmen**.

**Pam First Martin** told us, "We are back from Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It has been quite a crazy couple of years. We are very happy to be home in Wellesley, Mass. Matthew Webster First Martin was born in Canada in September 2006. Natalie and Coco are in love with their little brother. I hope to go to our reunion in May. See you in 2008!"

**Elizabeth Wright-Johnson** tells us she is "a proud grandmother of Elijah Noel, born September 28, weighing 6 pounds and 13 ounces."

## '89

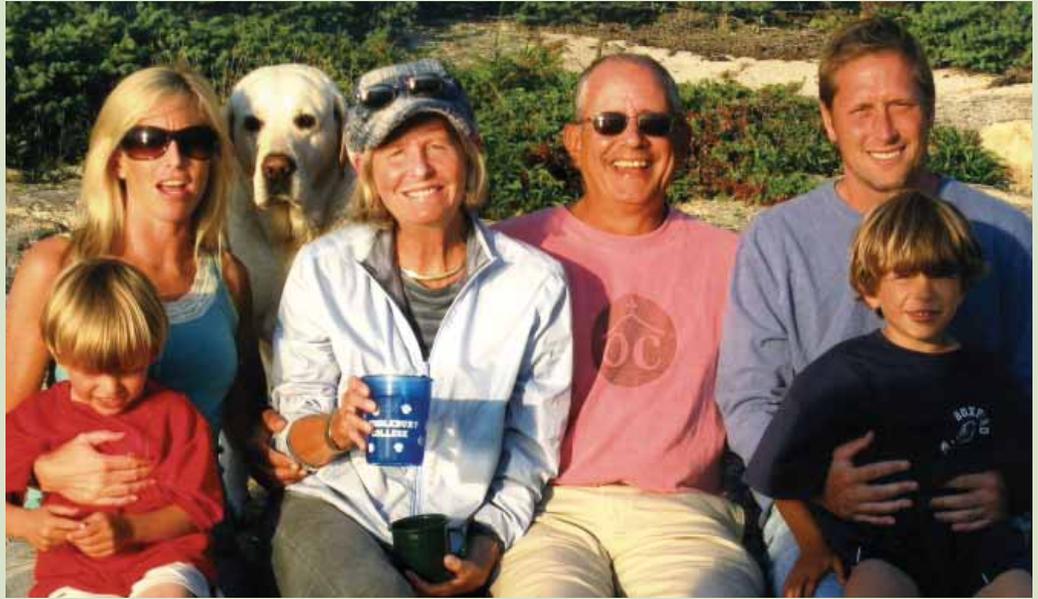
**Vanessa Rooks** and Troy had a baby girl Scarlett born on July 23, 2007. They are living in Bridgehampton, N.Y. six months a year and Miami Beach, Fl. the other six months. Vanessa has seen **Cornelia Knight**

*Honor a classmate's special occasion with a gift to the Fund for MHS.*



Scarlett Portelance Rooks, daughter of Vanessa Rooks '89 and Troy Portelance

Woods and her son Brewer, who live very close in Sagaponack, N.Y. **Martha O'Brien** threw Vanessa a beautiful co-ed baby shower in Wainscott, N.Y.



Houston and Alexandra Blodget Heidinger '90, Gus, Director of Alumnae Relations Dallas Briney, Tim Briney, and Webb and Kerr Heidinger in Winter Harbor, Maine

## '90

Class co-Representative  
Gaby Sherb Evers  
145 Old Lancaster Road  
Devon, PA 19333-1439

Class co-Representative  
Wendy Jacobs Hampton  
PO Box 3591  
Telluride, CO 81435

Co-Class Representative **Gaby Sherb Evers** wrote, "Hello Class of 1990! I hope everyone is doing well. Thanks to those of you who have supported the Fund for MHS over the last few years—please continue to give. We would love to see more of the Class of 1990 step up to the plate and support the School. MHS is truly a great place today, and your participation will help it continue to grow."

Gaby continues, "I've been living in Devon, a suburb of Philadelphia, for the past three years with my husband Jeff and our little boy Cooper. Please get in touch if you find yourself in the area. I saw **Wendy Jacobs Hampton** and her little beauty Bret-on this past summer in Westchester. It was a great visit despite my dog wreaking havoc at Wendy's dad's house. Hopefully we'll see each other at some point this spring in Telluride, Colo. or in the northeast, no dog, I promise."



Grandchildren of former Trustee Paul Cabot and wife Jennifer (Nina '89 and Jen '91)

"We have settled into our life in Portsmouth, N.H. and we are awaiting guests. We hope **Sam Bistany King**, **Wendy Jacobs Hampton**, or any old grads will visit soon," writes **Alexandra Blodget Heidinger**.

Snowed in, Class Representative **Wendy Jacobs Hampton** wrote, "Late Saturday night an avalanche ripped leaving over 16 feet of snow and debris over our only road out of the Ophir Valley. We have been stranded in Ophir, Colo. since, with talk that we might not get out until Thursday. Luckily, we have tons of food, friends, potluck dinners, and fun in the snow while we wait to get out. It has been snowing for days and we are waiting for a break in the storm to allow helicopters to come in and bomb the other slide paths.



Cooper, son of Jeff and Gaby Sherb Evers '90

*Classes ending in 4 or 9 . . .  
mark your calendars for Alumnae  
Weekend, May 15-17, 2009.*



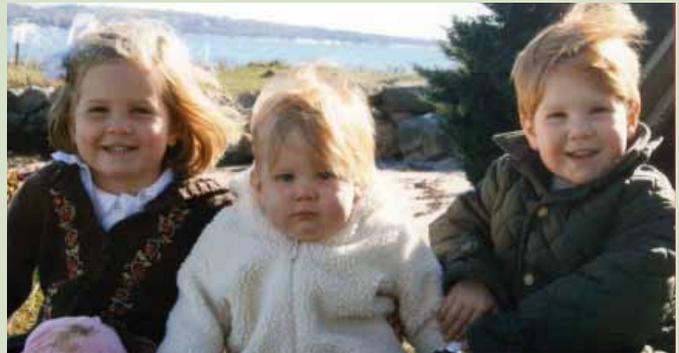
Amy Robertson Nielsen '90 with husband Doc and step-son



Vicki Livingstone (Pam '91) with grandchildren Cornelia and Charlie



Breton, daughter of Zach and Wendy Jacobs Hampton '90



Hope, Timmy, and Henry, children of Bob and Jennifer Cabot Breslin '91

Once that happens they will clear the road. Nothing like life in the mountains!"

**Samantha Bistany King**, husband Tad, and daughter Charlotte stopped by MHS unexpectedly in early September for a quick look at the School. Tad continues in his business building golf courses, which takes him all over the world, most recently to Morocco. The Kings are expecting number two on Christmas Day. They still live in Naples, Fla., but are hoping to sell their house there and move to Savannah, Ga. Sam saw **Wendy Jacobs Hampton**, **Julie Ix Genovese '91**, **Kellie King** and **Cornelia Knight Woods '89** in recent months.

"It's been a while since I have had a chance to write," wrote **Amy Robertson Nielsen**. "A lot has changed. I moved to Virginia two years ago

following my Navy Sailor. We have since married and are expecting our first child in March. I am enjoying being a step-mom to Doc's 8-year old son. Unfortunately, Doc won't be home for the birth as he is deployed in the Gulf keeping us all safe and doing us proud. I have had a wonderful time working for our local SPCA as a vet assistant. I am hoping to be able to come up for alumnae weekend this year!

Eric and **Trish Jackson Sheridan** are the proud parents of a baby boy, Kieran, born on June 25, 2007.

*E-mail nominations for the Distinguished Alumna Award to Alumnae Council President Martha Bullock '81 ([alumnae@misshalls.org](mailto:alumnae@misshalls.org))*

'93



From left: Sarah Keating '94, MHS faculty member Fredi Hungate, Rachel August Horn '94, Sarah Bingiel Smith '94, husband Mike, Bryn Hess '94, Laura Kontes Ames '94, Rachel Rodgers Dolhanczyk '94, and husband Jeff at Laura's wedding

Reunion co-Chair  
Sarah Rich Chace  
170 West Street  
Attleboro, MA 02703

Reunion co-Chair  
Katharine Hattem Crozer  
737 Burpee Hill Road  
New London, NH 03257

Reunion co-Chair  
Kate Kooperman  
28 Inman Street, Apt. 3  
Cambridge, MA 02139-2415

"I'm due with my second baby on May 25, 2008, so unfortunately I won't be able to make it to the reunion," wrote **Andrea Almenara Gil de Montes**. "I can't believe it's been 15 years! I'll miss all of you and hope to see at least some of you soon! **Stacey Slatter**—where are you? Please contact me! agildemontes@msn.com."

**Sarah Rich** was married to Daniel Chase on June 30, 2007. From MHS were **Kate Kooperman**, **Kate Murphy Haber**, **Katie Hattem Crozer**, and **Marietta Hale**.

We read in *The Berkshire Eagle* that **Hadley St. John** was married on Nantucket on October 6 to Jesse Dutra. After a wedding trip to Bermuda, Hadley and her husband will live in Nantucket. She is the advertising director for *The Nantucket Independent* newspaper. Her husband owns Jesse Dutra Landscape, also on Nantucket.

**Allison Scherer Thomas** wrote over the holidays, "I just received the *MHS Bulletin* and was inspired to write in. David and I are doing really well. We welcomed our second child, a daughter Leni Alethia Thomas, on July 3, 2007. She is absolutely amazing! Big brother Casiel is enchanted with her, and is a great help to me. I am now back working towards my Ph.D. at The University of Chicago, and anticipate sitting for my qualifying exams in fall 2008. Then, I am on to actually writing the dissertation! Somewhere in there we plan on having another child, so we'll see how my time line fares. I hope that everyone is doing well, and is healthy and happy."



Adrian Kuo, son of Lian Njoo '92



Claudia Sanchez '91 with husband and twin sons

## '91

Class Representative  
Jennifer Cabot Breslin  
36 Guild Road  
Dedham, MA 02026

**Claudia Sanchez** e-mailed Sra. Breslin in December. Claudia received her degree in psychology in Mexico, worked in human relations, married, and has twin sons. She is now opening her own business. She wrote to say how fond she is of her MHS memories.

*E-mail nominations for the Alumnae President's Commendation to Alumnae Council President Martha Bullock '81 (alumnae@misshalls.org)*

## '92

Class Secretary  
Alexi Grenadier Conine  
37 Braddock Park  
Boston, MA 02116-5816

Class co-Representative  
Elizabeth M. Johnson  
P.O. Box 26  
Lakeville, CT 06039-0026

Class co-Representative  
Mary Rawson Rorrer  
13067 134th Avenue NE  
Kirkland, WA 98034

"Things are great and even though our reunion wasn't a full turn-out, I'm hoping the next one will be!" wrote **Lollie Low Mathews**. "I'm still in Fairfield, Conn. and would love to hear from other MHSers."

**Lian Njoo** wrote from Indonesia, "I've been living in Solo, Indonesia since 2001 and I was married in 2002. I'm a mother of a boy Adrian Kuo who is 4 months old. I can't believe how fast time goes by. I'm sorry to have missed our 15th reunion. I hope everyone had a great time. Hello to Mr. Doswell, Mr. Miller, Mr. Rutledge, **YiYan Zhou '91**, **Melanie Sam '91**, **Mei Saegusa**, **Reiko Arakawa '93**, and **Chris Cha '93**. Drop me a line at: n\_yudianto@yahoo.com."

**Cary Russo Rutledge** writes, "Just a quick note to let you all know that our little family has moved from Florida to Suffolk, Va. If any of my classmates are here in the area drop me an e-mail and we can do lunch."



Allyson Bricken '95 at her marriage to Steve Quirk with Chris Tomeo '94, Hannah Thorne '94, and Vanessa Scorsone '95

'94

Class Representative  
 Kristine Krieg  
 15187 SW Royalty Parkway, Apt. E21  
 Tigard, OR 97224-3945

MHS Director of Residential and Student Life **Malik Farlow** reported spending five days at Boston University over the summer, where she was involved in workshops on residential life programs in boarding schools. She left, confirmed in her belief that MHS has a first-rate residential life program.

Class Representative **Kristine Krieg** wrote, "Once again—lots of changes! I'm back on the West Coast having graduated from culinary school. I very much enjoy having a career and a definition to what I do! Also, I got engaged to an amazing man in October. We are looking at a summer of '08 wedding. The best to everyone!"

'95

Class Representative  
 Farrah Rovanseck Schubmehl  
 7744 South Indianapolis Avenue  
 Tulsa, OK 74136-8049

**Cate Foster** wrote, "As of May 2007, I have been employed as a curtain wall specialist at the renowned architecture firm, Pei Cobb Freed & Partners, located in downtown Manhattan." [Ed Note: See Article on Page ?]

"It has been a very chaotic few weeks," wrote **Allyson Bricken Quirk**. "I was married on September 30 to the most amazing man ever!

His name is Steve and he is a marine stationed here. We got back from our honeymoon and have been just getting settled and what not. Because of the fires, we had to evacuate and traveled north to stay with friends on Camp Pendelton in San Clemente, only to be awakened at 3 a.m. and told we had to evacuate there, too. So, we packed up the cars again, helped our friends gather their stuff, and traveled further north. Finally, we were that we were free to return home. While driving back south we passed though Camp Pendelton, which was fully on fire. We're okay, the house is still standing, and we are glad to be home."

'96

Class Secretary  
 Kristin Meyers  
 54 Dwight Street, Apt. 1  
 Brookline, MA 02446

'97

Class Representative  
 Sarah A. Wilson  
 600 Northern Way #302  
 Winter Springs, FL 32708

Class Representative **Sarah Wilson** wrote, "Thanks to everyone who drove or flew all those miles for our Tenth Reunion! We had a great turnout and everyone really had a wonderful time catching up. Now comes the hard part—keeping in touch afterwards. Remember what a great time we had that weekend and all the friendships we renewed. Keep e-mailing, MySpacing, and supporting the Fund for MHS. I can always be reached at wsarah@earthlink.net."



Sarah Wilson '97 at her new condo in Winter Springs, Fla.

**Maisie Deely**, having moved back to the Berkshires from New York City, recently joined Berkshire South Regional Community Center as their new Development and Administration Manager.

Class Representative **Sarah Wilson** told us, "I purchased my first home this summer in Winter Springs, Fla. It's beautiful—a three bedroom condo in a lovely neighborhood. I love being a homeowner! There's plenty of room for visitors (which I get often in the winter). The picture attached is the first time I turned the key to my new home! I am still teaching first grade and I'll be having my first student teacher this winter. If any other first grade teachers want to swap ideas, just send me an e-mail!"

**Natasha Zebrowski** wrote during the winter holidays, "Just checking in to let you know the exciting news that my longtime sweetie, Andy, and I became engaged on New Year's Eve. We are planning a wedding on Cape Cod in July 2008. We are currently living in Nashville, Tenn., where I am working as a counselor in several middle schools."

'98



Reunion co-Chair  
 Elizabeth J. Farrell  
 4 Francis Street, # 2  
 Belmont, MA 02478-2219

Reunion co-Chair  
 Yvette A. Losaw  
 159 Dalton Avenue  
 Pittsfield, MA 01201

Reunion co-Chair  
 Sawyer H. Pouliot  
 1839 Soniat Street  
 New Orleans, LA 70115

"It was a great experience living at Miss Hall's," wrote **Catherine Leckie**. "I grew up a lot and realized what was important. The best memories are of my friends that I shared my life with and still do."

"By the time this is published, **Yvette Losaw** and I will have returned from a Christmas trip to Togo, West Africa! I am still living in New Orleans while working on a Ph.D. in International Health at Tulane University. School and work keep me busy but I

*Different summer and winter addresses? Let us know the dates for each, and we'll make sure your MHS mail follows you.*



Jenny Miller '99 at her wedding to Daryll Gatie in Virginia with Courtney Talbert '01 as maid-of-honor, 3rd from left, and Kelley Doswell Bird '99, matron-of-honor, 2nd from right

am really enjoying living in New Orleans and helping to rebuild after Katrina. I'm definitely looking forward to alumnae weekend in May 2008!" writes **Sawyer Pouliot**.

**Lauren Wainright** says, "Life is good in upstate New York. As a recent graduate of law school, I am currently working, looking for more work, and waiting to be admitted to the New York State Bar. I have found my passion in public interest—representing disabled individuals in need of an appropriate education, public benefits, etc. I love what I do and enjoy going to work everyday."

**Adella Zimmerman's** grandmother, former trustee **Cynthia Dalrymple Newman '39**, wrote that Adella is now getting her RN degree in Bemidji, Minn. Husband Jake Hadrava is a lumberjack in Minn.

## '99

Class Representative  
Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy  
140 West 55th Street, Apt. 8C  
New York, NY 10019-5333

**Jennifer Miller** daughter of Expressive Arts Chair Gary S. Miller was married August 18, 2007 to Daryll Gatie. The wedding took place in Virginia Beach, Va. Several MHS folks were at the wedding. **Courtney Tal-**

**bert '01** was a bridesmaid and **Kelley Doswell Bird** was her maid-of-honor. Also attending the wedding were Bill and Suzanne Doswell, **Louisa Doswell '01**, **Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy**, **Clarissa Clarke**, and **Sasha Hlozek**, daughter of former MHS faculty member, Peter Hlozek. Daryll and Jenny honeymooned in the Yucatan, Mexico. The couple resides in Virginia Beach. Daryll owns his own landscaping, retaining wall, lighting, hardscapes, and irrigation system business, Beach Groundworks, Inc., and Jenny works for American Funds.

"I now work for a Wholesale Stationery company in Newton, Mass. as a bookkeeper," wrote **Jen Perrin**. "I went to Israel back in January, and I'm studying modern day Hebrew. I hope to go back and get my master's sometime soon."

We read in *The Berkshire Eagle* that **Jessica Rufo** has purchased and renamed the former Bellissimo Dolce, a popular café/coffeehouse on North Street in Pittsfield. Jessica has returned to the Berkshires after years of working and studying in Boston and New York. A recent article in *The Boston Globe* said, "With revitalization fever in the air [for Pittsfield, Mass.], 26-year-old **Jessica Rufo** opened the whimsical Dottie's Coffee Lounge in September. It has a flapper motif and features live entertainment on Saturday nights. 'I get street people next to bankers next to kids with purple hair,'" Rufo said.

Director of the Leonhardt Academic Skills Center **Vaunie Graulty** shared news from **Sarah Townsend**.



Lillian Fay, daughter of Ian and Class Representative Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy '99

**Vaunie** learned that Sarah graduated from The University of Montana in Liberal Studies (emphasizing in psychology), and is now in her third quarter at Antioch University in Seattle, Wash. where she is working toward her master's in counseling. She is also working at the YMCA as a crisis worker.

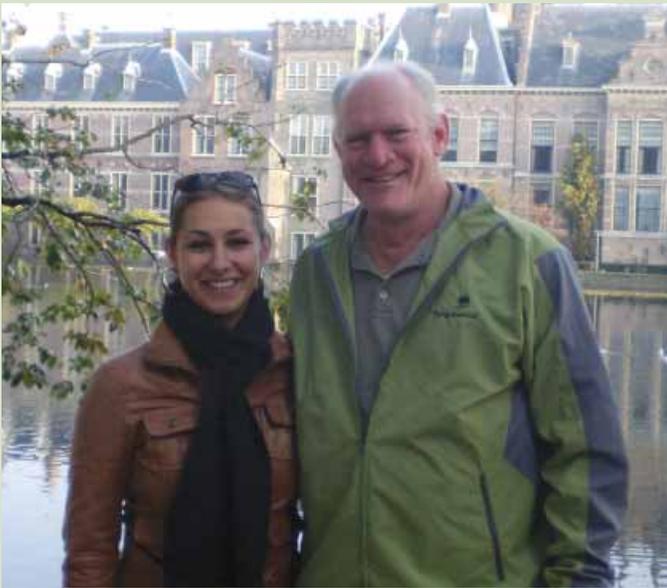
Lillian Fay Tracy, born June 18, 2007 in New York, N.Y., weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces. Proud parents are **Anne Kolodziejczyk Tracy** and husband Ian Tracy. Proud Aunts: **Julia Kolodziejczyk '00**, **Clarissa Clarke**, and **Melanie Simo Muchow '67**. Baby Lillian also attended **Jenny Miller Gatie's** wedding this summer. "I run into **Denyse Balamaci** in New York City often. Dinner party in New York sometime soon?" writes Anne.

**Julia Westcott** is working with special needs youth in her hometown of Montpelier, Vt. She serves children, both as a respite caregiver and as an instructional assistant in the public schools. She hopes to visit MHS soon.

## '00

In a note to Head of School **Jeannie Norris**, **Alison Cowie** wrote, "I have finished my time as a platoon leader and will be moving up to the Battalion S3 shop this month. The S3 shop is where all of the operations orders and training operations originate. It will be a big change from leading soldiers because I will now have no soldiers under me. Instead, I will answer to a Major and a Lieutenant Colonel instead of a Captain. I got back to Fort Drum in February and I have been charging ahead full steam

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([development@misshalls.org](mailto:development@misshalls.org))  
that you've added MHS to  
your estate plan.



Anna Pouls '00 and Ken Krentsa (Megan '09 and Kerry '11) in The Hague

for my next deployment to Iraq in November 2008. So, luckily, we have over a year at home before leaving again. I have also been looking into changing my actual duty type. Right now I'm a pilot, which makes me a 15A, and I put an assessment packet in with the Army's Psychological Operations branch. If I am selected, I would basically be into the political and tumultuous world of psychological warfare. It should be interesting!"

**Anna Pouls** has a new job with Global Reporting Initiative, an organization that reports on economic, environmental, and social performance by all organizations around the globe. Anna's job is to research world papers and track GRI news. Ken Krentsa, father of Megan '09 and Kerry '11, met Anna in The Hague and toured the city with her. He then sent us photos of their visit there.

## '01

Class Representative  
Jessica A. Nadeau  
1006 Forrest Pointe Drive  
East Greenbush, NY 12061

From **Tori Rosen Vining** we heard, "All is great! I am full-time at Shakespeare & Company. I also have a business called 'Your Art's Desire.' We paint murals, antique furniture, portraits, etc. I have a beautiful 1-year old daughter at home—so smart! She talks at the level of a 2 year old! I would love to get a group of Miss Hall's girls here in West Stockbridge to see *Sherlock* this fall. I thought it would work for an English class that may be reading it, or a drama class to experience."

## '02

Class Secretary  
Class Representative  
Cerrisa M. Low  
3929 Fulton St. NW, Apt. 2  
Washington, DC 20007

"I have the best news," wrote **Cerrisa Low**. "I just accepted a position at Holy Trinity School in Georgetown, D.C. as the new assistant for the kindergarten class, as well as after school care for grades 2-8."

In a note to Head of School Jeannie Norris, **Julia Uspaskik** reported that she had had a wonderful time at her reunion in May. She is living in Washington, D. C. after graduating from Catholic University and working for a publishing company as an Associate Marketing Manager while preparing for her GMAT. Julia hopes to go to business school and get her MBA.

## '03

Reunion Chair  
Tanya M. Rotolo  
2 North Spring Street, Apt 3  
Concord, NH 03301

"I miss you and am very excited for the class reunion in May," wrote **LaDonna Flynn**. "I don't know who is responsible for our Class Notes, so it is awesome that I can send this through on your website. I graduated from the University of New Hampshire in May '07 with a B.A. in English and a minor in Anthropology. I spent the summer working my usual summer job and then,



Victoria Humphrey '00 (center) with sisters JoAnne and Caroline, daughters of former Trustee John Humphrey and wife Pamela

as a graduation present, went to St. Maarten with my family for a week. It was incredible. I'm now in my second month at EBSCO Publishing, a subsidiary of EBSCO Industries, which is responsible for the search engine EBSCO Host. I'm an abstractor. It's a pretty awesome job. I've added a hotmail address to the e-mail directory, so I hope to hear from you guys."

## '04

Class Representative  
Kristine M. Schlachter  
112 Ashworth Place, FL 2  
Syracuse, NY 13210

Class Representative **Kristine Schlachter** wrote from Syracuse University, "It seems like a lifetime since I last wrote. To all of you that have continued to donate generously to MHS, thank you. To the rest of you, we will be graduating soon, so together we will be broke graduates of college. It never hurts, however, to give back to the place that gave us so much."

Head of School Jeannie Norris received a message from Alumnae Council member **Alicia Bonner** saying that she was working in the Dominican Republic this summer for a group called Peacework. Her tasks included finding existing sustainable development, public health, and education projects that would be suitable for groups of volunteers (from universities, for example) who approach Peacework with interest in short-term engagement projects. Visit her blog at <http://blogmischief.blogspot.com>.

In a message to Head of School Jeannie Norris, **Sachiko Nagase** wrote that she would finish up at George Washington University this spring and head back to Tokyo after graduation, where she will be working for Lehman Brothers Japan as an investment banking analyst.

**Cecily Platt** wrote, "I had dinner with a Miss Hall's graduate—**Hilary Prouty '62**. Her parents have a house in Mattapoisett, Mass., near ours, and she plays tennis at the Casino with us. She was Gold Team captain, so I guess we have a rivalry, since I was on the Blue Team. She sang me her class song right before we left. Then I told her about how the seniors sing "Hark!" every year before Winter Break and she laughed." In December we heard yet again from Cecily, "I'm almost finished with my second to last semester of my last year. Time sure does fly. My classes are decent this semester and I like the ones I have for next semester. Since I picked up tennis this past summer, I found a club out in Columbus and I'm having a great time."

Later **Kristine Schlachter** wrote, "I do not know about you all, but it has been a very busy semester for me. After spending the summer working theatre in Syracuse, I quickly jumped back into it and started the school year stage managing my first musical, *Lucky Stiff*. I am currently serving as the Production Manager for the student-run Theatre Company here at SU. We produced four

*We love celebrating the birth of your babies . . . A gift awaits your newborn if you or a classmate notifies us ([alumnae@misshalls.org](mailto:alumnae@misshalls.org)). Send the "stats" and we'll publish it in Milestones too!*

shows this semester. When I was not busy with those few shows, I also stage managed *The Rocky Horror Show*, was the sound board operator for *Man Child in the Promise Land*, child wrangled *Fiddler on the Roof* (it was fun to revisit the final show we did at MHS; miss my old acting buds), and sound designed *The Pillowman*. Somewhere in all of that I found time to go to class and have a very active social life. It is true what they say at MHS: the teachers really do teach a girl how to manage her time well. I hope all of you are doing amazing things with your lives, as well, and I hope we can stay in touch in the years to come. I send you all my undying love!"

From **Danielle Yarwood** we heard, "The snow is falling as it is close to the end of my time here at the University of Denver. My rugby team almost made the playoffs this year, making it a sad fall for the team. I am in a Gender in Society class and can't help but use my many experiences from Miss Hall's as daily examples of single sex education gone right. I am so proud of all the '07 graduates as they (most of them) were my proctorees. I miss them all. Also, congratulations to my fellow '04 graduates, who will also be graduating from college this year; welcome to the real world! Hope all is well in P-town, and I hope to make a trip there soon."

## '05

Class co-Representative  
Josie Amadeo  
238 Cambridge Street, #1  
Boston, MA 02114

Class co-Representative  
Maressa L. Bell-Deane  
1230 Blanchard Campus Center  
50 College Street  
South Hadley, MA 01075

MHS has learned that **Katie Grace** will spend a semester abroad in Fiji as part of her study at Williams College.

Assistant Head of School Jenny Chandler announced after winter break that **Adrienne Lazes**, currently an undergraduate at Hampshire College, was at MHS through January doing a teaching practicum with the Math Department.

In the *Berkshire Eagle*, we read that **Hana Rodrigs** distinguished herself at Smith College for high academic achievement. Hana also left on August 4 for Puebla, Mexico, where she will spend her junior year.

## '06

Class Representative  
Vanessa E. Stair  
Bryn Mawr College  
101 North Merion Avenue, C76  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-2859

Class Representative **Vanessa Stair** wrote, "It seems so long ago we were debating whether or not to wear white dresses to commencement, deciding where we should go to college, and saying goodbye to Miss Hall's. It is easy to think of the School as something in the past or even forget that it exists beyond June 5, 2006. Having a sister still there has really helped me visualize the continuing need for funding at Miss Hall's. As a class we have the power to influence our School and help fund girls' dreams, aspirations, and visions, as alumnae did for us. At this time I want to thank all of you who have taken the time to give back to a place that has had such a profound effect on our lives. Miss Hall's will forever be a part of our individual life experience, a place that shaped our minds, hearts, and sense of self. As I look back on my four years at MHS there is a place in my heart that needs to give back. Giving to the Fund for MHS what little I have after tuition, books, room and board, and never-ending college expenses is a fulfilling experience and I encourage each and every one of my classmates to do the same as every cent counts toward making a Miss Hall's dream a reality for girls there today."

**Sidney Bieser** is "loving Sweet Briar College and I'm majoring in environmental studies."

From Kate Flax, **Sally Breer's** mother, we hear, "Sally spent six weeks this summer as a student in South Africa with SIT, Studies in International Training. She has decided to take a year off from college and will be spending the year living with her father, interning at her father's art gallery, and, if possible, taking classes at Parsons Paris. Sally would like to return and attend the University of California at Santa Cruz."

**Kerry Cottingham** is doing well at Wheelock College. She shares an apartment with her MHS roommate **Mary Salcedo**. Kerry is thrilled to be back in Boston reports her mother Sally Cottingham.

MHS Expressive Arts Chair Gary Miller reported playing music with soprano saxophonist **Emily Duff** over the summer, and remarked on her extraordinary talent and origi-

nality in her work. They expect to have a CD out in the fall. (See notice in this magazine.)

**Rosie Haroutunian** was named to the dean's list at Hamilton College for the 2007 spring semester. The news appeared in *The Berkshire Eagle*. A student must achieve a grade point average of 90 or above during the term to be placed on the dean's list.

## '07

Class co-Representative  
Danielle Loumena  
2 East 8th Street, Apt. 710  
Chicago, IL 60605

Class co-Representative  
Cedar Niles  
P.O. Box 625  
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

Class co-Representative **Dani Loumena** wrote, "Calling all broke college students to support Miss Hall's! I know that money is low right now, and we're all struggling to just support ourselves at this point in time, but giving what you can to the place that gave you everything you needed throughout high school isn't so much to ask. From what I've heard so far, everyone is doing fine from the class of 2007, of course! Everyone is happily settling into their colleges, staying out of trouble, and I'm sure are pleased with their work academically. I encourage our classmates to keep in touch, and not only with other alumnae, but also with those that we left behind when we graduated. Everyone should try to make it back for a visit this spring to just check in and see how everything is going. I hope everyone I haven't talked to is doing well. I'll try to check in more often!"

Assistant to the Head of School Sandy Moon reported talking with **Sarah Connor's** father, who said that Sarah is in St. Peter, Minn. at Gustavus Adolphus College and loves it.

From **Holly Crane** in Sweden we hear, "Hej från Sverige! Christmas, if not snow, has come to this Baltic country. The streets of Stockholm are festooned with lights, and today, the Swedes light the first of the four advent candles. In late September, I spent one week discovering Munich, and I just returned home last week from a month-and-a half in Nice. I stayed in my own apartment there and took four hours of French classes everyday. I am currently enrolled in my second month-long Swedish class and am loving learning this

## Class Notes Content Deadlines

June 30th for  
Fall 2008 Bulletin  
December 31st for  
Spring 2009 Bulletin

MAKE  
NEWS  
e-mail  
alumnae@misshalls.org  
TODAY

musical language. Future destinations include Norway, Cambodia, Holland, and Spain. But no matter where I am, the faces of Miss Hall's are always in my heart."

Head of School Jeannie Norris received a wonderful note from **Beth Anne DeGiorgis**, who is at William & Mary. She wrote, "Everything is going well for me. I have lots of reading and schoolwork, but teachers like Mr. Rutledge prepared me well." She went on to say that she has joined a volunteer group that works with adults with disabilities, and she has a lead part in a student directed play. She said, "There are many leadership opportunities here, and I am beginning to explore them." She added, "I still feel the comfort and support of the MHS community." She wrote that she is a student of **Alison Beach '81!** Alison took her out to lunch during the first week of school and they 'swapped stories and memories.' She thanked us all for giving her 'a school, a home, and a community that gave me so much.'

## How to provide a photo for the MHS *Bulletin*:

### IF YOU ARE TAKING A DIGITAL PHOTO:

- Set your digital camera to use the highest (best) setting  
*NOTE: The typical default setting produces a photo with resolution too low than that required for a printing press, and once a photo has been taken digitally, you cannot increase its resolution by manipulating it.*
- Save the image as a JPEG or and e-mail the file as an attachment (not placed into the message or into a Word document) to [bmajewski@misshalls.org](mailto:bmajewski@misshalls.org)

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- Original prints can be returned, if requested
- Mail prints to:  
Miss Hall's BULLETIN  
Miss Hall's School  
492 Holmes Road  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

### PLEASE INCLUDE A CAPTION WITH YOUR PHOTO:

- Please identify the people, place, and occasion of your photo by supplying a caption with your photo.
- If sending an electronic file, the most convenient and effective method is to include the caption in the message of the e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact Director of Publications Brian Majewski at [bmajewski@misshalls.org](mailto:bmajewski@misshalls.org).

## In Memoriam



Former Trustee **Allison Eckardt Ledes '71**, died on Tuesday, January 8 in New York City after a long struggle with cancer. After graduation from Miss Hall's and Vassar College in 1975, Allison joined the staff of *The Magazine Antiques* and became editor in 1990. Sandra Brant of Brant Publications, who, with her husband Peter, acquired the magazine in 1985, said of her, "Allison's love of the world of art and antiques went so deep that it seemed to be part of her DNA. When she arrived at *The Magazine Antiques*, as a young girl out of college, it was clearly such a good fit that it was as if she had come home. She devoted her entire working life to the magazine, and her passion for its content, as well as the integrity with which she approached the material, will forever be part of the magazine's history." Allison served Miss Hall's as a two-term trustee, from 1982 to 1990. She was many times a reunion chair for her class, and she headed the wonderfully successful Auction during the School's Centennial Celebration in 1998. As a member of the MHS Arts Advisory Board, she helped lead a delightful tour of Central Park for MHS alumnae and friends on a spring evening in 2001. She is survived by her husband George, two daughters, Meredith and Abigail, and her sisters Lynne Eckardt '70 and Anne Eckardt Demas '75. The School is grateful to the family for their request that gifts be made to MHS in Allison's memory. Our condolences to the Eckhardt and Ledes families.



# HERITAGE SOCIETY

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Anonymous (2)

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Barbara Miller Arnold '31\*

Nancy Gustafson Ault '73

Joan Brooks Baker '62

*Vanda Glade Baker '53*

Wendy Sprole Bangs '63

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Natalie Cook Culley '62

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Edith Stetson Yovu '67

Jane Beach Zalman '64

Gwen Drum Zimmerman '62

*\*deceased*

MAY  
17  
Save the Date

## Heritage Society Tea

Members of the  
Heritage Society  
are invited to tea  
at the home of  
Head of School  
Jeannie Norris  
on Saturday,  
May 17, 2008

*(during Alumnae Weekend)*

In the fall of 1995, Miss Hall's School Announced the establishment of the Heritage Society to honor alumnae and friends who have remembered the School by bequest in their estate plans, or who have made life income gifts.

*Welcome to new members added since July 1, listed in italics.*

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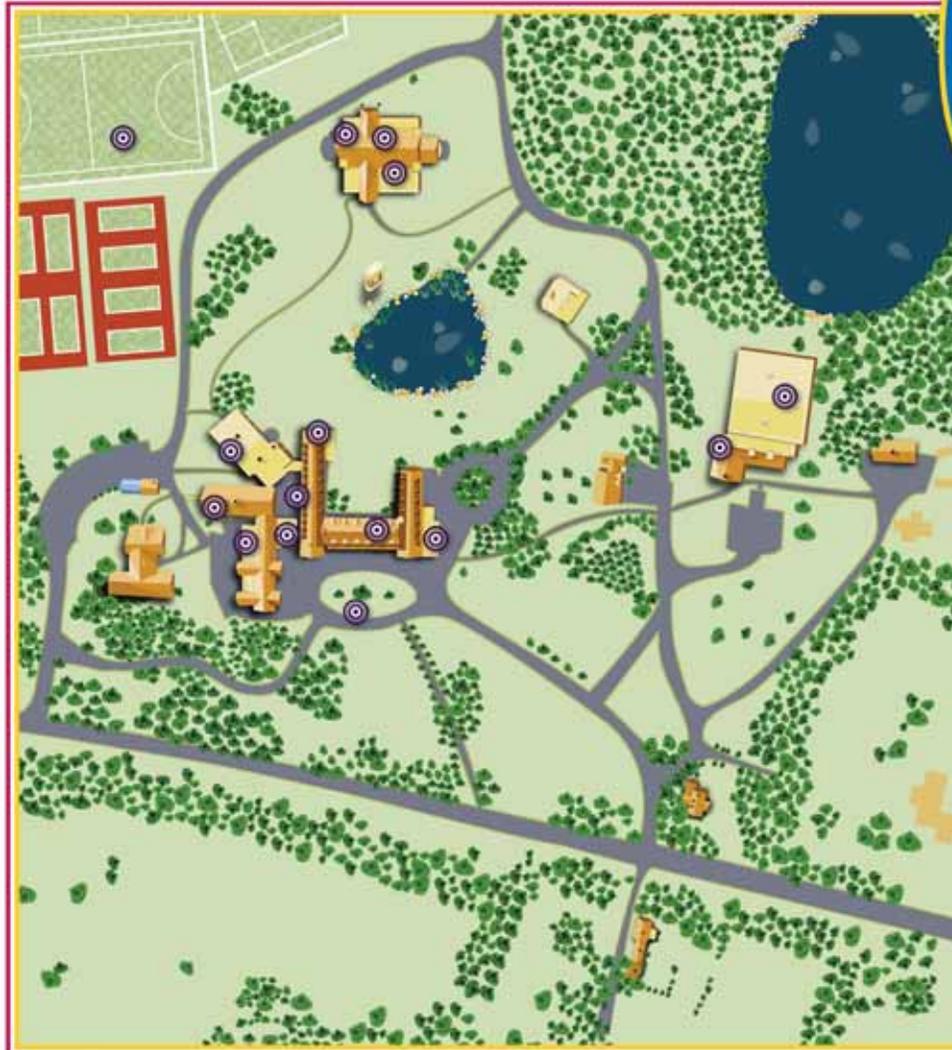
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- Schoolhouse Wing
- Humes Euston Hall Library
- Dining Room
- Residential Halls
- Centennial Hall
- Living Room
- Craig M. Ferguson Sun Room
- Student Center
- Elizabeth Gatchell Klein Arts Center
- Woods Theater
- Art Studio
- Athletic Fields
- Cross Athletic Center
- Fitness Room
- Thatcher Family Gymnasium