PUBLIC vs PRIVATE

By: Peter M. Branch, Head of School

Last December, the American Federation of Teachers, together with other partners including a think tank at Brown University, rallied against the privatization of public schools and, at the same time, against the rise of the tyranny of testing. In the latter case, the rise of high stakes testing which seeks to hold accountable students for their work and the teachers and schools which educate them has often had unintended consequences such as district-wide cheating scandals and the resignation of teachers who resent the regime of so-called teacher-proof curriculums.

The privatization of public schools refers to the institution of such reforms as charter schools and voucher programs which use public funds to provide scholarship aid to students in non-public schools. For those who support such efforts, the ostensible goals are to create competition to the monopoly of public schools in the hope that the newly funded schools will provide a better education to their students and that the competition will inspire improvement in the public schools where most children will continue to enroll. Critics of these changes in the pre-collegiate educational system see these changes as a drain on the treasure and talent, student, parent and teachers, of the public sector and a possible conspiracy to end the public school system as the principal educational instrument of our democracy.

The rise of home-schooling and charter and private schools with missions at odds with prevailing scientific and civic consensus has fostered a tension in America’s educational debates which has not served the interest of our students. Often these debates have hardened into binary positions such as the false choice between the teaching of reading based in phonics or through context. What we know now is that different students learn differently and some learn better with one approach than another and some learn well with a combination of approaches. Forcing a school or a teacher to use only one such approach is a narrow adherence to an ideologically driven agenda and the opposite of dealing with each student as an individual.

In the current concern about privatization of public education, we neglect the rich history of private education in America, just as we neglect a real understanding of its purposes and limitations. Private academies, for a small percentage of the population, preceded the institution of universal education through age 16 by means of compulsory attendance laws. Clearly it was a genuine reform to provide free and universal education even if an element of its intent was to provide a better educated workforce for an industrial society. However, the transfer of the factory model from the workplace into the schoolhouse had the result of sacrificing the individual to the large societal purpose. Little consideration was given to individual goals or the exceptional child, especially if his or her parents did not have significant resources.

In an economic world in which a living wage could be earned through such an educational background, such individual sacrifices could be sustained. Today’s demands for a highly literate workforce, with skills in reading, writing, calculating, research, analysis, collaboration and synthesis, require the capture of the unique and sometimes divergent thinking of a much larger percentage of our population.

As it happens, that has become one of the greatest capacities of the non-public independent school. Imbued with the philosophy that all the students we admit should be provided with the attention to support their needs and aspirations, schools like Rocky Hill take great care to engage and support teachers with those goals and understanding. A commitment to celebrate the diversity of our students extends to ways of thinking, academic challenges and talents, and intellectual passions as well as to race, gender, sexual orientation, and age, among other differences. Rocky Hill School intends to be not just a safe place for a child to express his or herself but moreover a place where that uniqueness is valued by his peers and by her teachers.

There is an irony in the call by public school teacher unions to oppose the “privatization” of education. Defensive of our private nature and accusations of elitism, independent schools have long sought to demonstrate our public purpose as exemplars of such democratic values as service to the community through public-private partnerships, even with public and charter schools. We provide significant financial aid so that we are often more economically diverse, as well as racially and geographically diverse, than our neighboring public schools. Indeed, from a point of equity, our graduation rate far exceeds the public school educational model, especially as it relates to students with the greatest economic challenge.

If Rocky Hill School did not exist, someone would have to invent it. In fact, many someones founded it and many other someones have brought it to its current character and success. It is the responsibility of those of us here now to continue its great contribution to the lifeblood of Rhode Island. Our students have much to offer and Rocky Hill has the capacity to ensure that their many talents will continue to be recognized.
The Bulletin is made possible by:
Peter M. Branch, Head of School
Karen Gibson, Director of Communications & Marketing
Liz Cochran, Director of Alumni Relations & Divisional Coordinator
Beth DeGerlia, Director of Development
Photography: Terry Coes, Ruth Clegg, David DelPoio, Rob Lee, Kelly Peterson, Jan Anthony, Patty Pontarelli, Traci Fairchild

Rocky Hill School | 530 Ives Road | East Greenwich, RI 02818

Rocky Hill School does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, handicap or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its admission, financial aid, employment, educational policies or other school programs.
The following trustees have stepped down from serving on the board. Rocky Hill School would like to thank immediate past president Michael Sullivan, Ed Furtado, Charles P. Iacono '99 and Ceileidh Siegel '01 for their service to Rocky Hill School. Michael had served on the board since 2001, as board president from 2008-2013. He led the School through two head of school searches and its most recent strategic planning process. In 2013, he received the Richard S. Barker Sr. ’54 Community Service Award. Ed shared his financial expertise as a member of the Finance Committee and as board treasurer in 2013. Chuck most recently served on the Committee on Trustees and the Development Committee. He supported Alumni Association efforts and donated the Lower School Lego Learning Wall. Ceileidh was a passionate member of the Strategic Planning Committee and supported Development Committee efforts.
The following are a few of the new initiatives implemented during the 2013-14 school year. Thank you to all of the parents, teachers, staff and alumni who helped make these programs a reality.

1. Rocky Hill School partnered with Trinity Repertory Company for the production of its theatre performances.

2. Alex Lehouiller ’24 makes use of the new flatscreen television and Apple TV installed in some Lower School model classrooms.

3. Head of School Peter Branch and trustees met with Peter Tse and Ming Xiang of Spence, Robinson, Lok and Tse, architects and engineers for LBE Inc., builder of Rocky Hill East School in Beijing, China.

4. Head of School Peter Branch celebrates the birthdays of K-2 students by reading with them in his office on a monthly basis.

5. Teddy Haddow ’15 shares his experience as a deaf student at Rocky Hill School during the Upper School’s biweekly Community Talks, a new initiative from Director of Diversity Matt Gnolfo. Teddy has also filmed some of the other talks, which can be watched at www.rockyhill.org/diversity.

6. Rocky Hill School will host its first annual 5K River Run on Saturday, April 12.

7. Director of Technology Tom Adams is pictured with members of the Upper School robotics independent study course. JC Armonies-Assalone ’15, Tyler Gates ’16 and Zach Jennings ’16 were part of the winning alliance in a qualifying tournament of the FIRST Tech Challenge at New England Tech.

8. Michael Levy ’14 and his team of editors worked tirelessly to produce the third printed edition of the School’s literary and art review, The Hill. New this year is a comprehensive website, tothehill.com, as well as a social media presence.

9. A new offering for Upper School noncompetitive athletics, Waterfront Recreation, featured kayaking and swimming at the waterfront this fall.
As a small school, Rocky Hill School likes to tout the fact that all of its student-athletes get a chance to not only try new sports, but to actually play integral roles on its teams.

Alumni have frequently noted the advantage of trying out a sport in high school “risk free,” uncovering hidden talents and continuing to play the sport long after graduation.

Another advantage to the close-knit community of Rocky Hill athletics is simple: players need each other. Team sports need individual players to simply field a complete team and to practice effectively. Recognizing this, veterans intuitively embrace new players and encourage all teammates to push themselves to new levels of performance. Through team-building, friendships are deepened, leaders step forward and shared values are brought from the game back to the classroom.

It might be tempting to conclude that the performances of Rocky Hill’s athletic teams suffer from a perceived lack of talent pool. This, however, could not be further from the truth.

In 2012-13, the School had two athletes named as SENE players of the year. Troy Pierre-Louis ’13 was honored for his outstanding performance on the boys’ basketball team. Just a few months later, Robert Petteruti ’13 received SENE player of the year for his elite tennis performance.

In the past year, Rocky Hill School teams have seen remarkable success as well. It is hard to pick a most thrilling moment—would it be the boys’ soccer shootout win to advance to the NEPSAC semifinals, or the softball team’s run to the RIIL Div III finals? The boys soccer team has been in that position before, while the softball team was in its inaugural season with many members never having played the sport before.

But winning records and trophies are not the only goals for Rocky Hill teams. Led by skilled and enthusiastic coaches, Rocky Hill student-athletes achieve success by learning the value of contributing to something bigger than themselves, showing improvement and demonstrating good sportsmanship.

Displays of good citizenship can be seen by Rocky Hill athletes off the field as well. Last spring, the lacrosse program raised more than $3,100 for the HEADStrong Foundation. Additionally, Rocky Hill’s field hockey teams have hosted Play4theCure games for the past five years, raising more than $1,800 in support of breast cancer awareness and research.

The success of Rocky Hill’s Upper School athletes can be attributed, in part, to a strong athletic foundation with physical education, recess, and after-school sports in the Lower School, as well as a physical education and an interscholastic athletic program in the Middle School.
1. Boys basketball made it to the SENE playoffs. Troy Pierre-Louis ’13 was named SENE Boys Basketball Player of The Year.
2. Kaylyn Walsh ’14 was named RIIL Third Team All-Division for girls basketball.
3. The Rocky Hill/Rogers/Tiverton hockey team qualified for the playoffs. Nat Hallowell ’16 was named RIIL Second Team All Division.
4. Boys lacrosse was SENE Div II Tournament Runner Up. Ryan Gilbane ’13, Seamus Kirby ’13, Michael Levy ’14, Andrew Nota ’14 and Henry Helme ’13 earned league honors.
5. Anna Yamada ’13, Kate Nota ’15 and Julia Asadorian ’15 earned league honors for girls lacrosse.
6. Ray Mancini ’15 earned SENE Second Team All Division for the golf team.
7. The sailing team had a huge victory over powerhouse Tabor Academy.
8. Robert Petteruti ’13 was named SENE Tennis Player of the Year.
9. The co-op softball team earned RIIL Division III Runner Up. Lisa DeMoranville ’15 and Allison DeGerlia ’16 received league honors.
10. Boys soccer earned SENE Div II Runner up and NESPAC Class D Tournament Runner Up. Kamusu Zean ’14, Juan Giraldo ’14, Quintin Harris ’14, Jared Barroso ’16, Garrett Teeters ’14 and German Rodriguez ’15 earned league honors.
11. Rebecca Porras ’15, Lisa DeMoranville ’15, Gigi Henderson ’14, and Kate Nota ’15 earned league honors for girls soccer.
12. Field hockey players Kyla Teeters ’14, Brenna Miller ’15 and Heather Lind ’17 earned league honors.
13. Rocky Hill runners showed improvement. Brittany Colasanto ’15 earned league honors.
Early September: the fog lifts to reveal the silver ribbon of the Potowomut River, the water gently lapping against the docks, when at once the silence is broken by a gaggle of excited voices, outdone only by the gulls careening around the sailboats. Bodies jostle and clamber aboard the pristine white craft, sails billowing as the Mariners tack into the wind.

Into the wind is a delightfully apt way to capture the spirit and energy with which the Rocky Hill School community began the 2013 school year, and the verve and vigor that has taken the momentum achieved in year one of the School’s strategic plan.

The Plan in Evolution

Members of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee have researched, revised, and updated Rocky Hill School’s strategic plan for year two. The vision to deliver the best independent school education in Rhode Island remains, where high academic standards and the ability to respond to students’ individual interests and intellectual passions combine to create a rich learning experience. Major goals and flagship initiatives set in year one continue, and a new goal and four new key initiatives have been created, each of which are vital to the School’s evolution as a progressive educational institution.

Small School, Big Opportunities

With a new captain at the helm, Peter Branch, a seasoned leader and highly respected educator, Rocky Hill is providing more opportunities than ever before through maritime and waterfront offerings, an all-school diversity initiative, a greatly enriched visual and performing arts department, and athletic programming.

Educational Excellence and Passion-Based Learning

With an increased focus on academic excellence in all areas of the curriculum, the School’s educational principles and practices, along with the course of study, have been updated. All members of the community have access to an in-depth look at core philosophies, practices, and initiatives that set Rocky Hill apart: stewardship of the environment and waterfront, community service, Responsive Classroom, Developmental Designs, 1:1 iPads, e-learning, Senior Seminar, and Senior Projects, to name a few.

In year two, the plan introduces Polaris, the pedagogical principles and practices that include a selection of programs offering enriched and accelerated learning opportunities in the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools. The name Polaris complements the School’s mariner theme and speaks to an increased focus on the waterfront and the environment. More commonly known as the North Star or Guiding star, Polaris is a multiple star which continues to increase its brightness, much like the students for whom the faculty are providing multiple opportunities to shine. Through increased opportunities for advancement, interdivisional linking, mixed literacy classes, diversity programs, and independent learning studies, students in all three divisions are exploiting an innovative 21st century curriculum while honing their skills and pursuing their talents and passions.

New initiatives in year two include the expansion of maritime, waterfront, and environmental programs. A new 3-year plan for the visual and performing arts includes the AP curriculum begun in year one, and a partnership with Trinity Repertory Company.

Infused Technology

Rocky Hill boasts a fully infused technology curriculum, placing the institution at the forefront of mid-21st century education. Led by Tom Adams, the director of Technology, the School is purchasing hardware, updating network infrastructure, and integrating technology curriculum in all disciplines. Our Professional Learning Community is expanding, with an increased focus on peer mentoring and individual initiative. Professional development, both in-house and out, allows faculty to continue building the iPad programs in the Middle and Lower Schools. Faculty share and display projects and assignments, provide guides, rubrics, and tips in using specific tools and applications, and learn from each other’s ideas and expertise.

Students are making documentaries in Upper School English classes, creating dynamic multimedia presentations in Middle School science and social studies, and using iPad applications and cameras to augment reality in the Lower School. Additionally, faculty, staff, and students are producing podcasts and contributing blog posts through Moodle, Google sites and Rocky Hill’s website.

Partnerships

The ongoing acquisition, development, and expansion of partnerships enhance the student experience, raise awareness locally,
and increase the institution’s presence and participation in the state.

Year two has seen increased cross-divisional and interdisciplinary opportunities for students to advance beyond their grades and division: examples include the math and language arts programs in the Lower School, advanced math in the Middle School, and the aligned math, and classical and world languages between the Middle and Upper Schools.

Partnerships between faculty and staff have strengthened ties between the divisions, provided support and mentorships for Project-Based Learning in Lower School, technology in Middle School, and the independent and e-learning studies in Upper School.

Partnerships in professional development continue to include the Middle School faculty workshops with Developmental Designs, and collaboration with and training from EdTech.

Upper School mentors who serve as facilitators of independent courses work in conjunction with online providers. Nearly 20 percent of Upper School students engage in some form of independent study. Also, partnerships with individuals, institutions, organizations, and businesses serve to provide sponsors for Senior Internships (including Save the Bay, DEM, North Kingstown Animal Hospital, Hasbro, RDW Group, RISD, Rhode Island Magazine, the PawSox, Vibco, WaterFire, the Warwick Beacon and East Greenwich Patch).

Another valuable partnership is that with the parents within the Rocky Hill family—an outreach and educational initiative, Behind the Scenes, presents curriculum and program informational sessions. The theme for year two, Building and Connecting our Community, has been explored through workshops focusing on diversity, counseling and wellness, academic and community partnerships, and technology.

To promote and preserve Rocky Hill’s waterfront along the Potowomut River and Narragansett Bay, faculty and students collaborate with URI, Save the Bay, and the USDA Natural Resources. URI associate professor (and Rocky Hill parent) Laura Meyerson and her Restoration Ecology class are working on campus to evaluate the restoration potential at Potowomut marsh by considering the plan developed by Save the Bay to dig out the old channel in the marsh and other potential restoration approaches.

Year two of the plan has welcomed Rocky Hill’s diversity initiative spearheaded by Matt Gnolfo, the Director of Diversity. The diversity theme Eyes and Arms Wide Open centers on an active mindfulness of what makes people different, how members of the community can grow closer to one another by seeking insights into the experiences of others, and by embracing the challenges that they face together.

This year, the Upper School has been enriched by the establishment of a Diversity Club, hearing from guest speakers like New York’s GLSEN Chapter Chair, James Michael Angelo, sharing experiences and life-changing stories from several of their peers during biweekly Community Talks, and participating in Public Diversity Forums.

Beyond campus, students, alumni, parents and faculty are partnering with local colleges and other schools like Juanita Sanchez, creating opportunities for student exchange, in the classroom and on the sports field.

An exciting project in the works that responds to the plan’s call to place a greater focus on international outreach and global exchange is a partnership with Rocky Hill East School in Beijing, China, which would provide opportunities for students, families and faculty.

Enhanced Revenue and Facility Upgrades

The newly created Alternative Revenue Committee will target objectives identified to meet the goal to develop alternative revenue streams for the School. Endeavors include sharing Rocky Hill’s campus with the community and local organizations, expanding and enhancing the existing after-school (RHEA) and summer (SEA) programs, and establishing strategic partnerships related to sailing and aquaculture. A Facilities Committee is also hard at work on priorities of sustainability, security and stewardship.

The African proverb “it takes a village to raise a child,” is often used to describe how raising a child is the responsibility of the extended family—a communal effort. Rocky Hill School, through its infrastructure, mission statement, and tireless efforts of administrators, faculty, staff, parents, students, alums, and friends, is fulfilling the goals and objectives of year two of the strategic plan, and ultimately the all-encompassing vision of all of its constituents.
Fourth grade students achieved Overall Winner in a local Sumdog competition. Garrett Corsi ’22, Drew Tamburini ’22 and Ben Liebermensch ’22 received certificates of merit for placing among the top 10 of all competitors.

Upper School math teacher Andrew Washburn rowed his way to a veteran double scull victory at the 2013 Head of the Charles Regatta. Atsa Zah ’15 placed second in the Traditional Men’s Category at the Hunting Moon Powwow in Milwaukee.

Jessilyn Ring ’15 was a delegate on the RI Dog Team at the Eastern States Exposition. She and her Belgian sheepdog mix, Twilight, also took third place in their obedience class. She was recognized among 66 delegates for exemplary behavior and received the Sportsmanship Award by the Eastern States Committee. Jess also competed on the RI Quiz Bowl Dog Knowledge Team in a New England regional competition that came in second.

Rocky Hill School was presented with the American Heart Association’s 2012-13 Top Ten Jump Rope for Heart/Hoops for Heart Award - 5th Place.

Upper and Middle School art teacher Rachel Armentano was the guest teaching artist in October at the Institute for Contemporary Art in Boston. Librarian and technology integrator Darshell Silva participated in a Google+ hangout with Sal Khan (Khan Academy) on the topic of technology in education. She was also one of 11 school librarians honored at the University of Rhode Island’s 50th Anniversary Gala as part of the top 50 Alumni for Leadership, Innovation, and Service since the library school’s inception.

Nathaniel Awkerman ’14 and Christopher Ratigan ’14 earned Commended Student status from the National Merit Scholarship Program. Their PSAT scores placed them among the top 50,000 of more than 1.5 million students (top 4%) who took the qualifying test.

The following Middle School students qualified to participate in the 2013-2014 Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Talent Search by scoring in the 95th percentile or higher on a reasoning section of a nationally-normed test: Jason DeGerlia ’19, Alex DiCenso ’19, Alyssa Grayson ’19, Michael Walsh ’19, Abigail Costantino ’18, Olivia DePasquale ’18, Clarice Jennings ’18, Susanna Mello ’18, Thomas Ricci ’18, Michael Santos ’18 and Alioune Sow ’18.

Jenna O’del ’16, for the third straight year, had a poem selected for publication by The America Library of Poetry.

The AP Program recognized the following students who demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams:

- AP Scholar - Kevin Lieb ’13 and Wenbo Sun ’14
- AP Scholar with Honors - Angelo Gemma ’13, Lily Hanlon ’13, and Christopher Ratigan ’14
- AP Scholar with Distinction - Nicholas Cicchetti ’13, George Duan ’13, Leila Jiang ’13, Dawn Li ’13, and Robert Petteruti ’13.

These students received outstanding scores for their AP Studio Art design portfolios: Nicholas Cicchetti ’13, Alessandra Antonelli ’13, George Duan ’13, Brendan Lada ’13, Sven Wadensten ’13, and Edward Tarbox ’13.

Michael Levy ’14 attended the Rhode Island Second District Congressional Youth Cabinet (CYC) for Fall 2013. The program provides students with an inside look at the political process.

Anessa Petteruti ’17 was accepted as a piano student at the New England Conservatory in Boston. She also competed in two USTA tennis tournaments: July 6 - USTA 16’ - Second Place; Aug 11 - USTA 14’ - First Place.


Fourth grade teacher Charles Laurent was featured as a “face” of flipped learning in the elementary grades at the Flipped Learning Network’s New England workshop.

The team of Jamie Frost ’17, Megan Caruso ’17, Hunter Gallant ’17, and Hunter Corbett ’17 took fourth place in the Novice Division of the in the first ever Virtual Certamen sponsored by the Florida Junior Classical League. Griffin Rademacher ’16, Jess Ring ’15, and Chris Ratigan ’14 took third in the Intermediate Division.
1. Bob and Betsey Dunley are pictured along with Ray and Dawn Roch '83 from the 2013 Fall Classic. The annual golf and tennis tournament raised more than $55,000.

2. Sixth graders in the Garden Classroom.

3. Abby Siegel '17, Lauren Silva '16 and Amanda Siegel '15 were accepted to RIMEA's All-State Band.

4. Taylor Cote '21 tests out her homemade boat with Mr. Wyzga in fourth grade science.

5. Board president Ed Santos received the American Hospital Association Grassroots Champion Award in May for his support of CharterCARE Health Partners' mission.

6. 2013 Rhode Show Host Meaghan Mooney '02 poses with members of the Upper School Drama Club.

7. Upper School students lounge on the dock during field day 2013.

8. Atsa Zah '15 (Narraganset, Navajo, Jicarilla Apache & Choctaw Nations), performed an exhibition of intertribal Native American culture during an all-school meeting.


10. Lucas O’Reilly ’19 tries to contain a mock toxic spill during Enviroweek.

11. Seamus Kirby ’13 was the first lacrosse player to receive the Charlie Blanchard Relentless Spirit Award in honor of Clifford Charles “Charlie” Blanchard III ’84.

12. Middle School students make use of the outdoor Harkness table, a gift of the parents of the Class of 2012.
Alumni Reunion 2013 on Saturday, June 1 was a true tribute to the theme, “Then, Now, Always.” There was a wonderful turnout for the many activities scheduled throughout the day. Most notable were the lacrosse games, where more than 35 alumni came back to play. Reunion 2013 marked the first girls varsity vs. alumnae lacrosse game ever played at Rocky Hill, with alumni captain Sarah Knowles ’08 and the team cradling to a 9-4 victory.

After a more than 10-year hiatus, boys varsity and alumni lacrosse players were back in force. Alex Champagne ’04 led more than 20 alumni players in a game where young and old played on mixed-up teams and ended in a fitting 11-11 tie.

More than expected attended the “Then, Now, Always Luncheon” held for Alumni Association board members, scribes, class officers and 2013 board nominees. The Alumni Association held its Annual Meeting where officers were elected and new members were appointed to the board and alumni committees. The evening Milestone reception in the Carriage House included a special remembrance of Dick Barker ’54, trustee and former Alumni Association officer, who passed away in 2012.

Reunion classes and other attendees thoroughly enjoyed the main Reunion celebration, which was catered by Flik Independent School Dining. Alumni attendees of the event enjoyed sharing memories of their time at Rocky Hill School with each other and with current and former faculty who were present.

Outstanding Alumni Award

The Outstanding Alumni Award was inaugurated in 1988 to recognize an alum who has made significant contributions to the life of the School and has, since he or she left Rocky Hill School, made their mark in the world. The recipient must have demonstrated dedication to the promotion of Rocky Hill School over a significant period of time, along with a strong sense of civic and family duty.

It’s been said of last year's winner, Karl Wadensten ’78, that he puts his whole heart and soul into Rocky Hill School, his community and his family. In his younger days, Karl played lacrosse, soccer and basketball and was a member of the Math Club. He's a former member of Rocky Hill's board of trustees, and a member of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation. He owns his own flourishing business, hosts a radio show, speaks at conferences around the world and has invited Rocky Hill School employees to his business to share his passion for utilizing Lean culture techniques. Karl and his wife, Kym, have raised four outstanding children; son Sven ’13 graduated from Rocky Hill last spring.

In the past few years, Karl has been a maverick on campus, co-chairing the 2013 senior parent gift campaign, advocating for the boys' lacrosse team and sponsoring a strength and conditioning coach to work with players. He and Kym have supported the ceramics program and in January 2013, Karl was the keynote speaker on Career Day. He spent time with the graduating class of 2013 and helped prepare them for their role as alumni who will be dedicated to giving back to their communities and to the School.

Leaders lead from the front, and that is how I see Karl in my mind’s eye, a true leader. I am proud to call him a friend after a 37-year history, having graduated together from Rocky Hill School in 1978.
SCENES FROM REUNION 2013

1. Class of 1993 (left to right) Susana Lorente, Elizabeth (Hall) Gresh, Abigail (Lundblad) Smith, Kristen (Hinson) Barber, Anemone Mars, Bridget (Lawton) Neary, Gabrielle Reed, and Emily (Card) Muzzy.
2. Carol Barker, wife of Dick Barker ’54, and Lee Steele ’54 at the Milestone reception.
4. Alisha Newton ’03, Hannah (Lichtenstein) Graves ’03 and Doug Graves ’03 celebrate with Will Mellor ’04.
5. Former faculty member Paul Tukey with the Class of 2008: Jared Carr, Remy Corvese, Walter Filkins, James Bass, Brendan Schultz, Sarah Knowles, Hudson Hackett ’09, Ted Broderick, Steve Tilley, Patrick Mellor, and faculty member Terry Coes.
6. Alumni Association immediate past president Sally Kenyon Grant ’87.
7. Former Faculty: Sam Dumas ’79, Gerry Unger, Els Shine, Motria Holowinsky, Marilyn Edwards, and Barbara Streuli.
8. Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award recipient Karl Wadensten ’78 and newly elected Alumni Association president Sarah Shaw Siskin ’78.
9. Gerry Unger joins Kate (Hoagland) Scott ’98, Nathan Scott ’97 and their son, Westin.
10. Libby Hanks ’09, Sarah Pontarelli ’07 and Alina Petteruti ’09.
11. Steve Tilley ’08 at the Milestone reception.
12. Faculty members Trixie Dumas ’81 and Donna Goldstein.
On a perfect fall day, Rocky Hill School’s campus was alive with activity and excitement for Homecoming 2013. Crowds gathered to partake in carnival games and to welcome back Rome Kirby ’07.

Rome, off side trimmer and the only American on Oracle Team USA, was part of a team that made an improbable comeback in the final, winner-takes-all race of the 34th America’s Cup. Rome was the youngest member of the team, but his father, Jerry, is a veteran of six America’s Cup campaigns. Throughout his own career, Rome has excelled in nearly all classes of boats available to him.

A humbled Rome addressed the audience, thanking his parents and noting that he would not have made it through Upper School without his teachers and advisers.

“Honestly, if you have a dream, you have an ambition, whatever it may be, a goal in life... just with pure hard work, you can absolutely do anything,” Rome said while being interviewed on campus.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, Sarah Shaw Siskin ’78 presented Rome with an inscribed brick that was placed in the Garden Classroom brick walk.

More than 30 alumni composed alumni athletic teams that went 1-1-1 on the day (girls soccer shootout win, boys soccer tie and field hockey loss).

Overall, close to 60 alumni were on campus to celebrate the blue and white. Many participated in the reception at the Head’s house and others still met at Finn’s Harborside later on in the evening to catch up.

Thank you to all who participated in making this day a wonderful success.

BUY A BRICK!

For yourself, or as a gift to honor someone special, a brick in any one of three campus brick walks is a lasting legacy. Contact the Alumni Office at 401-884-9070, ext. 132 or order online at www.rockyhill.org/brickwalk.
After the success of last year’s Career Day, the School and the Alumni Association were pleased to have continued the program in the fall. Juniors and seniors gained valuable insight into the college experiences and career paths of Rocky Hill School alumni. Alumni speakers who participated were:

Elisa Silverstein Heath ’79
Senior Development Officer, Major Gifts, Combined Jewish Philanthropies
URI, MCP Urban Planning; Tulane University, BA English Literature

Erika Waldman Aldazabal ’81
Project Manager, IBM
University of Florida ’85, BA Public Relations

Derrick E. Maloney ’87
Project Manager/Project Architect, T2 Architecture
Northeastern University ’92, BS Art and Architecture History; Roger Williams University ’97, BArch

Lia DiLeonardo Lehouiller ’90
Partner, DiLeonardo
University of Vermont ’94, BA; RISD ’98, MArch

Monica Iacono Boss ’91
Executive Advisor, Talent Acquisition Client Experience, CVS Caremark Corporation
Trinity College ’95, BA Art History; Babson College F. W. Olin Graduate School of Business ’02, MBA General Management

Nathan R. Maine ’92
Loan Officer, Navy Federal Credit Union
University of Rhode Island ’00, BS Business Administration

Lucas Duclos ’95
Education Consultant, Curation Interactive
URI ’99, BA English; Harvard University, EdM Arts in Education

Stephanie Soscia, ’00
Information Scientist, Biogen Idec
Smith College ’04, BA Neuroscience; Brown University ’07, MA Pathobiology; Boston University School of Medicine ’11, PhD Anatomy and Neurobiology

Ceileidh Siegel ’01
Director of Project Management, G-Form
Pratt Institute ’05, BID Industrial Design; Brown University ’09, ScM Innovation Management & Entrepreneurship Engineering

Alisha Newton ’03
Project Manager, Advertising/Brand & Sports Marketing Account Executive, Foxwoods Resort Casino & Creative Director, Donahue Models & Talent
URI ’07, BA Communications

Hope Sholes ’04
ATF Firearms Compliance Manager, Smith & Wesson Corporation
Wheaton College ’07, Psychology; Johnson & Wales ’10, Marketing Communications and Advertising
As I write this, I can't help but be reminded of my own graduation, some 35 years ago. It was a thrilling day, my first real personal success, and I felt it impossible that I could ever outgrow my love for Rocky Hill or to ever forget how special that day was. Of course, time and life have a way of diminishing something so far back in our pasts as our high school years, but it comes rushing back at me whenever I go to the campus; I am instantly transported to my youth.

Our alumni community, now numbering more than 1,300, continues to make significant and distinctive contributions to chosen professions, society and to the world. What we have collectively accomplished is in large measure responsible for the ever-growing tradition and reputation of Rocky Hill School as one of the best independent schools in Rhode Island. In like measure, that reputation enhances the value of all of our diplomas.

The Alumni Association has worked these past years to strengthen our connection to fellow alumni and in fact, has recently launched our own online alumni directory (alumni.rockyhill.org), a great resource for us all, both professionally, and personally.

We have also supported the School’s new strategic plan in partnerships wherever we can find them, and our $7,000 investment in the Garden Classroom’s brick pathways has been recouped through the efforts of the perpetual alumni brick campaign. Our Career Day events were a big hit in January and November 2013. Alumni shared their stories with students who will soon embark on their own life journeys. At the annual meeting we voted to gift the School with items from the wish list to include $1,500 for the Upper School girls lacrosse uniforms, $650 for the Middle School’s robotics program, and $680 for flatscreen TVs in Lower School classrooms. We were thrilled to be able to impact students’ daily lives and look forward to being able to do even more next year.

You can remain involved with the School and fellow alumni in many ways. First and foremost, please keep us updated on where you are and what you are doing through the Alumni office at alumni@rockyhill.org. Also, keep abreast of what is going on by subscribing to the School’s e-newsletter eCurrents. Visit the School’s website www.rockyhill.org to find out about school-wide and alumni events, and local alumni activities.

We have many committees that are looking for help, please see the list on alumni.rockyhill.org and sign up where you can. We are working on starting an alumni scholarship, and that committee could use help, as can the new Networking Committee, which will advance us into the modern age. The Brick Committee will be mapping out the bricks for us and getting a link set up on the School’s website. There are many new opportunities for you to take part in and I hope to see a lot of new faces getting involved as we expand the Alumni Association's reach day by day.

Lastly, alumni Annual Fund participation is growing yearly; in fact, in 2012-13 we met the Alumni Challenge goal by reaching 17.5% participation, which is 5% higher than the national average for schools like ours. Let’s keep this trend going, knowing our contributions remain a vital resource for the School’s programs and services. If you would like to make a contribution, or have an idea for an innovative gift, please contact Director of Development, Beth DeGerlia, at 401-884-9070, ext. 129 or bdegerlia@rockyhill.org.

I appreciate your support and honor your continued involvement with the Rocky Hill family of students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni.

A free online portal exclusively for alumni

alumni.rockyhill.org

A dedicated committee of Alumni Association board members made a commitment in October to begin implementation of an online portal for Rocky Hill School’s alumni community. With hundreds of graduates across the United States and worldwide, the Alumni Association is cultivating stronger bonds with and among alumni, laying the foundation for fundraising in support of critical programs such as scholarships and the endowment. This technology solution enriches the existing alumni website, while reducing costs associated with direct mailings. This online portal affords alumni an interactive, customized experience, including opportunities to connect with each other, view school and class events, and make online donations. This portal also serves as a single point of entry for alumni to self-maintain their profile and contact information.
Bonnie (Salisbury) Graniero grows water lilies, Louisiana irises and other water plants commercially for local nurseries. Bonnie enjoys semi-retirement, taking computer classes continuously, and working on gun classes to sharpen her aim.

Emily (Waterman) Mooney retired from teaching in June 2013 after 39 years. She keeps busy with her gardening and property maintenance business, and worked full-time in December as a ski instructor at Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock, Vt. and spent the last year developing with her riding and eventing career.

Candace Hammond lives on the Cape and spent the last year developing with her 2-year-old grandson. Her youngest child, a writing partner, “The Fix-it-Sisters,” a fake advice column for Wicked Local websites. The two spent the holiday season performing in five charity events as sisters Annabelle and Scarlett. Next up is a book of advice. Her kids, Dylan, 35, Ben, 30, and Emma, 28, live in Great Barrington, Mass., Cambridge, Mass. and Bozeman, Mont., respectively. Dylan started a residential program for young men recovering from addiction, Ben is a music producer (check out Bosq of Whiskey Barons) and Emma is opening a Korean restaurant. Candace also does PR for nonprofits, writers and small businesses, and sees every independent movie she can.

Karen (Cuthbertson) Harper-Fuog has had a thriving catering business for 24 years. She is the exclusive caterer for a winery along with all of the folks in the Middleburg, Va. area. Son Daniel is working in contracting with his dad, and daughter Jenny is moving forward with her riding and eventing career. Karen has reconnected with classmates Joyce Hempstead, John Wilson, and Pat (Whitford) Leins. She shares her homestead with 18 chickens, five cats, two dogs, and five horses.

Joyce Hempstead wrote: “Bethany and Peter live in New York City and Philly, respectively. Jerry and I have tidied up our 118-year-old house with some plaster, paint, and refinished floors, and various other projects that keep us feeling like we’re still paying college tuition.”

Patricia (Whitford) Leins spent the last year as a visiting professor at UMass Amherst. She’s back in Virginia, having left after a three-year Department of Education Leadership Fellowship in special education at George Mason University, nine years of teaching special education and a master’s in education. She completed a Ph.D. at George Mason, and ended her stint there in January. Her eldest is married, lives outside Pittsburgh, is completing a Ph.D. in special education and manages Patricia’s 20-month-old grandson. Her youngest teaches, runs the family tutoring business,
and rides horses. Patricia enjoys country life, including riding and fox hunting. She also managed some sailboat racing last summer in Annapolis.

Margaret (Campbell) Sanders has set up at an old cotton mill-turned farmers/artisans market in the south end of Charlotte, where she has been for a year. She sells watercolors and photos at the market where she staffs a booth representing herself and three other women including a potter, a flower lady and a soy candle maker. She loves having the opportunity to paint daily. She will be opening a shop as peggysanderscreations at Etsy.com.

John Wilson works at a marine surveying company after running his own business for 17 years. When not on the road and crawling around on ships and barges, he still finds time to ride his motorcycle and sail around. His wife, Cindy, runs photography workshops around the world (Profundo Journeys). As for his children, Kyle is married with two daughters and teaches sixth grade in Burrillville. Katie lives in West Hartford and a soy candle maker. She loves having the opportunity to paint daily. She will be opening a shop as peggysanderscreations at Etsy.com.

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Donna (Tocco) Greenaway is an adjunct instructor in the Political Science Department at Salve Regina University. She presented her proposal for dissertation (Ph.D. in humanities) at Salve Regina University in November, and is now in the dissertation phase. She got her CAGS in humanities from Salve Regina last spring. Donna and Charles plan to reach out to the Class of ’75 soon, and classmates can get in touch with either of them.

1975  Scribe: Donna (Tocco) Greenaway
dgreenaway@cox.net
Charles Gadon married Joanne Rynecki Gadon in August 2013.

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1975  Scribe: Donna (Tocco) Greenaway
dgreenaway@cox.net
Charles Gadon married Joanne Rynecki Gadon in August 2013.

1976  Scribe: Mary Jean (Keebler) Roche
mjmom02@aol.com
1977  Scribe: Susan (Magee) Rinebolt
suebruc1212@juno.com
1978  Scribe: Sarah (Shaw) Siskin
forked427@comcast.net

Janina D’Abate works in Florida as a paralegal doing mortgage closings. She also cares for her elderly mother, and plays golf in her spare time.

Sarah Shaw Siskin was elected president of Rocky Hill’s Alumni Association last June and is thrilled with this wonderful opportunity to serve her fellow alums. She gardens and loves the beach. Her husband, Peter, works for a contractor for NYC Transit. Sarah has two grown sons: Chris is in Florida with his wife, Annie, and their son, Chris Jr., 2. Adam is in college in New Jersey.

Dacia Votolato works at Verizon and loves working out at Northeast Sports Training, reading, dancing, sewing and the arts. She is a libertarian and happily single. She is learning to speak German and Hebrew, and planning a trip to Tel Aviv. Dacia has three cats and is trying to breed Cordon Bleu finches.

Karl Wadensten reports Tatum, 20, is at Salve Regina studying business and entrepreneurship with a concentration in design. Sven, 18, is just back from Australia and is working on design engineering, being mentored by his grandfather who holds 46 patents. Lars, 17, is at Wheeler School in Providence and is very involved with industrial design and exploring colleges. Also at Wheeler, Magnus, 13, is exploring how to become a rancher living the Wild West life. Karl was featured in a couple of books this year and he and Kym are traveling the world speaking about Lean culture and operational excellence in Norway, Holland and Australia. Karl continues working at the state level on the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and pondering the race for governor in 2014, because he has a burning desire to help Rhode Island and its people.

Daniel Bentley and Carolyn are with Bank of America and still reside in McKinney, Texas with their daughter Hope. They visited Rocky Hill this summer and look forward to visiting again in 2014 to celebrate the wonderful memories and lessons learned here.

Jeff Clark traveled this past year and enjoyed time with family and friends. He was looking forward to a quiet and peaceful Christmas and a trip to New Zealand and Australia. After the trip, he’ll be staying in San Francisco until April 1 in hopes of reconnecting with friends there.

Liz Prager-O’Brien works as the marketing coordinator in the Office of Admission at the University of Rhode Island, where her daughter plans to enroll in the fall. Her son started high school this year, quickly adapting to the increased challenge and responsibility. Liz’s husband is a proficiency based graduation coordinator in a nearby district. They are all happy and healthy and making the most of the one year that the kids will be in high school together.

Betsey (Blanchard) Rafferty and her team, Betsy's Buddies, participated in the 7th Annual MS Jet Pull at TF Green Airport in October. Brother Charlie Blanchard ’84 helped pull too.

Charlotte (Pillsbury) Wood lives in the Bay Area with sons Carson, 16, and Dawson, 13. She manages an environmental consulting firm, Aperio Inc. Her husband, David, tracks and monitors gas pipeline for PG&E. Last fall, they
attended a wedding in a Scottish castle. They also traveled to London, Edinburgh and other parts of the Scottish Highlands.

1980

Mary Lynne Kennedy went on a Nova Scotia adventure last summer, including whale watching in a zodiac inflatable with whales breaching less than 100 feet away. Daughter Alexis ’20 is loving Rocky Hill’s Middle School. Mary Lynne was elected secretary of Rocky Hill’s Alumni Association last June and enjoyed connecting alumni and current students as Career Day chair. She encourages her fellow alumni to get in touch and share their news.

Melissa (Bennett) Narcizo lives in Newport with husband, David, and son Ike, 15. They have a graphic design firm, Lakuna Design, and Melissa recently started an interior design company with two friends called Roost Modern. David is a musician and may tour in early 2014, so Ike and Melissa are hoping to tag along for some of the European part.

Martha Shaw is a junior partner in a law firm in Hartford, Conn., and husband, Dave Monaco, has a successful carpentry business. They continue to renovate their Victorian west end house and enjoy traveling when they can.

1981

Marjan (Behzadi) Anvari visited campus last March after more than 30 years. Traveling from Newbury Park, Calif., Marjan brought her husband, Eric, daughter Tarlan and son Teymoor. Marjan fondly remembers her time at Rocky Hill as an international student from Iran, living in both the ACE building and Pony Barn, hosted by the Geiersbach and Bennett families. Marjan is a manager in community development.

Erica (Miller) McNeil married Charles McNeil on November 26, 2008 and lives a wonderful life in Hampton Falls, N.H.

1982

Jo-Anne (Coghlin) Intrator completed a master’s in education for the deaf at Smith College in May 2013. She teaches in Northampton, Mass., at Clarke School for Hearing and Speech, an oral deaf program. Her students speak, tell jokes, laugh and sing. Some use hearing aids, while others have cochlear implants, and some use both. She feels fortunate to be part of the Clarke School staff, and loves watching her students learn.

1983

Brad Davey was very happy to be appointed to Rocky Hill School’s board of trustees. Brad has a history of working with independent schools, first as a teacher and later as an administrator. He has expertise in implementing and working with learning technologies in educational settings as an author, speaker, researcher and consultant. He looks forward to helping shape the excellence in education synonymous with Rocky Hill. Brad lives with his wife on Narragansett Bay in North Kingstown where they enjoy sailing throughout the summer. They travel extensively for both work and pleasure, but, when home, enjoy time with friends and family in and around Rhode Island. Brad looks forward to reuniting with his Rocky Hill classmates and friends.

1984

Erin Clement is director of local marketing at Fidelity Investments, Smithfield and enjoys living on the East Side in Providence. Erin has been happy to catch up with so many RHS characters through Facebook and Twitter. She is looking forward to a fun 2014 Reunion where her class will celebrate 30 years. Stay tuned, the class will need to get plans up and running soon.

1985

Robert Kornacki lives in North Kingstown with wife, Kim, and sons Ryan, 7, and Will, 6, who are in full swing with swimming, basketball and hockey. Robert is going on 10 years at SMART Management in Providence as director of development and marketing. He tries to stay active with running and triathlons, and makes time for a fishing trip with Tuke once or twice a year.

1986

Ryan Smith runs an investment team practice at Moore & Van Allen in Charlotte, N.C., practicing law and coaching baseball, soccer and basketball. See picture of children Kyle, 11, and Ella, 8.

1987

Scribe: Sally Kenyon Grant
RobandSally@comcast.net

1988

Scribe: Spurgeon W. Thompson III
spurgeonthompson@hotmail.com

1989

Scribe: Rhaea N. Photopoulos
rhaea31@yahoo.com
Mia Ann (Caetano) Johnson
mcaetanojohnson@verizon.net
field hockey game with her 9-year-old daughter, Charlotte ’22. She was honored to participate in Career Day in November. Her husband, Geoff, is on the School’s Alternative Revenue Committee.

Danielle Leighton is a nurse practitioner in gastroenterology and her daughter, Willa, started kindergarten.

1992  Scribe: Crystel (Siebel) Hoyt alumni@rockyhill.org

Nathan Maine lives in Warwick and married Dawn Martone on Valentine’s Day 2014. He will become a stepfather to Olivia, 10, who was recently pinned Girl Scout Junior and finished her last two semesters with honors. Dawn is awaiting a response regarding a master’s program for social work and Nathan is taking a certification exam for project management. Nathan is a loan officer for the Naval Federal Credit Union specializing in VA programs and loan purchases, and is thrilled to have been elected treasurer of Rocky Hill’s Alumni Association last June.

1993  Scribe: Lisa (Dorson) Borge lrborge@gmail.com

Lisa (Dorson) Borge has three sons: Jack is in third grade, Sam in first, and Luke, 3, is trying to avoid preschool as long as possible so he can have mom to himself. Lisa works three days a week at RIH as a physician assistant.

Bridget (Neary) Lawton loves being a stay-at-home mom of Gracyn, 7, Georgia, 5, Garett, 3, and Genevieve, 2. She and her husband have been married since 2005 and were expecting a fifth child in December.

Gabrielle Reed made tenure at Massachusetts College of Art & Design and commutes from Jamestown to Boston every day. She will marry Christian Lazen-Bernardt this July at their summer cottage in Jamestown. His family will be coming from Chile and France and her family will be coming from St. Louis.

Lucas DuClos founded Curation Interactive, which engages students in a design process around their learning artifacts. Lucas is passionate about entrepreneurship, education innovation, travel and storytelling. Lucas shared his own story at Career Day in November.

Rebecca (Erickson) Krasnof lives in Windham, N.H. with husband, Bruce, and sons Jack, 8, and Sam, 4. She is a family physician and managing partner at Derry Medical Center in Derry, N.H., a large private practice family medicine group. They love living close to the White Mountains for skiing in the winter, but miss Rhode Island’s beaches in the summer. Rebecca hopes to catch up with classmates at her 20th reunion in 2015.

1994  * Scribe: Tracey (Brown) Banach tracey db@hotmail.com

Mary (DeMaria) Kochones works for a company with a new series for A&E, “The Curse of Oak Island,” that premiered in January and also is in production on season six of “Ancient Aliens.” She’s been busy keeping up with a daughter who turned two in January and traveling with her husband to various film festivals for his film “Who Shot Rock & Roll.”

1995  Scribe: Rebecca M. Krasnof drbecky@gmail.com

Eric Bromberg and his wife, Lisa, were expecting their first child, a boy, at the end of February. He’d like to see a lot of people from his class, as by the time Reunion comes in 2015, it will have been 20 years since he’s seen anyone other than Nick, Chris, Dan, Greg and Todd.

Dan Dorson is an instructor pilot in Wichita Falls, Texas, after having worked a desk job for three years in Louisiana. The Air Force will promote him to Lt. Col. this summer.

Ian Prior and wife, Elsie, moved to Washington, D.C. last January for his new job on Capitol Hill, northeast regional communications director for the National Republican Congressional Committee. Just six weeks after the move, Elsie gave birth to their first child, Ava Estelle Prior, who is now closing in on taking her first steps.

1996  Scribe: Erica (Harrington) Perkoski ericaharrington@msn.com

Trevor Whitson and his family are moving to Columbus, Ohio, where he will join Scotts Miracle-Gro as the general manager of biotech and director of lawns innovation.
Scott Young is happy to introduce son Peter Michael, born November 24, 2012.

Lisa Littner and Neil Buckley are proud to announce Abby Sydney Buckley, born October 25 at 4:36 a.m. They enjoy parenthood and love watching Abby grow.

Katherine (Hoagland) Scott included a picture of Westin and Cooper Hoagland Scott, born November 1, 2013.

Kathleen (Walsh) Dwyer and husband, Jeff, had a son. Declan Walsh Dwyer, born December 19, 2013.

Michael Colicci and Megan Levin were married July 27, 2013 at Mohegan park in Norwich, Conn., with a reception at Mohegan Country Club. Megan works at Foxwoods, and Mike travels around and shoots Fourth of July fireworks shows. He is training to be a firefighter, and volunteers in Yantic. He was working on getting certified to join the Norwich scuba dive team. Megan is going to Three Rivers College to be a nutritionist.

Linda (Palin) Helmsin and husband, Erik, had a daughter, Samantha Reese Helmsin, born September 16, 2013. At 5 weeks old, Samantha had already mastered rolling over. They live in Austin, Texas and enjoy the warm weather.

Brendan Coffman and Christina Boehm were married June 2012 and are expecting their first child this April. Brendan is an associate in the Washington, D.C. office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, focusing on antitrust and competition law in the high-tech sector.

Bridget (Sullivan) Garmisa was married September 1, 2013 in Narragansett. They celebrated with friends and family at The Towers and enjoyed their honeymoon on Block Island. They're now settling into life as new homeowners in West Philadelphia. Renee Ledoux-Lechtenberg was in the wedding party. (Photo credit: Mike Ross Weddings)
Emily Cunanan and Mark De Souza were married August 24, 2013.

Ben Kahn is director of sales for Moleskin USA and lives in New York City. Ben is close to a Master of Science and still likes snowboarding.

Alisha Newton works at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Conn. as project manager and advertising/brand and sports marketing account executive. Alisha is also the creative director for Trade Secrets, a Donahue Models & Talent publication. Alisha was a speaker at Rocky Hill's Career Day in the fall.

Shalaine Fradette Zamfotis attended the Alumni Regional Gathering in New York City last fall.

Crystal (Leonard) Charbonneau and Adam Charbonneau met at UNH in 2005 and were married June 8, 2013 on Green Hill Beach in South Kingstown where the memorial bench for Charlie Alper ’02 is located. Crystal’s sister, Sara Leonard, was the maid of honor and the reception was at the Squantum Association in East Providence. The honeymoon was in Riviera Maya, Mexico. The couple lives in Lincoln with their cats, Mitsu and Toyo, and snake, Graham.

Crystal graduated UNH in 2009. She has worked in Boston as a clinical lab tech, and at NETLAB in North Providence as a lab tech/office assistant. She traveled cross country and stayed in Ogden, Utah for a summer to experience the great outdoors, and then worked part-time for Farm Fresh RI, IEH Labs, Narragansett Creamery and Aquidneck Honey. She is currently working at Lincoln Public Schools assisting the business manager/finance director. She also does demos for Narraganset Creamery.

Miguel Dominguez accepted a position as senior marketing manager for TRUFOODS, a multi-brand franchise company in New York City that acquires existing food concepts and launches new ones. He oversees marketing for about 75 food concepts throughout the various brands. He is redeveloping their digital presence and is working with groups in China and Qatar to launch food concepts in international markets. He will be in charge of the integration of marketing efforts if those deals are realized.

Kassandra Kist passed the CPA exam and is employed by Deloitte in New Jersey.

A collection of memories of Ian Cameron from his classmates:

“I remember the time Ian stole my locker because it was on the top row and tried to convince me that ‘Cameron’ really did come after ‘Capuano’ in the alphabet. Always a master debater.” - Trish Capuano

“One year, we both acted in the fall drama production of ‘Arsenic and Old Lace.’ During one of the final scenes in the show, Ian arrests me and escorts me out of the house. Simple as that. Well, on closing night Ian decided that no matter what I was going to put up a fight and be a difficult person to arrest. That scene came up, he tried to ‘rough me up,’ and it turned into a minor brawl on stage that carried off-stage in the wings. Ian, the method actor, always seeking realism in his performance.” - Michael Marchak

“Our senior trip to Boston always brings back fond memories. I remember when Ian eagerly volunteered to be part of the street performers’ dance routine in Faneuil Hall. Ian was never one to shy away from adventure and I’m pretty sure he agreed to participate before knowing what was required of him. I will also never forget Ian’s laugh, it was contagious. I don’t think I have ever heard him laugh harder than when Jordan got stuck in the bathroom on the bus.” - Jaclyn Pellegrini

“I loved Ian and he gave me life and hope and laughter. I remember telling my mom after school in eighth grade that my
stomach hurt from laughing so hard. I look back now and realize that is what it really felt like to be happy—surrounded by the improvisational, brilliant antics that all of us would get into. It was joy in its purest most innocent form. Ian’s death was senseless, but I think those who attended the service could seek some comfort in the fact that his courage and strength allows us all to find new meaning in our own lives—no matter if we had spoken to him months or years ago. He will always be a powerful beautiful force in our lives and is protecting everyone he touched with that force.” - Anonymous

“I remember when Ian faked pulling the fire alarm and then he hit it by accident and it went off. We ran so fast. He turned red instantly.” - Jesse Davis-Allison

“What I remember most about Ian is that, every day, you saw more and more how genuine he was. He was a great guy with a warm heart.” - Elise Flanagan

“When I think of Ian, I see a smiling, handsome face telling a joke or singing a song. He was so vivacious, hilarious, animated and sweet. His ability to perform on both the stage and the sports field was remarkable. His love for his sister stood unprecedented to anyone else and I will always, always think of Ian and smile.” - Wynn Mitchell

Sarah Knowles coaches girls varsity lacrosse and middle school girls basketball at Falmouth Academy, and looks forward to coaching against Rocky Hill in the spring.

Rudy Lapin Normann graduated from SUNY Maritime College in January 2013 with a BS and US Coast Guard Unlimited Tonnage Third Mate License. He works with Edison Chouest Offshore in the Gulf of Mexico on an offshore supply vessel.

Rudy Lapin Normann and Phil Hackett ’10 sent in a picture (below) from Turkey Bowl 2013. Attendees included John Gibbons, Anthony Don Francesco, Phil Hackett ’10, Jared Carr ’08, Bak Bairdaranil ’08, Brendan Schultz ’08, Remy Corvese ’08, Tory Dumas ’10, Dave Curtis ’08, Ted Broderick ’08, and Seth Curtis ’12.

2009

Rudy Lapin Normann (see Class of 2009 notes)

Sarah Knowles
hannahcknowles@gmail.com
Sarah L. Knowles
sarahknowles@gmail.com
Allison E. Rooney
allisoneerooney@gmail.com

Ted Broderick is working as a real estate economist for Property and Portfolio Research, a institutional real estate consulting firm in Boston.

Medelise Reifsteck is studying abroad in Grenoble, France for the semester through API doing a French language and culture program. Stay updated at her blog gренобleansadventures.tumblr.com.

Sarah Taylor spent last summer working in development at Burlington City Arts in Vermont, a nonprofit organization that brings together volunteers and pediatric patients at the local hospital, allowing the children access to unlimited art supplies.

Anthea Weixel was hired by Deloitte Consulting in San Francisco to do human capital consulting after graduation this spring.

Emily Klochkoff is majoring in art history at Columbia. She interned at Harper’s Bazaar, a women’s fashion magazine, and the American Museum of Natural History. She is on the executive board of her sorority and works as a speaking fellow, teaching public speaking workshops for other students.

Miguel Lara is a junior in college and in his second year as an RA. He plans on studying abroad in London with a sports agency overseeing an agent and how contracts work with professional athletes.

Stephanie Mattioli spent the fall studying abroad in Milan, Italy. She traveled not only around Italy but also to France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Morocco. She plans to run the Washington D.C. Nike Women’s Half Marathon in April 2014.
Jonathan Pine is vice president and communications director of the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity at Quinnipiac University. He recently put out their first newsletter, which received high praise from both the school’s administration as well as the fraternity’s national organization.

As an intern at Roger Williams Medical Center last summer, Erica Santos worked on genetically enhancing T cells as a treatment for liver cancer. She worked with mice and transduced T cells to inject and observe the effects on cancerous tumors in the mice. The lab was also in the middle of a clinical trial injecting actual patients with designer T cells. Erica is studying in New Zealand for the spring semester.

Sandy and Geoff Flickinger started Moon and Peeper’s Pottery three years ago. They create one-of-a-kind items for the garden and tabletop. Geoff makes work on the wheel and then hands it over to Sandy to carve or draw on. Sandy also makes large turtles for the garden. Visit Moonandpeeperspottery.com or their studio.

John Lyons taught Middle School science and biology at Rocky Hill School from 1969-1978 and has fond memories. After leaving Rhode Island, he taught in New Hampshire, New Jersey, California and Kansas. He retired in 2008 and moved to Florida. John stays busy traveling to see family in Rhode Island and grandchildren in New Jersey and Kansas.

Winifred “Winnie” Stout won the 2013 AKC Breeder of the Year Award for her Quissex Smooth Fox Terriers at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on December 15, 2013. The annual award recognizes the hard work and commitment of breeders dedicated to improving the health, temperament and quality of purebred dogs.

Mary Wright directed “Dear Edwina” in Jamestown with the Jamestown Community Theatre. The following Rocky Hill students had leads in the show: Abby Hirsch ’19, Anza DiGasper ’20, Michael Hutchings ’20, Julia Hirsch ’15, and Witt Tarantino ’16.
Dorothy M. (Galvin) Archibald (4/5/2013)  
Former staff member (’56-’60), Mother of Leslie ’69 and Tim Archibald ’69

Olga H. Audet (3/14/2013)  
Library volunteer, grandmother of Jill Millard ’94, mother of trustee and former head of Lower School Joan Osowa

Oliver Beitel (6/28/2013)  
Son of Katherine Geiersbach ’89, grandson of former faculty Kathy and Ken Geiersbach.

Fred W. Bopp Jr. (3/7/2013)  
Father of Fred ’80 and Michael Bopp ’84

Ian McLeod Cameron ’07 (6/29/13)  
Brother of Anne Shreve Cameron ’10

Yolanda Maria Teresa (Prata) Caramadre (12/1/2013)  
Grandmother of Michael ’12 and Amelia Caramadre ’14

Andrew DePietro ’07 (7/17/2013)  
Brother of Samuel L. Tyree ’04

Paul E.T. Drumm Jr. (12/14/13)  
Father of Paul Drumm III ’80

Gerard M. Dunn Sr. (10/9/13)  
Father of John Dunn ’70

Lucius Gilbert Eldredge III ’54 (5/1/2013)  
Brother of Charlotte Eldredge Blaine ’45 and Harriet Eldredge Brisson ’46

Kay L. Harter (4/24/2013)  
Grandmother of Brienne Harter ’19

Marilyn Marie (Mellon) Haxton (5/23/13)  

Ernest J. Houle (4/21/2013)  
Former Middle School faculty member (’68-’71)

Charles S. “Steve” Kelly (6/3/2013)  
Trustee (’90-’93), father of Amy ’88 and Jason Kelly ’92

Joseph Anthony Lewis Sr. (3/10/13)  
Grandfather of Development Assistant Kaitlyn Dulac

Theodore H. Lichtenfels (11/26/2013)  
Former Trustee, father of Roderick ’76, Claire ’78 and Christine Lichtenfels ’79, grandfather of Carl ’08 and Benjamin Lichtenfels ’09

Patricia Jane Hand Magee (1/28/2013)  
Former art teacher (’80-’94), mother of Susan Magee Rinebolt ’77

William DeWitt Metz (2/11/13)  
Great-grandfather of Clarice ’18 and Zachary Jennings ’16

John Joseph O’Brien (5/25/13)  
Father of John ’81, Kevin ’84, Diana ’85 and Michelle O’Brien ’88

Theresa Osowa (4/4/2013)  
Grandmother of Jill Millard ’94, mother-in-law of trustee and former head of Lower School Joan Osowa

Christine M. Webber (11/20/2013)  
Mother of Trixie Webber Dumas ’81, Marty S. Webber ’91, grandmother of Taryn Webber ’22 and Troy ’07, Tory ’10, and Sabrina Dumas ’16

William A. Worthy Sr. (2/1/2013)  
Father of Moira E. Worthy Teixeira ’89

On Saturday, July 13, 2013, the Rocky Hill School community came together to mourn the sudden loss of alumnus Ian Cameron ’07. A memorial service was held on campus near the waterfront where Ian spent much of his time as a student.

Ian was a vivacious, curious and intrepid young man. While a student at Rocky Hill School he shared and nurtured his many gifts. Always eager to rise to a challenge, he dove into projects with tenacity and relish. Ian was a talented writer who dazzled faculty and peers with his word choice, passion and prose. He served as a reporter and editor-in-chief for the school newspaper, View from the Hill, helped produce the School’s literary magazine, Stonehenge, wrote and performed original poetry, and received awards and recognition for his writing. Ian was also a successful actor, performing in many school productions, and a skilled athlete with an enthusiasm for tennis. Gregarious and outgoing, Ian’s love of life was infectious and he filled a room with his presence. Voted “Most Talkative” his senior year, Ian was never short of words or a friendly smile. After graduating from Rocky Hill School, Ian attended Middlebury College and also participated in research at Brown University.

Rocky Hill School remains humbled and honored to have been able to celebrate Ian’s life here on the campus where he grew into the young man we came to love and respect. On January 16, 2014, the editors of the school literary and art review, The Hill, chose to celebrate Ian’s life by dedicating Volume II, Issue I to Ian. The book includes a short piece penned by him in 2005. The Hill website can be found at tothehill.com.

Please take a moment to read the 2007 class news, which includes personal remembrances of Ian.
ON DISPLAY

1. Miranda Shea ’14
2. Andrew Nota ’14
3. Nick Simonson ’14
4. Luke Urso ’16
5. Dihao Feng ’16
6. Campbell Highley ’14
7. Wenbo Sun ’14
8. Ellie Farber ’15
9. Michael Levy ’14
10. Gigi Henderson ’14
The Parent Teacher League (PTL) serves the school community in many ways. Each year, we plan and coordinate events that enrich the experiences of students, faculty and parents. Two primary goals are to raise funds for capital and program expenses and to offer volunteer support for classroom and community efforts across campus. By choosing to send our children to an independent school, each of us has made a significant investment in their education. It is certainly a privilege to be a part of this close-knit community and we each have a responsibility to nurture and support the School.

The PTL has proven to be one the best ways for parents to be more than passengers on this ship. Head of School Peter Branch rang in the school year with the call to action, “All Hands on Deck!” Let’s each heed this charge and commit to being a part of the crew.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**
- Serve on a committee
- Respond to Class Parent requests to volunteer or donate goods
- Attend PTL meetings
- Support the Annual Fund
- Attend community events and parent informational meetings/coffees
- Support admission efforts by spreading the word to others about the School.

Looking back at 2013, I am proud of the many contributions the PTL made to Rocky Hill. The *Catch the Wave* gala in April netted more than $130,000 and provided funds for academics, arts, athletics and campus security. Parent volunteers have eagerly supported the New Family Reception, field day, the Fall Classic, Homecoming, Senior Seminar dinners, and the list goes on.

Looking ahead, I hope you will make an effort to help us continue this tradition of impactful and meaningful engagement. I guarantee that you will find great satisfaction in being an active member of this community. And, what better way to act as a role model for your children than to demonstrate by your own actions that you are willing to give of yourself for the greater good?

Finally, I want to thank all of our volunteers, officers and supporters, past and present, as well as the faculty and staff. Rocky Hill School continues to grow and flourish and the possibilities are endless when we all work together to set the course, hoist the sails and keep the wind at our backs. All Hands on Deck!

Email Christine at ptl@rockyhill.org or visit www.rockyhill.org/ptl to volunteer

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**PTL FUNDED**
- Community Service Program
- Professional Development
- Financial Aid
- Garden Classroom
- Kirkland Gibson Fund
- LS Camera and Tripod
- Yearbook

**PTL SUPPORTED**
- Eighth Grade Dinner
- Box Tops for Education
- Faculty Appreciation Events
- Fall Classic
- Fall Welcome Reception
- Homecoming
- Lower School Boys Day Out
- Lower School Girls Night Out
- Mentor Family Program
- Senior Seminar
- Speaker Forums
- World Cultures Week

**CATCH THE WAVE FUNDED**
- Timpani, Chimes & Gong
- Boys Lacrosse Helmets
- Two-way Campus Radios
- Door Locks for Campus Security
- Carriage House Renovations
- Girls Lacrosse Uniforms
- Golf Team Uniforms
- K-12 Robotics Equipment
- LS iPads & Digital Classrooms
- MS Apps & Digital Classrooms
- Music Room Flooring
- PE & Athletic Trainer Equipment
- Professional Development
- Sailing Equipment
- Tuition Assistance
- US Document Camera
- US Flipped Classroom Technology
- US Projectors

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The 2013 Catch the Wave Gala at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet was a record-breaking fundraising event for the PTL.
On June 14, 2013, Navyn Salem, founder and executive director of Edesia Global Nutrition Solutions, spoke to students, faculty, family and friends during Commencement Exercises in Sharpe Gymnasium. Lily Hanlon ’13 addressed her classmates as valedictorian and Nick Charbonneau ’13 presented the senior class gift of funding of a student lounge area in the library.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Brad Adam  St. Mary’s College of Maryland
Alessandra Antonelli  Parsons The New School for Design
Helen Atkins  Lynn University
Elias Bello  Bryant University
Alan Blasdell  University of Rhode Island
Nick Charbonneau  Boston College
Nick Cicchetti  Tufts University
Assitan Coulibaly  Wheaton College MA
George Duan  Rhode Island School of Design
Jorge Echavarria  The University of Tampa
Leah Galkin  Community College of Rhode Island
Angelo Gemma  College of the Holy Cross
Ryan Gilbane  University of Denver
Vaughn Gooding  Dickinson College
Lily Hanlon  Boston College
Courtney Harrington  Wake Forest University
Henry Helme  University of Rhode Island
Ellen Hyde  University of California at Riverside
Leila Jiang  Northeastern University
Seamus Kirby  College of Charleston
Karissa Kist  Salisbury University
Brendan Lada  Bryant University
Aidan Latham  University of Miami
Dawn Li  Georgia Institute of Technology
Kevin Lieb  Northeastern University
Ben Loughborough  Savannah College of Art and Design
Robbie Petteruti  Brown University
Troy Pierre-Louis  PG Year at Berkshire School
Bingyu Ren  Michigan State University
Dongming Shen  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Jeanette Stacey  Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts
Olivia Studley  Loyola University Maryland
Eddie Tarbox  Stonehill College
Katherine Thompson  Brigham Young University
Danielle Trombley  College of Charleston
Sven Wadensten  Northeastern University
Dylan Weiss  University of St. Andrews
Anna Yamada  University of Colorado at Boulder

Save the date for Reunion 2014
Saturday, June 7
Celebrating the Class of 2013
as Rocky Hill School’s newest alumni

2013 CLASS NEWS

Jeanette Stacey, Nick Cicchetti, Ed Tarbox and Alessandra Antonelli visited campus during their winter break. All are doing well and enjoying their college adventures.

Others who stopped by during break included Bradley Adam, Helen Atkins, Assitan Coulibaly, George Duan, Jorge Echavarria, Angelo Gemma, Lily Hanlon, Kevin Lieb and Anna Yamada.

Nick Charbonneau joined the Boston College “Screaming Eagles” Marching Band and is grateful to have gotten involved on campus so early. The friends he has made in the 180+ ensemble have made his freshman year less intimidating. He also enjoys the exhilaration of performing in front of 40,000 fans on game day.

Ryan Gilbane and former faculty member Nick Barker attended the boys varsity soccer New England Championship Game played at Loomis Chaffe School in November.

Vaughn Gooding and his sister backpacked through Chile, Argentina, and South America during winter break.
Rocky Hill School is pleased to acknowledge the amazing generosity of our school community in the 2012-13 Annual Report. The report (found online at www.rockyhill.org/annualreport) documents more than $442,000 in gifts and pledges from hundreds of individuals, businesses, and foundations. While the school year saw Rocky Hill School undergo changes in leadership, faculty and staff maintained their unwavering commitment to providing exceptional educational experiences to students. Donors responded by showing their support in myriad ways.

Participation in the 2012-13 Annual Fund surpassed national benchmarks in several constituencies. Event support for the Fall Classic, as well as the record-breaking Catch the Wave gala, demonstrated a true commitment to the future of the School. Other targeted initiatives such as the senior parent gift, Alumni Challenge and alumni brick walk were well supported. Additionally, parents, alumni and friends of the School donated thousands of volunteer hours to help strengthen our community and its programs.

As an intentionally small community, we depend on the generosity of our constituents to ensure the resources we need to provide the best educational experiences are available. Whether you support the School through financial contributions, volunteer time or in-kind donations, each investment made into the life of the School directly impacts students.

Donations made it possible to upgrade classroom technology, provide new sports uniforms and equipment, support families needing tuition assistance, improve campus security, support the arts, introduce robotics programming and launch Upper School independent study courses, among many other noteworthy initiatives.

As we continue to implement our strategic plan and embrace the charge to be a Small School with Big Opportunities, we thank the loyal supporters who helped make the accomplishments of 2012-13 possible and hope you will continue to share your support and enthusiasm in the years to come.

TRUSTEE CHALLENGE - $109,000 Matching Pledge

Rocky Hill School’s board of trustees has generously pledged up to $109,000 in matching funds. They will:

- Match dollar-for-dollar any first-time gift or new gift in the last five years.
- Match dollar-for-dollar any increase that returning donors pledge.
- Match the entire pledge of returning donors who double their gifts from last year.

Consider making a gift to the Annual Fund today at www.rockyhill.org/giveonline

2012-13 FUNDED PROJECTS
(in addition to PTL-funded projects on pg. 27)

- Independent Study Mentorships
- Lower School Project-Based Learning
- Field Trips
- Ceramics Potter’s Wheels
- Publishing of The Hill Literary Review
- Addition of Girls Softball
- Hale and Gibson Building Renovations
- Sharpe Gymnasium Roof
- Head of Lower School Office
- Guest Speakers
- Community Service Projects

(from top left) Lisa DeMoranville ’15 pitches for the Rocky Hill/Juantia Sanchez co-op softball team; Brendan Lada ’13 and Sydney Boss ’23 work on the potter’s wheel; the Middle School’s Gibson building gets a facelift.
SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS*
Report includes 2012-13 gifts of cash and stock received by June 30, 2013. Outstanding pledges are not counted in totals.

Annual Fund
Annual Fund $274,118

Capital and Temporarily Restricted Funds
Campus Redevelopment 130,677
Garden Classroom 187
Summer Enrichment Academy 960
Total $131,824

Endowment Funds
James J. Young III ’70 Carpe Diem Award for Science 1,000
Kirkland Gibson Faculty Summer Enrichment Fund 2,000
Sean Cox ’88 Scholarship Fund 1,000
Total 4,000

TOTAL Annual Appeal (cash & securities) $409,942
Alumni Brickwalk 4,200
Gifts In-Kind 12,989
Total Contributions $427,131

*Summary is not based on 2012-13 audited financials.

2012-13 OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY

By Sources
- Tuition 85%
- Earnings on Invested Funds 2%
- Donor Support 10%
- Auxiliary Services and Fees 2%

By Uses
- Educational Programs 55%
- Salaries and Benefits 26%
- Tuition Assistance 8%
- Maintenance and Facilities 5%
- Administration 1%
REUNION 2014
Saturday, June 7, 2014
Then. Now. Always.

Visit alumni.rockyhill.org