School memories. What triggers them for you? A certain view? An echo of a one-of-a-kind experience? A familiar name? Each Lawrence Academy alum could list certain memory-triggers from his or her school days, and it would not be surprising to find that one such list is similar to that of another. But it is certain that the memories themselves are very individual, both in detail and in the impact made on a life.

Here is a sample trigger list to take you back for a moment: Mountain Day; Winterim; Sheppard, Jeffers, or Curran; Headmaster’s Holiday. What do these evoke for you? What scenes replay in your thoughts? What feelings come over you? It is likely that these words generate specific and memorable associations, ones that are individual to your own personal experience and yet, at the same time, somehow common to all other LA alumni.

A school like LA, nearly 220 years old, is steeped in history and tradition. Students who spend their formative high school years at LA leave not only with an outstanding academic education, but also with a very special connection to a broad and deep culture. It’s a connection that binds them to all other LA alumni, regardless of age.
Head of School Search Underway

As some of you may know, Head of School Scott Wiggins has notified the Board of Trustees that he will not be seeking an extension of his contract when it expires in June 2012. Scott is currently in his eighth year as head of Lawrence Academy and the Board understands and supports his personal and professional reasons for the decision. We look forward to continuing our work with Scott to advance our current initiatives and to position LA soundly for a change in leadership.

While the transition to a new Head of School can be challenging for a school community, it also provides a valuable opportunity for community reflection and growth. Because Scott gave us advance notice of his plans, LA is in a very favorable position for an extensive Head of School search. The Trustees have appointed the consulting firm Independent Thinking (IT) to assist with the search, and two members of that firm have begun conducting a series of discovery visits, during which IT will gather information from our many constituents to assist with the search, and to shepherd the search process to its conclusion. When the finalists are identified, the LA community—all of us, by learning here—will have an opportunity to engage in this discovery process.

In the spring, a search committee will be formed. This group of approximately 10 members of the LA community will work very closely with the consultants, reading applications and interviewing candidates, to shepherd the search process to its conclusion. When the finalists emerge, they will have an opportunity to spend time on the LA campus, meeting with community members and experiencing LA first-hand.

While it is tempting to predict the exact timing of the announcement of a new leader, we are getting an early start on this process and do not need to limit ourselves to strict timelines. We anticipate a very strong candidate pool, and great school leaders are emerging all the time. As the search moves forward this summer and fall, we will keep the LA community apprised of our progress.

— Lucy Abisalih ’76, Vice President, Lawrence Academy Trustee
Upon the Retirement of Joseph S. Sheppard, III

by Chuck O’Boyle ’82

It is common to construe a school’s progress and to render the persistence of its personality in terms of senior leadership and the expansion of physical plant. Under this rubric, every Head of School’s appointment or Trustee Chair’s term marks an “Era.” Each increase of square footage builds a stronger “Foundation.” Sometimes, of course, such a narrative delivers a large part of the school’s true story. It certainly does that for alumni from Ben Williams’s tenure, which saw the renewal of Lawrence’s faculty and curriculum, and the wondrous improvement of its facilities over the past 30 years, concluding in the magnificently useful Ansin Building, have been sources of gratitude and pride.

But, as Joe Sheppard reminded me after leading me on a recent tour of Lawrence’s “new” campus (and sharing his delight in its material details), “Don’t ever forget that this place has always been about its people.” He meant “people” in its classical, inclusive sense. Our conversation turned to certain individuals, including several well-known Lawrence “characters” whose specific influence we each acknowledged: a parade of teachers, students, dining hall and equipment-room staff. He did not acknowledge himself. But in this writer’s estimation, Joe’s own shepherd place in the LA communion has been at once as benevolent and standard-raising as any Head’s, and as sheltering and obdurate as any bricks-and-mortar project. His influence ripples (it has sometimes belched) across three generations. It has been edifying. It will endure.

Joseph Stanley Sheppard, III arrived at Lawrence in 1965 as a teacher of French and teacher of Russian. He had graduated from Harvard cum laude in 1965, following an upbringing and secondary schooling at St. Mark’s, where his father taught music. He would earn an M.A. from Middlebury’s Russian School in 1970 as well as an M.A., in French, from the Middlebury French summer school in 1987; and it was at Middlebury that he met his wife (and perfect foil) Tanya—who likewise has made the welfare of Lawrence students a lifelong project. Shep has served as a College Counselor since 1971, led the founding of Spectrum, the student newspaper, in 1979, and has also been involved, inter alia, in the ebb and flow of organized student musicianship, at various times directing the Glee Club, Show Choir, and Marching Band, and a cappella groups like the Close Shaves; serving as Music Director and pianist for several spring musicals; and even co-authoring (with David Smith ’65) three years of original musical comedies.

I am struck, in reading the alumni reminiscences solicited for this retirement tribute, by how commonplace our situations were as Lawrence freshmen, and how well honed was Mr. Sheppard’s prescription for our development as students and “decent human beings” (his ultimate compliment). His pedagogy dispensed a mixture of authority, generosity and irreverence that I now understand as sympathetic. He was a wicked conversationalist. He made you think, by the end of four years, that you and he were co-conspirators on the same side of an ongoing argument. You always knew he’d be your advocate, but you came to recognize, after graduation, that he’d always known to call you out just before you strayed into dangerous regions. He supported your enthusiasms. He took your anxieties about life seriously, but he helped you get past them before they proved paralyzing or neurotic. I doubt any of us who’ve had him as a counselor, whether at 16 or 47, has ever shared more violent snorts of laughter.

Many of his former students echo Jonathan Wye ’72: “I first met Joe Sheppard as my French I teacher, the first week of classes, in September 1968. I could hardly have imagined then that we would still be in regular contact 44 years later. This skinny guy with a bowtie and a snarky sense of humor stood a little apart from the rest of the faculty, and eventually I got pretty good at trading barbs with him.... With a much smaller faculty [than now], many faculty members wore many hats, and for my freshman and sophomore years, Joe ran the Glee Club, and it was a lot of fun. There is one particular image that was seared into my adolescent brain. We had given a band and Glee Club performance at a girls’ school, Wheeler School, in Providence, and I was transiting a stairwell and heard a woman cry out, ‘Oh Joe!’ I looked up, and on the landing above, a tall, beautiful, long-haired blond goddess is wrapping her arms around that skinny French teacher cum choir leader, and apparently rather enjoying the moment. And I thought to myself, if he can land that, there is hope for me. That, of course, was Tanya.

“In the very first Winterim, Joe taught a class in rebuilding Victorian parlor organs, the kind that you had to pump with two feet while playing. Oddly enough, we had one of these in my family, which my mother had purchased at auction when I was eight years old. I was now 16 and a half and driving my family, which my mother had purchased at auction when I was eight years old. I was now 16 and a half and driving and I hauled the thing from home in New Jersey to the woodshop, then located in the basement of Spaulding Hall. It was an exacting month of making leather bellows and...
cutting leather seals, but it was a lot of fun and Joe’s ‘teacher’s evaluation’ of my efforts to rebuild my organ, well, it was a tongue-in-cheek masterpiece that slipped past my mother at the time, but which I still enjoy.”

Michael S. Coons ’72 tells a comparable story. “Joe Sheppard became my mentor in my four years at Lawrence, and we have stayed in touch over the nearly 40 years since I graduated. I had the good fortune to have a class with Joe in each of my four years, two in French and two in Russian. He must have done something right, because I continued to study both languages in college. He was also my college counselor and helped me find a school (Virginia) that proved to be a great fit for me—probably even better than I knew myself then. "Joe was always there to hear me out. Those years, 1968-72, were times of upheaval in society in general, what with Vietnam, the assassinations of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, and Kent State. Coupled with the usual teenage angst, it could be overwhelming. I had a lot of conversations with Joe, some mundane, some profound. He knew when to keep quiet and just let me rant; he knew when to rein me in and set me straight; he knew when to be sympathetic; and he knew when to tell me off in no uncertain terms. I know I always felt better for having talked things out with him, whether I agreed at the time with him or not.”

Larry Swezey ’78 remembers: “I have a fond memory of the time he called me at home to let me know about my acceptance to college. I had gone Early Decision, but, for whatever reason, the college was late in sending me their response. Apparently, Joe couldn’t stand the suspense and called the admissions office, learning that I had been accepted. I happened to be home at the time, and he called from his office with several of the members of the advisee group to let me know. Knowing Joe (and the other advises), I suspected it was some kind of joke and stubbornly refused to believe them for probably five minutes. The fact that he cared enough to call both the college and then me was just another confirmation of the great human being he is.”

Our next testimony originates in 1978, but first saw delivery nine years ago, when Shep received Lawrence’s Alumni Faculty Appreciation Award. On that occasion, I myself could admit: “I have some difficulty in honoring Joe Sheppard as a ‘teacher,’ since he has been so much more to me, and since most of our twenty-four year relationship has occurred outside the classroom. In fact, I had just one class with him: French II, freshman year. I clearly remember our first direct encounter there. The class was in the middle of discussing an exploit of the gentleman thief Arsène Lupin. Something in the discussion struck me as funny, and I made (precociously, I thought) a sophomoric joke under my breath to the sophomore sitting next to me. My stage whisper brought Mr. Sheppard to a halt mid-sentence.

“He took an ominous step in my direction. ‘Cut it out, O’Boyle,’ he said, ‘Or I’ll defenestrate you.’ My eyes followed with alarm his pointed finger in the direction of an open window. I couldn’t comprehend what he could possibly be saying. And the rest of the class—and Mr. Sheppard himself—burst into laughter. My expression must have betrayed the limits of my French, because Shep proceeded to spell out the meaning of the unfamiliar word, to my further chagrin. He reminded me that ‘fenêtre’ was French for ‘window,’ and that therefore ‘defenestrate’ meant ‘to throw Something’—me, if I didn’t pay better attention—‘out the window.’ It was quite a pedagogical moment. Shep returned seamlessly to Arsène Lupin, and I, chastened but laughing (not for the first time at my own expense), was certainly a more attentive (if not less disruptive) student thereafter. I have by now relinquished much of my French, but I still remember ‘fenêtre.’ And I’ve been reserving ‘defenestrate’ in the arsenal of my vocabulary ever since that day, awaiting the right occasion to deploy it on a petty offender as hapless as I was.

“He typically acknowledged your presence with a gross and often mortifying personal observation. (An example: a classmate of mine arrived one day wearing too much of some new men’s cologne. ‘Step in something?’ Joe inquired.) But Shep also expected and always made room for—indeed, he always demanded from us—a clever rejoinder. These soon routinized exchanges quickly acculturated us to the notion that we could use our wit to negotiate the world. And we could find a voice that
was at once effective, but also gracious and amusing, to both our friends and ourselves and, when circumstances regrettably created them, disarming to our adversaries. These many years later, the ability to bring some lightheartedness to a difficult situation remains for me the surest marker of liberal education. I hope that I manage to evince it as reliably as Shep always did.”

The more recent memories of Sam Feigenbaum ’09 (now attending Carleton) strike similar chords: “Shep was one of my best friends on campus. He remains a close friend. He taught me for only one year at Lawrence: French II my freshman year. I was only taking the class because I had to take a language and I’d found Spanish to be even more intolerable than French. That class, though, was the start of our friendship. I began to drop by Shep’s office every once in a while where we’d chat for an hour or so. The teacher-student, adult-teenager divide didn’t seem to apply to Shep. We chatted like we were just friends. I found this very refreshing and I know we will remain close friends until he (given our age difference I’m fairly certain it will be he and not I!) is a very old man and on his way out. I’m not sure how many high school students can say this about one of their teachers.”

I would like to reserve for my late classmate (of fondest memory), Susan French Proulx ’82, who was my co-respondent on the occasion of Shep’s Faculty Recognition Award nine years ago, the last word in this piece: “From the beginning, Joe’s sarcasm and sharp view on the world fitted my own well, and yet his gentle and forthright no-bull counselor side kept me on track in my life and in the classroom. It was he who came tiptoeing into my Independent Study Latin class with Chick Doe one December afternoon, quietly put a hand on my shoulder and said: ‘Congratulations, dear, you got in.’ ‘In’ meant Middlebury College. Early decision. And I might add that the recommendations of Ma Doe, Bill Mees, and Joe Sheppard certainly helped achieve that goal.

“After a teary farewell at graduation, I went off to college, but couldn’t seem to cut the cord with Joe. Since he had attended Middlebury’s summer language school, he was well acquainted with my new school and sent replies to my homesick notes in the form of helpful advice about the campus and the local area. He also, more than once over the years, sent me some gently harsh reminders of why I was there and what I was supposed to be doing. He knew when I was straying because, as it happened, my mother Judy had grown close to him and to Tanya after I graduated and we actually spent several Thanksgivings and summer weekends with Joe and his family at their summer cottage in Hedding, New Hampshire.

“When I told Joe I was getting married, his immediate response was, ‘Well, it’s about time.’ Joe, Tanya, and even their daughter, Alix, danced at our wedding, and I have the pictures to prove it. Joe Sheppard actually can dance. When I found out I was pregnant with my second son, I asked Joe and Tanya to be godparents to him. What began as an advisor/advisee, student/teacher relationship has flourished into a lifelong intertwined family relationship that I cherish.

“Joe has high standards. One afternoon, a few years ago, while we were all at the pool at Hedding one hot July day, my mother half-jokingly accused Joe of being a snob. Without missing a beat, he replied: ‘Well, I’m only a snob about the RIGHT things.’ We all had a good laugh at this one, though to this day, Joe swears he doesn’t remember saying it. If being a snob about the right things means staying the course over the years in your job and holding others accountable as well as oneself, if it means fairness and intolerance for its absence, if it means excellence all along the way of one’s life as a teacher and a friend, so be it. Joe, I thank you for being who you are for myself and for all of us here, and for those who voted but couldn’t be here. Don’t change a thing. To paraphrase Billy Joel, we love you just the way you are.”

**My Dad**

As Shep’s daughter, I have been offered a unique view of his life at Lawrence. Beyond the Harvard-educated, bow-tie wearing, musically inclined polyglot that all the parents saw, I saw the man whose bottom desk drawer was filled with Madballs, chattering teeth, and fake poop... did they somehow double as teaching aids?? My dad is a wonderful teacher–compassionate–but realistic, funny--often indescribably, and a great listener. I watched him be a father to so many of his advisees and students. He is in his element around a bunch of teenagers. (Maybe that’s why I never felt like the typical “Fac Brat.”) It was fun being Shep’s daughter—it still is! I am so proud that he has had a such a long and productive career. Now it’s time to relax and teach your granddaughter a thing or two. *I love you, Dad!*

Alix ’94
Assistant Head of School Rob Moore returned recently from a fundraising trip with many tales to tell from his meetings with various Lawrence Academy alumni. There were glowing accounts of their years at LA, stories about memorable classes, specific memories of teachers and coaches. “To a person, though,” said Rob, “every alum, in one way or another, mentioned Winterim and the impact that program had on life in later years.”

Fred Hays ’84 was no exception. Fred grew up in Concord, spent his early schooling years at Fenn, attended LA from 1981 to 1984 and went on to a small liberal arts college. “I had a very good experience at all three schools,” Fred asserted, “but LA was perhaps the most pivotal experience that came along in my young life and shaped me as an adult.”

Eager to have him tell us more, the Elm Tree visited Fred in his Massachusetts home nearby. As he spoke, seated on the couch in his friendly family room, there was abundant evidence of the “shaping” that has played a part in his life. The fireplace between the living room and the kitchen, the cabinets and other furniture scattered throughout his house, and especially the Shaker table that sits in the corner of this family room, all testify to the full and enriching life he leads as a skilled woodworker.

He looks to the Shaker table. “My earliest exposure to woodworking was during my first Winterim at LA. Mr. Gray was in charge then and, although he knew that I had no practical training in carpentry, he saw that that style of table would be simple enough. It’s very utilitarian with a lot of straight, clean lines. It requires all the basics: cutting things to size, hand jointing, and the finishing of the wood. It came out so well that it’s still here! I really enjoyed the process and, while I don’t remember having a fire in my belly about doing woodworking after that, the experience certainly planted a seed that would later germinate in my mind and blossom into what is now my profession.”

When Fred graduated from college, his parents were building an addition on their house. Fred was looking for something to do that summer, and one morning he asked the contractor if he needed any help. “He did, but he wanted to know if I had any formal training,” said Hays. “I had to say no, but I assured him I was willing to learn. He gave me a hammer and tape measure and took me on! To this day we are still friends, and we work together on various carpentry projects.”

Fred’s life as a carpenter and general contractor has been rich and full of interesting experiences and clients. He’s convinced that without his LA education he wouldn’t be as successful or as happy. “While I didn’t learn carpentry at LA, that intensive, two-week Winterim with Mr. Gray exposed me to the satisfaction gained from, and the skills needed in, woodworking. I was so lucky to have an opportunity to try, in a scholastic environment, something I might never have had a chance to do otherwise. It sparked something which smoldered for years, eventually igniting into this amazingly rich professional life.”

The broad educational opportunities that he was exposed to at LA had a significant impact on him. “LA is very holistic,” said Hays. “I remember Sue Leppla in the arts department. She and I really hit it off. She exposed me to etching on zinc plates, photography, and so many other ways to express yourself with art. Then there was Doc Richardson. I really enjoyed his English classes and the introduction he gave me to classic literature—Shakespeare and Milton—as well as more modern prose and poetry. To be exposed to and encouraged in such a
wide variety of educational opportunities was so valuable.”

Valuable because, to Hays, his LA education gave him the ability to connect and relate to people. “For example, I’ll go to homeowners’ houses to do work, and I’ll strike up a conversation. The communication skills that were started and honed at LA came from the exposure I had to problem-solving on art projects, right down to critiquing a 400-year-old sonnet.”

“I suppose if I took anything from LA, it would be an insatiable need to learn. Whether it’s about furniture and making things I’ve never made or just information in general, I can’t get enough of learning about things. LA was an environment that not only fostered a lifelong love of learning; it allowed you to find and express yourself.”

“I’ve been thinking about the auction this year,” Hays muses. “I wondered what I could do to give back to the school in a more personal way. I’d like to give something that I created, something that could fetch some useful money but is also an outward example of some of the things I learned while at LA—both skills and ways of thinking.”

Fred Hays continues to learn, grow, and express himself in new and creative ways through his furniture building. As he runs his hand over the smooth top of the Shaker table, his wistful sentiment reveals that he sees the table as a symbol of something enriching and long-lasting, something with a significant influence. He sums it up: “Mr. Gray knew that if you did a good job, the piece would last. And here we are, 30 years later, and that table is still with me … and I still love it.” We’re guessing that is something he could say, with equal emphasis and appreciation, about the influence of his Lawrence Academy experience on his life—“It’s still with me….and I still love it!”

Fred and his dog Trilly

This is a replica of the table that Fred made in his Winterim workshop class at LA. Fred has generously donated the table shown to the Parents’ Association Fundraising auction on April 30, 2011.

For more information on the auction, see page 16.

The woodworking Winterim, instructed by full-time wood turner Ken Lindgren, is alive and well today just as it was in 1984 when Fred Hays discovered his love of woodworking. These photos are from the 2010 session.
It’s a huge question—“What is the essence of the Lawrence Academy experience?” How do we capture “essence” and convey it to others? Are there even words for something so intangible? Yet the answer is hugely significant, for the essence of a good school defines its niche in the larger education community. Furthermore, the “essence of the experience” needs to be identified, somehow, and grasped clearly by everyone involved in nurturing it. Right now, administrators and faculty who comprise LA’s Executive Council are engaged in an ongoing discussion to find the words to identify this “essence.” Their discussion has served as a mirror in which the special characteristics and successes of Lawrence Academy are clearly reflected. Looking into that mirror, one sees a good school doing many things well.

The What

“What LA does really well,” says Chris Ellsasser, Director of Studies, “is develop in young people the capacity to learn independently, instilling in them a desire to be lifelong learners and an understanding of how to do that outside of a structured environment. It’s paramount to their future success in college and in life.”

It is that structured independent learning which constitutes the approach underlying LA’s rich menu of special programs:

- the Ninth Grade Program (NGP) with its focus on academic skills
- the Combined Studies Curriculum (CSC) with its commitment to combining the English and History disciplines
- the Independent Immersion Program (IIP), an opportunity for students to focus on and develop a specific passion or interest
- Winterim, a two-week intense immersion program for all students

The Why

Mr. Ellsasser refers to “the teachers, coaches, dorm parents, advisors, and mentors [who] are driven by the belief that students benefit greatly from concentrated focus. There are many studies that bear this out, proving that commitment to a few things is far more beneficial to people, particularly young people, than multi-tasking.” He points to the recognition today that our youth live in a “juggling” society, one that is increasingly fractured by more and more organized activities and responsibilities, interrupted constantly by tweets, instant messages, emails, and Facebook chats. This modern cacophony, he argues, wages a battle with habits of focus, dedication, and commitment. Instead, “we want students to be encouraged to take time to wonder about things. It’s not about how many books you read, it’s about how well you take in the messages of the books you read. We want LA students to be talented and confident; we want them to take risks and to feel safe in doing so. We want our students to realize that learning is about delayed gratification. For example, you have to spend some time with a worthwhile book before it engages you. You have to earn your way into a text.”

Spending time and earning your way is a concept not just reserved for the classroom. That same ideal is found in the programs for the arts and athletics. For example, Kathy Noble, director of athletics, states that, “Virtualiy all of our students have the opportunity to play a sport, and there is an expectation that they will earn their way onto a team that is appropriate for their ability. Once on that team, there is a premium placed on hard work, and a commitment to growth and improvement, whether on a ‘thirds’ team or at the varsity level.”

Lawrence Academy has a history of fierce, independent thinking. In his history of the academy, author Douglas Frank described the vision held by the early founders. In 1792,

“They were determined that their new Republic would be born with not only faith in liberty and democracy, but also with institutions of education....As America labored to create a new government, economy and culture, Groton Academy (aka Lawrence Academy) was in place, contributing to a new education, one that would be both secular and universal.”

The History of Lawrence Academy at Groton: 1792–1992,
Douglas Frank, p. 6 – 8, published 1992
Here we are now, 200+ years later, still hewing to those founding principles, examining the notion of what it means to be educated today to contribute to “…a new education,” one that must be “universal.”

Ellsasser argues that if a school is going to successfully educate students in the 21st century, it must have “strong, solid ideals on which to construct an adaptable curriculum; a curriculum which is nimble enough to respond to the increased pace of change in society. The institution must be able to recognize those changes and provide young people with the skills and tools that they need to succeed. Today, students must be able to find information, assess the validity of that information, and synthesize…what they are learning so as to determine the truth. They also need to work collaboratively and know how to communicate to a broad and diverse audience. That was certainly not the case in the early 1900s.”

Ellsasser sums up what LA does well this way. “What you see in our signature programs—NGP, CSC, IIP and Winterim—is the representation of the way the school and faculty think about how students best learn. We expect students to be engaged, focused, and responsible for what they are learning. We expect them to be asking questions, taking risks, being creative. We expect them not to be mere observers but to be full participants in their education.”

Those are the words for the niche LA fills in the education community today.

Those words answer that big question: “What is the essence of the Lawrence Academy experience?” Full participation!

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**American Sign Language**

**Samantha Romilly** of Littleton, MA, and **Kellie Scholefield** of Hollis, NH, participated in a 2010 Winterim that introduced them to American Sign Language. This year, the two seniors have committed themselves to pursuing their understanding of the language by arranging for a year-long independent study. They solicited their Winterim session leader, Associate Director of Admissions Kimberly Bohlin, who willingly agreed to serve as their instructor. Ms. Bohlin grew up using sign language to communicate with a profoundly deaf younger brother and has taken several courses to enhance her own skills.

Following a plan of study that they helped to design, Sam and Kellie meet with Ms. Bohlin once a week to review assignments that they have worked on independently using a textbook that was introduced to them during Winterim. Sam explains that, after going over all of the Winterim lessons to solidify them at the beginning of their fall session, they now tackle a chapter a week. Learning the vocabulary and instructions about how to put words together to create conversation, they test with Ms. Bohlin each week before proceeding to the next lesson. This course was their choice, they are eager students, and progress is steady.

Both girls are thoroughly enjoying their new skills and admit that it is fun to be able to have private conversations in the midst of a crowd. Kellie jokingly explains part of her motivation: “I like to talk a lot, so it’s just another form of me talking!” On a more serious note, she says that she found herself totally engaged with students during a Winterim visit to a school for the deaf, and she realized that sign language was something she would love to master.

Allowing the Elm Tree to take some photographs during a session with Ms. Bohlin, Sam and Kellie mentioned how impressed they have been by people who sign for church services and musical performances—and then proceeded to show off their own budding skills with a performance of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”

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**A year-long independent study at LA**

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**The Well Done**

Kellie Scholefield ’11 and Samantha Romilly ’11 signing “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”
Equestrian Endeavors

Sometimes there’s something you are passionate about, something you just can’t imagine living without. Happily, Brooke Taylor has found a way to incorporate her passion into everything else she does—through hard work and with the support of others.

A student who has frequently opted throughout her career to pursue horseback riding as an independent sport, Brooke arrived at her senior year with a challenge. Speaking specifically of this fall’s equestrian competitions, Brooke says, “This year, I had finals, so I was trying to figure out a way to balance school along with my riding, and I wasn’t really sure how to do that. So, we came up with this idea of doing an independent study.” The fact that it involved an internship with an equestrian business, Boston-based Equifit Corp., made it even more inviting.

Throughout the fall term, Brooke maintained an intense schedule in order to pursue her passion. She attended classes in Math 4, Senior Seminar, and Honors Art; worked at her internship after her Monday and Wednesday classes; and traveled one afternoon each week to Saugerties, New York (a 3-hour drive each way), where she trained with her horse and returned home by 10:30 p.m. She typically returned to New York on weekends for even more training.

Once a week, Brooke met with her independent advisor, Director of Studies Chris Ellsasser, to report her progress and share a journal that she kept during her internship. She talked of learning not only the business component of Equifit’s activities, but also the management, design, and advertising aspects. In addition to the time she spent in their offices, she said, “I’m doing things for the company, I’m reading books, I’m listening to the radio, I’m observing all these different components, and I’m doing the journal entry. So, it’s almost like I do have another one or two classes, but it’s off campus, so I coordinate it all on my own.”

As Brooke prepared to complete her independent study with an oral report and presentation, she reflected on the value of the experience. The company had been a perfect fit for her, she explained, as their focus is making products that benefit both horse and rider, products that she herself has used. “I’ve really grown from it. I’ve been able to make decisions on my own. I’ve been out there in the real world, so now I know what it’s like.”

She is adamant that “you can’t prepare yourself any better for college or the real world than by doing an independent. If you’re a senior, or even a junior, and you have all of your requirements out of the way, I’d say go for it. It’s honestly the best experience I’ve ever had.” She advises students not to enter into the commitment thinking that they are “copping out” of academic classes, but to understand that teachers are vigilant about making sure you are on top of your goals, even though you are essentially doing it on your own. And, she adds, “Only do it if you really, really love it…if you put in 110%, you’re going to get out 200%.”

Brooke also reflects on how Lawrence Academy made it possible for her to be successful at the self-driven adventure. “Every skill that I learned in the NGP, I’ve connected to this,” she says.

The fall term was bittersweet for Brooke as she wrapped up her career as a junior rider and is now poised to compete as an adult. With her independent completed, she merged into the regular academic curriculum for the winter and spring terms and just completed a Winterim session that allowed her to study with an equine photographer while training with her horse at his winter stable in Wellington, Florida.

When her Lawrence Academy career comes to a close in June, Brooke plans on pursuing studies in visual arts and elementary or secondary education in college. Her top choice at the moment is St. Lawrence—it’s in upstate New York, and, yes, it has a riding team.
Elm Tree: Who influenced you the most during your years at LA?

Ryan '10: My baseball coach, Chris Margraf, influenced me the most. I had some struggles during my years at LA, and he was always there for me and would keep me on track. In general, you get close with the teachers at LA. They actually care about you and will help you with whatever you need. My advisor was the hockey coach, and even though I never made the team, he gave me encouragement, told me what I needed to do in the classroom, and would meet with me whenever I needed help.

Tim '79: I agree. It was that connection with me where a teacher or coach said “You can do better.” The LA teachers have higher expectations for you and are supportive in getting you to achieve.

Mike '76: Although math and science were my strengths and interests academically at LA, Dick Jeffers and Dick Gagné (neither of whom taught math or science!), had the biggest impact on me. I ended up liking history a lot thanks to Mr. Jeffers. I just liked his classes and how he taught. Mr. Gagné was my thirds team soccer coach and my French teacher.

Chris '77: There were so many great teachers, like Robert Darling. Mr. Gagné was an institution. He was my lacrosse coach and French teacher. There was Jim Draper, whom I worked with one summer at a camp in Maine after I graduated. Joe Sheppard was great with college admissions stuff. Of course, Mr. Curran taught us history. We had siblings at other area private schools, and I remember my dad saying how good the teaching was at LA. He felt the teachers really accomplished things with the students, as opposed to working with students who were already super achievers academically. As I look back, it’s so true. The teachers were really inspiring. They made us want to work and learn.

Elm Tree: What do you recall about some memorable Winterims?

Ryan '10: Last year, as a senior, I did Iron Chef for my Winterim. It was a small group of eight kids, and for the first couple of days we just learned the basics of cooking. After that, we began to compete and were broken into groups where we made seafood, soups, and entire meals. There were even judges, like Head of School Wiggins, who came in and tried all the food. Through Winterims, I felt as though I connected with different kids, got to meet more people, and was exposed to things, like cooking, which I discovered I really like.

Sean '12: Winterims expose you to experiences that you’d never have in the classroom. If you find something in Winterim that you really like, it’s a great way to experience something totally unique. I did a Winterim called Turn, Baby, Turn, which taught me about wood turning. I made a rolling pin for my mom and some bowls. I really loved it.

Marc '13: I’m doing the Andes trip this year. I love camping, so I can’t wait. It sounds very similar to this outdoor camp I go to in the summer. There will be a lot of climbing and hiking, which I love.
Tim ’79: The Winterims were so memorable. My brothers and I all had such a variety of different experiences. One year we rebuilt a 1931 Model A Ford that we drove back and forth to school. The battery would die about every other day, so we used to park it behind the cafeteria on the top of the hill near the tennis courts and push it down the hill to jump start it. I also went to the Florida Everglades, I did a ski patrol Winterim where we learned advanced first aid, and I did a forestry Winterim.

Elm Tree: Can you talk briefly about the balance between academics, athletics, and extracurriculars?

Sean ’12: You’re always busy, but it’s a good balance, a good rhythm. I do JV soccer, JV basketball, and JV baseball. I might try golf or tennis next year for my last year. I also do cross country and track. Everyone here at LA does a lot of different activities. So, if you want to try something, there’s always someone doing it so you have the freedom to try stuff and no one thinks it is weird or unusual.

I’m also taking five honors classes right now. It’s very challenging, but not too much. It pushes me just the right amount. The classes at LA get progressively more challenging as you go along, but you also kind of grow into it. The teachers are really accessible at LA and totally ready to help you out when you need it and ask for it.

Chris ’77: LA allowed us to find our way, whatever way it was and from wherever we started. It didn’t matter. The teachers and community found a way to suit our talents and gave us an opportunity to participate. I wrestled and became a captain my senior year. I played lacrosse, too, which I never would have done in our big public high school.

There were so many other ways to participate and get involved, like the yearbook, which gave you a chance to achieve, where, in a bigger environment, we may not have had the opportunity. It didn’t really matter where you were as a freshman. LA allowed you to find your way and the teachers made sure it happened.

Marc ’14: The thing that I like most about LA is the small classes. I have 11 in one class, which is the biggest class I have! I like the contact with the teachers, the personal touch. I also like advisory each day. I get to see my teachers or coaches outside of the classroom and you learn about them as people.

Elm Tree: How would you sum up your LA experience?

Mike ’76: I wasn’t a strong academian. I initially was mostly interested in athletics. I did the academics in order to be able to play soccer. But that changed in college. I found that I was capable academically and had been well prepared by LA. I also had another view of LA from having worked on the grounds crew in the summer painting the hockey rink, working in the dorms or mowing lawns. It gave me a different perspective on the school as a whole and helped to solidify in me a larger sense of community.

Chris ’77: Participation was highly valued and expected, and LA gave us so many opportunities to achieve and contribute. One of the things I always liked, too, was the diversity at LA. There were many different kinds of people there, not only ethnically but also from an ability and achievement standpoint. LA allowed kids with different interests and personalities to be at the same school without feeling like they were weird or different or deficient. There were lots of different groups of kids and lots of cross over in sports and other activities. I think this really distinguishes Lawrence.

At its core, the LA experience is the same now as it was when we were there, but now the physical plant has evolved and grown and so, too, has the curriculum. It was a fun place to go to school.
Tim ’79: At LA, you’re presented with opportunities, encouraged and expected to take advantage of them, and given all kinds of support and encouragement along the way. LA’s approach is “give a kid a chance,” which certainly they did for me as well as Ryan.

There’s an expectation at LA that you’re just going to do it, whatever it is you choose to pursue. The LA Way is not so much about the outcome as it is the process, the journey.

The school built a sense of confidence in each student by interacting with him in athletics, the classroom, the dining hall, wherever you bumped into an adult—which was everywhere—there was always positive, supportive, and expectant interaction. It was constantly being reinforced.

Each of my three very different sons has thrived at LA; a high-achieving child who is being pushed and challenged, one who needed a lot of adult supervision and support, and an independent child who is exploring and finding his way and doing well. The LA community provides an environment in which you can grow and develop into who you are.

Elm Tree: What was the impact of the LA experience on you? How would you characterize it?

Mike ’76: The faculty and all the adults really helped to develop in us good study habits, timeliness, and a sense of participation, whether it be on athletic teams or involved in activities off the field. With the company I work for now, teamwork and how you interact with others are very important elements. So much of that was started and modeled for me at LA. It was so much more than just the academics.

Ryan ’10: LA is a small school. It can be challenging at times and intense. But, at the same time, you know everyone, it’s a supportive place, and the teachers are always there to help. It was a great experience for me. I could just be myself and find myself. When we get together as a family, we feel closer to our uncles. We talk about our times and experiences at LA. It’s a nice way to have common ground.
Thus did Arthur W. Ferguson, voice quavering with unwonted vehemence, rebuff an innocent suggestion from two of us very green young teachers, circa 1968, that the seniors be allowed to have their dates stay overnight in faculty apartments for the weekend of the prom. After all, that had been the tradition at our own boarding schools—both, like LA, bastions of maleness; why should Lawrence, where we had been employed for a combined total of about three years at that point, be any different? However, since we both liked our shiny new jobs, we didn’t push the point in the face of Fergie’s reaction. In 1968 LA-speak, we acted like Lawrence Academy gentlemen and didn’t say “But, Sir!” So the prom went off as usual, the Gray Building gym crepe-papered and ballooned, the girls escorted home at the appointed hour. It would be the Fergusons’ penultimate prom before they retired to their home on Main Street, almost directly opposite Brazer House, from whence he had led the Academy for the last dozen years of his long career.

Soon, too, the Lawrence Academy gentleman would tip his hat and follow Mr. Ferguson into history. Ben Williams took over as Headmaster in the fall of 1969, with the understanding that he would bring coeducation to Lawrence. The Board of Trustees was supportive; as Ben mentioned in a recent phone conversation, Norman MacNeil, who would soon become chairman of the Trustees, thought it was time to “shake the place up.” Ben’s former school, Pomfret, had recently gone co-ed with great success, and he had a “gut feeling” that it would work at LA, noting that the Academy was “a bit ahead of the game” compared to many sister schools.

On the whole, though, alumnae of those early days have pleasant recollections. Barbara Anderson Brammer ’75, who came to LA as a freshman, remembers, “Most boys were thrilled we were there; [they] were assembled on front steps of the Schoolhouse on opening day to greet us and check us out.” And Meg Lavigne ’73 commented, “I often say LA saved me. The environment was all about ‘firsts.’ The chance to be a part of building women’s sports teams from scratch, against all odds. The first true mentor, Vince Skinner, who launched me on my career in TV...my first trip overseas, to Greece during Winterim—a long way from Groton...LA gave me confidence, taught me about the world and the importance of teamwork—there weren’t many women, but LA’s environment fostered unity, not division.”

Joanna Boeing Bratton ’78 came to Lawrence in the fall of 1974, only a couple of years after the first few “pioneer women” had graduated. “I think I was

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Memoir from ‘72

“I recall an away tennis match at Groton School where there were no girls, and the humiliation for the Groton underclassmen who had to play a singles match against a girl. If the match had been played at LA, it would have been more palatable since girls were welcome at LA!”

Graduation was very memorable. We were all sitting on the Quad—70 boys and 6 girls. I remember Corey Finkelstein ’72 handing out cigars to the boys and then to us girls, too.

We all cheered for the hockey team with Doezer (Jay Doe ’72) in the net.

LA gave me confidence as a woman that I’ve carried on throughout my life!”

— Sally Sterndale Morse ’72
The 1972 girls' basketball team: (front) L–R, Jessica Sullivan ’75, Nancy Moyer ’73, Paula Bell ’74, Pat Franz ’74, Kathy Stetson ’74, Rich Harvey ’72, and Jim Causey ’73 (c. 1972)

really fortunate,” she says. “I felt that all opportunities were open to me—music, theatre, yearbook, sports...I remember going to one prom ‘stag’ and there was nothing awkward about it. I think it helped to live in Dr. Green—a small, caring, girl-oriented environment, and be able to bike off campus to ride my horse...I didn’t feel like I was treated any differently by the boys or the faculty.” Parenthetically, both Meg and Joanna had very different, less pleasant, experiences at their colleges, both of which had only very different, less pleasant, experiences at their colleges, both of which had only recently gone co-ed.

Michael Coons ’72 had a similar recollection: “Maybe the girls would have a different perspective. but [coeducation] seemed to go fairly seamlessly. There were only six female seniors of the 30 or so girls admitted that year, so there weren’t many girls in my particular classes. In fact, several of my classes my senior year were still all-male. But those that were coed kept the same casual tone, and there wasn’t a big conscious effort to clean up the language because it was never that bad in the first place. I think we just liked to believe we could be coarse and crude if we wanted to be. Hey, we were guys.”

Change was rare in pre-1971 LA; one mantra of the Ferguson years was, “It’s always been that way”—his stock response to any questions about policies, rules or practices. The train of change was already whistling in the distance near the end of his tenure, however, and it came barreling through with Ben on board, just missing Mr. Ferguson. Coeducation was one of the few comfortable cars among rolling stock carrying drugs, anti-war protests, amazing negativism among young people, political polarization—it seemed to stretch forever into the horizon. LA, like her sister schools, survived the ride, profoundly changed, but intact and, I hope you agree, the better for the experience.

It’s interesting to note that although Lawrence has been coeducational for forty years now, it is only relatively recently that men and women have been represented in equal numbers on the campus, largely for reasons beyond the school’s control. The Class of 1996 was the first to graduate roughly the same numbers of boys and girls, while the faculty achieved gender balance only in 2010! Even though Mary Lou Curran was hired as the first modern-day female teacher in 1971, a year before the girls arrived, the number of women on the faculty remained in the single digits until the early 1980s, and many were part-time. From then until the mid-2000s, men outnumbered women on the faculty by a factor of two or three to one.

At the end of the first year of coeducation, I remember asking a colleague how he thought it had gone. He replied, “The whole place just seemed to open up and smile.” We’re still smiling. And there will be girls staying on this campus for a long time to come.

Memoir from ’73

“I was euphoric to be going to private school. Lawrence’s classes were small, the teachers were great, and I had a lot more freedom on campus than I’d ever had before. (I’m sure that last was part of what kept headmaster Ben Williams up at night.) The first time I was late to class and there wasn’t a chair for me, the entire class, including the teacher, left the room to find me one.

I do have in my possession a Lawrence report card that reads: ‘Lee does quite well in science, for a girl.’ Faculty wives also acted as mentors, role models and coaches. Tanya Sheppard (wife of Joe Sheppard), with great competence and passion, coached our basketball team, on which I had no business being except Lawrence needed a bare minimum of players in order to schedule games. We tied one game and lost the rest, but the audience at home games was terrific.

I went on from Lawrence Academy to other schools and professional environments where women continued to be seriously outnumbered. So I guess you could say my junior and senior years at Lawrence were my introduction to the new normal.

I think for the first few weeks everyone had been warned to be on their best behavior, and the faculty was a little nervous, as if teaching girls might require some entirely different skill set. To the extent the school viewed its mission as the Kiplingesque ‘to transform schoolboys into men’ (as Ben Williams put it in a tribute to Norman Grant in 1983), transforming ‘schoolgirls’ into ‘women’ must have seemed a dramatic detour. Fortunately Lawrence was a small school making a conscious new effort to focus on individual strengths and needs. It didn’t take long before most realized that ‘the co-eds’ were a heterogeneous group of personalities who would thrive in different ways, just like, well, the boys.”

– Lee Johnson ’73

The 1972 girls’ basketball team: (front) L–R, Jessica Sullivan ’75, Nancy Moyer ’73, Paula Bell ’74, Pat Franz ’74, Stacey Bennett ’75; (back) L–R, Coach Tanya Sheppard, Nancy Newcomb ’72, Ann Carter ’74, Lee Johnson ’73, and Sandy Sweeney ’75
Board of Visitors

Lawrence Academy’s annual meeting of the Board of Visitors (BOV) was held on November 5, 2010.

On that day, the school welcomed seventy-six BOV members comprised of alumni, parents of alumni, local educators, town dignitaries, and friends for an inside look at what takes place during a typical academic school day.

The opening session began with remarks from BOV Chair Jennifer Shapiro Chisholm ’82, and Lawrence Academy’s director of studies, Chris Ellsasser. Jennifer discussed why she chose to chair this important day saying, “I believe in the LA approach to education and the nurturing of each student as the individual they are. I am excited about the programs offered and the dynamic embrace Lawrence Academy takes towards growth and change.”

Chris then gave an inspiring speech on the steps LA is taking to define excellence in education.

After attending master classes to observe our faculty and student body in action, BOV members were treated to a fascinating keynote address by Joshua Hahn ’96, assistant head of school and director of environmental initiatives at the Hotchkiss School; his talk focused on sustainability and how schools can create campuses that are resilient and regenerative in the face of complex and rapidly changing ecological, social, and economic conditions. Two student panel discussions followed. Each panel was comprised of fourteen LA students who thoughtfully and candidly discussed their overall LA experience, student-centered approach to learning, the Ninth Grade Program, and student leadership.

This fulfilling day concluded with a festive luncheon and a closing plenary session intended to provide Head of School Scott Wiggins and Assistant Head of School Rob Moore with substantive feedback.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Week February 15–19, 2011

In gratitude for all the faculty and staff do for the students and families of Lawrence Academy, the Parents’ Association offered a week of appreciative gestures.

This included lunch on Tuesday and breakfast on Thursday, ending with wonderful massages on Friday. All were much appreciated by the faculty and staff at LA.

Thank you, Parents!

Auction 2011 is almost here!

We hope you plan on joining us April 30, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

Behind the Scenes fundraiser hosted by The Parents’ Association

Celebrity Auctioneer Billy Costa, from KISS 108 & TV Diner
Sit-Down Dinner
Live and Silent Auctions
Cash Bar
Cocktail attire, $100 per person
Proceeds to benefit the Lawrence Academy Scholarship Fund

16 Elmtree 2011
Founders’ Day began in 1993, on the 200th anniversary of the school, to celebrate the history of Lawrence Academy and to recognize service. “I am pleased to report,” said Rob Moore, assistant head of school, “that Founders’ Day has also inspired service on the part of our students; and it acts as a teaching tool by showing how valuable service can be. On this 18th Founders’ Day, it is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the hard work of everyone in the school community who works to make Lawrence Academy—and our world—a better place.”

Four awards are presented each Founders’ Day. While they recognize specific contributions made by individuals to the community, they also exemplify the qualities that are nurtured and brought forth in our school culture as a whole. The annual Founders’ Day celebration is an opportunity to acknowledge the vitality, selflessness, and sincere outreach that characterize Lawrence Academy life.

Greater Good Award – Senior Matt Bosselait
The Greater Good Award, presented by Lawrence Academy’s Cum Laude Society, is awarded each fall to a student and each spring to an alumnus/a. Recipients have admirably demonstrated “an understanding of their responsibility to use their education for the greater good of humanity.”

Kathy Peabody Memorial Book Award – Dining Services Employee Corey Hill
The Kathy Peabody Memorial Book Award, established in 1997 by the 1966–67 residents of Pillsbury House, is given annually to that member of the non-teaching Lawrence community, including staff and family members, who “helps to create a secure, positive environment in which all members of the community may achieve their best.” Kathy Peabody was a distinguished English teacher at Groton-Dunstable High School, and her husband, George Peabody, was a math teacher and coach at LA from 1963 to 2001. Together they were the dorm parents in Pillsbury House.

25 and Counting – Donna Mastrangelo (Spanish) and Steve Peisch (Music)
Nothing indicates a commitment to service more than the 25-year milestone. Teachers who achieve this are a special breed. They are committed to their discipline; they are engaged with their students; they are devoted to the institution—and they are selfless with their time and knowledge. They are examples for the rest of us.

Founders’ Day Award – Former Head of School Steve Hahn and Trim Hahn
The Founders’ Day Award for Service to Lawrence Academy, established in 1993, is presented to a member of the Lawrence Academy community who “exemplifies outstanding service to the school.”

Note: For complete Founders’ Day coverage, visit www.lawrenceacademy.edu/newsarchive
The Arts at LA

Dance

Cookie Siddings '11, Emily Perrault '13, Patrick Burns '13, Sarah Carlson '13, and Jared Acquaviva '12

Jamarcus Shelton '12 and Rosie Dempsey '11

Brendan Donahue '11 and Emily Perrault '13

Wilson Wants it All

Rosie Dempsey '11 in center

Matt Hamum '11 and Owen Moore '12

Emily Fox '11
With 100% of LA students participating in the arts program in some way, the Recital Hall, Black Box, and theatre are alive with activity throughout the year. Enjoy the sampling of photos from this year’s various fall and winter performances.

Boston Globe Arts Awards 2011
Tyler Beauschene ’12, drawing “Self-Portrait”, gold key
Annie Guo ’12, painting “Self-Portrait”, honorable mention
Katherine Jones ’13, photography “Backyard”, silver key
Ardis Tennyson-Loiselle ’11, painting “untitled”, silver key
Chip Than ’12, photography “Mt. Monadnock”, silver key
Rebecca Wnuk ’14, photography “Letters Home”, gold key
Rebecca Wnuk ’14, photography “Girl in Sunlight”, gold key

Jazz Band/Early Music Ensemble


Kelly Burns ’14, Jasmine Read ’14, Briana Freso ’14, and Salyna Ariza ’14

Mai Mei Su ’12
Haley Gowland ’13 singing with the jazz band

L–R: Callie Scofidio ’14, Peter Ryder ’12, Haley Gowland ’13 (back), Juli Tyson ’13, Kevin Gu ’12, and Conrad Solomon ’14

Josh Elowe ’11

It up to bottom, left to right: Victoria (Misha) John ’11, McKayla Blanch ’13, Annie Guo ’12, Alyssa Arizmendy ’13, Chris Rohlfing ’11

Kelly Burns ’14, Jasmine Read ’14, Briana Freso ’14, and Salyna Ariza ’14

Chorus

Su Yoon Park ’12 and Sarah Casey ’13
The football team had another outstanding season as they dominated their league opponents and went undefeated to win the ISL championship. They were an extremely hard-working, cohesive, and determined group of athletes throughout the season and represented the school well. In the New England Prep School Athletic Conference (NEPSAC) Championship Bowl game against Class A Salisbury School, LA played very well, faced some adversity with injuries, and lost a tight contest, 24–21. Dan Giovacchini ’11 earned the distinguished honor of being selected as the Most Valuable Player of the Independent School League. Earning All-League recognition were seniors Tyler Cardoze, Marcus Grant, Tony Knight, Mike Orloff, Max Ricci, Peter Taylor, and Ryan Welch, and junior Dom Kozlowski. Honorable Mention recognition was presented to Tyler Beauschesne ’12, Nevin Cyr ’12, and Jack Michaels ’13. Dan Giovacchini, Marcus Grant, Tony Knight, and Mike Orloff were also voted to the All-New England Prep School Class B Football Team.

In his first year as head coach, Rich Daestrela elevated the expectations of the boys’ soccer team and his squad responded well, earning respect in the ISL. The team beat ISL rivals Middlesex and Governor’s and played to ties against St. Mark’s, Groton, BB&N, and Milton. The improvement of this team was evident to all who watched and was a result of much hard work and perseverance by the boys. The Most Valuable Player was senior Matt Tower, who was the team’s goalkeeper and leader on the field. One of two Coach’s Awards was presented to Nick Yavorsky ’11, who displayed outstanding leadership both on and off the field. Senior Daniel Caesar also received the Coach’s Award for his composure, confidence, and technical awareness on the field. Matt Tower earned All-League Honors and Daniel Caesar earned an All-League Honorable Mention. The team completed the season with a 4-10-4 record.

The girls’ soccer team was a very optimistic squad that worked hard every day, both in practice and during games. Highlights of the season included wins over ISL opponents Middlesex, St. Paul’s, and St. Mark’s. The team was also the recipient of the ISL Sportsmanship Award as voted by the league coaches. Anna Demasi ’12 was selected to the All-League team and Lorig Purutyan ’13 was distinguished as an All-League Honorable Mention. The Coach’s Award was presented to senior Becca Rowe for her versatility in playing several positions for the team, as well as for her commendable traits of perseverance, effort, determination, and leadership. Senior Kelsey Carroll was the first-ever recipient of the Donna Bibbo Mastrangelo Award for determination. The team’s record for the season was 6-10-1.

The boys’ cross country team set their sights on personal bests and made excellent improvement during the course of the season. All the runners dropped significant amounts from their 5K times and achieved personal bests in the Championship race. Sophomore Marc Foster was the team’s first finisher in every race and Most Valuable Runner. The Warner Award was presented to freshman Yukai Arai for his hard work and steady improvement during the course of the season. The team placed 13th in the ISL Championship and 14th in the NEPSAC Class C Championship. The girls’ cross country team was also low on numbers, with only seven runners, but they were full of tenacity and determination as they challenged themselves and their opponents. Collectively, the girls chopped 17 minutes off their race times during the course of the season. Freshman Sarah Wallace was the team’s Most Valuable Runner as she finished first in five of the team’s races. The Warner Award was presented to sophomore Katherine Melvin, who was one of the team’s most positive and hardworking individuals. The team placed 12th in the ISL Championship and 8th in the NEPSAC Class C Championship.
**FIELD HOCKEY**

The field hockey team had the strength of seven seniors who brought leadership and experience to the squad. Highlights of the season include a 1-0 overtime win over Class A Phillips Andover at home and qualifying as the 4th seed in the New England tournament, where they lost a tight contest, 2-0, in the quarterfinals. The team’s Most Valuable Player was Emily Field ’11, who was explosive offensively and was respected by teammates and opponents alike. The Coach’s Award was presented to sophomore Victoria Hanson, who was recognized for her selfless play and perseverance. Seniors Emily Field and Brooke Simpson earned All-League awards, while juniors Jordan Hampton and Mary Kate Waldie, both midfielders, earned All-League Honorable Mention citations. The team’s season record was 10-8.

**FIELDS OF GOLD**

Canadian-American hockey player Wayne Gretzky—The Great One—once said, “Some people skate to the puck. I skate to where the puck is going to be.” That sentiment is apropos in more ways than one to Emily Field’s hockey career thus far. Emily, a Lawrence Academy senior, has been playing hockey her entire life and, of late, she seems to be exactly where the puck is … and it’s been all over the place!

“I’ve played tournaments at Lake Placid and all over the U.S., but this was my first time in Europe,” says Emily.

She was referring to her recent trip to Sweden with the U.S. Women’s National Under-18 team. Team USA was competing in the 2011 International Ice Hockey Federation World Women’s U18 Championship in Stockholm, Sweden. Team USA captured the gold medal with a 5-2 win over Canada and finished the tournament undefeated with a 5-0-0 record to claim its third world title in four years.

“It was an amazing experience. We played the Czech, Japanese, and Swedish teams, and then Canada in the finals. I got a lot of playing time and the team got along really well. We had good chemistry right away. I had played with all my teammates at one point or another at camps or on different teams, so that helped.”

Emily Field’s hockey career thus far.

Team USA head coach Jodi McKenna said, “I’m very impressed by how the girls played; from start to finish. They were poised and in control beyond their years. I forget sometimes that they’re 15- to 17-year-olds. They stuck to the game plan and made sure we played hard, disciplined, and as a team. Team USA outshot Canada 24-9 in the first two periods.” Jodi McKenna is the head women’s ice hockey coach at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Captain Hannah Brandt scored four goals, and in an interview after the game she credited Emily, whom she refers to as ‘Fieldsy,’ with a beautiful pass to help set up one of her goals. “Fieldsy made a nice pass, and Pelkey drew the other defenseman toward her so I left me wide open,” Brandt said. Emily had the fourth-highest point total overall in the tournament, with nine points.

Although her strategy was to treat the games just like the hundreds of others she’s played over her career, Emily admitted that this tournament was unlike any other one she had played in. “I played every game like it was just another game. That was my mindset, because if I didn’t take that approach I think I would have become overwhelmed,” she said. “This tournament was definitely different. Before all the games everyone was really focused. We all knew we were there for a reason. We were representing the U.S.”

The eight-nation tournament, played for the fourth time, included Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Team USA captured gold in each of the first two years of the tournament (2008, 2009), followed by a silver medal in 2010.

“Before the finals against Canada, my coach gave a speech,” said Emily. “We were all handed baby powder in a cup. She asked us to take a pinch and put it in our hand. And then she had us all blow it out at the same time. It created this huge cloud of powder that disappeared pretty quickly. Our coach said this moment was like that cloud. It wouldn’t last long and we needed to be sure to do our best, cherish the moment, and hold on to the experience no matter what the outcome.”

Next up for Emily is the U-22 team, but, as she says, “There aren’t a lot of girls on that team who are under 20. So for the near future, I’ll be doing a lot of camps and looking ahead to beginning my college career at Boston College.”

While no one knows where Emily’s hockey abilities will take her, as The Great One said, she will surely be exactly where the puck is going to be.

**VOLLEYBALL**

In its first season as a fall sport, volleyball provided some new and challenging opponents. The team worked hard and had a positive attitude and a strong commitment toward improvement, completing the season with a 2-10 record. A highlight of the season was sponsoring a Dig Pink match to raise awareness and support breast cancer research, a great event that the team hopes to repeat in the future. Sophomore Maddie Gray was recognized as an All-Star player in NEPSAC and played in the All-Star game held at Choate Rosemary Hall. The team’s Most Improved Player was junior Hailey Scott, who was new to the team. The Coach’s Award was presented to Emily Bovenzi ’12, who had an excellent work ethic and was a terrific teammate.
More than 40 years ago, Martin Luther King, Jr. was silenced by an assassin’s bullet. Dr. King has now been dead longer than he was alive.

In attestation, however, to his hopes, his vision, and his dreams, all that Dr. King stood for remains an integral part of the American lexicon. Many argue that his “I Have a Dream” speech was and remains the nexus of his life’s work and the embodiment of his message to mankind.

What must today’s generation think about his words, about the Civil Rights Movement, about his fight for equality and justice? “Is there a difference in our culture now, after King? Now that Barack Obama is in the White House?” That’s the open-ended question that Tanya Lewis Lee posed to the Lawrence Academy community at the special Martin Luther King Jr. Day Assembly on January 17th.

Ms. Lee, a national best-selling author, award-winning TV producer, and wife of filmmaker Spike Lee, then showed her 2004 documentary film I Sit Where I Want: The Legacy of Brown v. Board of Education, for which she received both Beacon and Parents’ Choice awards. The film follows a group of high school students in Buffalo, NY, as they attempt to de-segregate their school’s lunchroom, which, like so many lunchrooms across the country, is the most visible, tangible representation of how students live separate lives.

The film served as the foundation to a special day-long tribute to Martin Luther King Jr., organized by Wonjen Bagley, Lawrence’s Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives. “I am excited about what we have planned for this year’s Martin Luther King Jr. Day, particularly because it gives the whole school community an opportunity to be involved and to reflect on how we collectively and individually live out Dr. King’s ‘dream’,” said Ms. Bagley.

Community was what the day was all about. After Ms. Lee’s talk and the screening of the film, students gathered in their advisory groups, combined with a second advisory, and had discussions, led by peers, about the film and the issues it raised. Students also jotted down questions for Ms. Lee to answer during the afternoon session.

The afternoon featured Ms. Lee addressing several of the questions that students had submitted just before lunch. The questions ranged from how the school was picked that was featured in the video to questions about Ms. Lee’s own heritage and views on racism. She answered each one thoughtfully and with a sense of openness and honesty.

“Following the afternoon assembly,” said Bagley, “the student body held discussion groups, led by students, that addressed current events and recent news articles and how particular current incidents may or may not challenge Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream of a world without prejudice.”

The overarching goal for the day was not only to remember and honor King’s legacy and the contributions he made to the improvement of race relations but to “begin and encourage conversations that allowed students and faculty to regard themselves as agents for change, not later in life, at some point in the future, but now.”

The rich personal background that Ms. Lee shared during the day raised the level of awareness about the difference one person can make and served as an inspiring reminder to all that everyone wields influence, whether within our families, schools, workplaces, or groups of friends, to effect change and continue to break down all racial barriers and biases.
Elm Tree 2011
Andrew Richardson '11, Loung Ung, and Alejandro Menjivar '11

“I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.”

It’s been nearly a half century since King’s death. His legacy and stature are now etched firmly in the history books. His influence, though, is just as potent today as it was when he was alive, delivering those inspiring speeches at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, a clear testament to the enduring quality of his vision and ideas regarding race relations not only in this country but for the world. A single gunman was no match for the power of those transcendent ideas so eloquently communicated by King. What would King think today? Would he consider his dream a reality?

Nearly a quarter of Cambodia’s population of seven million died at the hands of the infamous Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979. Loung Ung was orphaned as an 8-year-old in 1978 by the genocide that claimed 21 members of her extended family, as well as both her parents. She was forced to train as a child soldier before escaping with a brother by boat to a refugee camp in Thailand. Five months later, she was relocated to Vermont through sponsorship by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Holy Family Church parish in Burlington.

Ms. Ung is now the highly praised author of two books that reflect on her experiences: First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers, and Lucky Child: A Daughter of Cambodia Reunites with the Sister She Left Behind.

In addition to looking back to record her memoirs, Ms. Ung actively looks ahead. After learning about the continuing destruction being caused by the millions of landmines that still litter the countryside in Cambodia, she took on the role of national spokesperson for the Campaign for a Landmine-Free World. A sought-after speaker on that topic, as well as on the subjects of Cambodia, child soldiers, women and war, and domestic violence, Ms. Ung has brought her insights to numerous television and radio shows and was selected by the World Economic Forum as one of the “100 Global Leaders of Tomorrow.”

Ms. Ung returned to Lawrence Academy on February 8, having previously visited in 2005 to deliver the commencement address. Her message and demeanor on that day were full of optimism and goodwill, striking when juxtaposed with the horrific reality of her personal story. She urged the departing seniors she addressed to strive to be an example of “the best of man’s humanity to man.” She herself has used her hardship to empower her to take action to make a difference, and her message comes across with warmth and promise.

Having read her memoirs, students in Senior Seminar enjoyed the opportunity for intimate conversation when Ms. Ung joined them in their classrooms in February. The author also made a presentation to NGP students and held a round table discussion that was open to faculty, parents, and other interested students.

Loung Ung, Khmer Rouge Survivor

Andrew Richardson ’11, Loung Ung, and Alejandro Menjivar ’11
In December, several LA students boarded a plane and headed to San Diego.

No, it wasn’t to escape the cold winter weather! They were participating in the 2010 People of Color/Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC), hosted annually by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). The seven LA delegates, led by Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives Wonjen Bagley, participated in workshops, attended keynote sessions, and made connections with like-minded high school students from all over the country.

This year’s student attendees from LA were Maddie Gray, Jamarcus Shelton, Alejandro Menjivar, Jordan Rodriguez, Brittany Ruddock, Jamie Newsome, and Christal Tyson.

The SDLC is a multiracial, multicultural gathering of upper-school student leaders (grades 9-12) from across the U.S. The SDLC focuses on self-reflecting, forming allies, and building community. Led by a diverse team of trained adult and peer facilitators, participants develop effective cross-cultural communication skills, come to better understand the nature and development of effective strategies for social justice, practice expression through the arts, and learn networking principles and strategies. In addition to large group sessions, SDLC “family groups” and “home groups” allow for intense dialogue and sharing.

Jamarcus Shelton said, “I felt my experience was life-changing. Being with over one thousand students who were passionate about social justice was something I had never experienced before. I made connections to many of the students I know will last for years to come. I know that other student delegates felt equally moved by the opportunity to hear from their peers about their views on race, religion, and being empowered to be who you are as you respect others for who they are. It was a great opportunity for me.”

The opportunity to attend the SDLC has been extended to twenty-six LA students since 2007. “Even though I attend the People of Color Conference every year, it never gets old for me,” said Ms. Bagley. “This is partly because I am always learning about new tools and methods to enhance the diversity program at Lawrence Academy, but it’s also because I take a different group of students each year. Seeing our students develop a clearer understanding of how they can have an impact on the world with their thoughts and actions is inspiring. The conference opens their eyes to who they can be, what they can do, and how far changing their view of the world can take them in our multiracial, multicultural world.”

Maddie Gray noted, “One of the things that was unique about this conference was how close we got to the groups we were assigned to. In the SDLC, we were divided into ‘family groups,’ each of which was facilitated by two adults. Each family group was further divided into small ‘home groups’ where intense dialogue and sharing took place, guided by trained peer facilitators. In just two days, we easily became close to our family groups, and it felt comfortable sharing ideas, thoughts, asking questions and exploring concepts about equity and justice in our schools. I learned a lot about myself and felt free to talk without being judged.”

The SDLC packs many new, intriguing ideas and concepts into two and a half days that can’t possibly be fully explored and digested in such a short period of time. But students continue to reap the benefits of the conference and expand their ideas of what diversity means and what leadership entails for them long after the conference ends. “I am delighted we make this a part of our diversity initiatives at Lawrence Academy each year,” said Bagley. “Equipping students with a greater understanding of justice strengthens our school, the individual student, and ultimately the community at large.”
The 2011 Senior Parent Capital Gift is already fast at work, thanks to the recent purchase and installation of 20 new SMART Boards (interactive whiteboards) in the classrooms of the history, language and science departments. They join the existing five that were purchased last summer for the math department.

“The SMART Boards have allowed students to access class even after it has ended,” said Krista Collins, math department chair. “The SMART boards allow students who have missed class or those who need to supplement their own note-taking to log onto their class Moodle site and bring up the notes and problems generated during class. Everything written on the SMART boards is captured and downloaded. The notes help students add more detail to their own notes, complete homework questions, and study for tests.”

Earlier this fall, the Senior Parent Capital Gift Committee, along with other senior parents, determined that one of their gift priorities would be the purchase of these additional SMART Boards. Thanks to an extremely generous contribution of $25,000 from senior parents Pat and Kevin Cronin, the school was able to move forward with the project. The Cronins’ gift paid for 15, and the school purchased an additional five to outfit the necessary classrooms. LA’s director of technology, Mark Burkholz, coordinated the purchase and installation while Director of Studies Chris Ellsasser worked with the department chairs to determine the level of interest and need. “This project was an inspiring example of the administration and the senior parents working together to fulfill a need that has had an immediate, positive impact on the students and faculty,” said Chris Margraf, assistant director of development and constituent outreach.

The recently renovated free-weight and cardiovascular rooms are another example of senior parent money contributing to fulfilling a major need at LA. In this case, a portion of the funds raised for the 2010 Senior Parent Gift was designated for these renovations. Athletic Director Kathy Noble worked with the Athletic Advisory Committee to determine the layout of each room before coordinating the purchase of the equipment. A portion of the 2011 Senior Parent Gift has also been earmarked to help support this project.

The recently installed girls’ and boys’ varsity hockey locker rooms, located between the Grant Rink and the Stone Athletic Center, became a reality due to major contributions from a few generous parents and alumni. The project began in the late fall and was completed by mid-January, allowing both teams to utilize these two college-quality locker rooms during their respective seasons. In addition to providing both hockey programs with the space and lockers necessary to accommodate all their equipment, these locker rooms have helped to provide welcomed relief to users of the Stone Athletic Center in general.
On Saturday, April 17, 2010, the Reverend Ian Douglas ’76 listened as Desmond Tutu, the Anglican archbishop emeritus of Cape Town, South Africa, delivered the homily on the occasion of Ian’s ordination as the 15th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut. The event was held in the Koeppel Community Sports Center at Trinity College in Hartford.

To an audience of more than 2,000 guests, Archbishop Tutu spoke passionately about the importance of unity, calling on everyone to embrace people regardless of their political party or sexual orientation/identity. The 1984 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize then spoke directly to his friend: “Ian, please tell the children of God each one of them is precious,” he said. “Each one of them is held in this cosmic embrace.”

“I always participated in the life of the Episcopal Church,” Ian said. “My parents were very active lay people [at Christ Church in Fitchburg, his home town], both in church school and the governance of the church polity, which is led by both clergy and lay people. They were very involved at the leadership level, so I was always involved in Church.” From the time he was six years old until he went off to Middlebury College, he sang in the men and boys’ choir, attended church summer camp, and served as an acolyte.

Not much changed when Ian attended Applewild School and then enrolled at Lawrence Academy in 1973 as a sophomore “day hop” who participated fully in school. He maintained his active family life at Christ Church while bringing his choir experience to the glee club, led at that time by Joe Sheppard. “The appreciation of voice as an instrument was a key contribution that the Church made in my life, and I think that Joe Sheppard liked having a choir boy in his glee club—and until my voice changed, I sang with the girls as a boy soprano,” Ian remembered fondly. When he left for Middlebury, Ian had been inducted into Cum Laude, and, at graduation, he had received the Pillsbury Prize for Character and Conduct.

Given his choice of careers, people ask Ian why he majored in political science at Middlebury instead of religion. “If people know the history of the Church and their political history, particularly in the West, the overlap between politics and the Church is very significant. I say that I thought I might have a life in the Church. And it seemed more practical than studying theology; I could do that in divinity school.”

“When it came time to graduate from Middlebury, I think I was a little reactive to many of my friends who were pursuing more ‘classical’ career choices (such as going to East Coast metropolitan centers and working in business),” Ian said. “I was choosing between driving a truck, long-haul, and reclaiming my working-class roots in Fitchburg, or going to divinity school. Both were atypical for a Middlebury College graduate.” He applied to only one divinity school, thinking that if he didn’t get in he’d hit the road.

Ian pursued a joint degree at Harvard’s Divinity School and School of Education, not planning on becoming a priest—or at least that’s what he was telling himself. He sought a broad education in world religions, community organizing, and faith development. “It was really a graduate school of religious studies rather than a seminary, which focuses on raising ordained clergy for churches.”

While at Harvard, Ian had a series of “providential interventions” that led him in 1983 to work in Haiti, an experience he calls “profoundly transformational.” “What moved me,” he recalled, “was that the Church was much more than a Sunday morning experience. It was a place where people met God and were empowered in the way to find freedom and liberation and hope even in the most oppressive of circumstances”—like working in Haiti, under dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier. “Whether it was in school, or clinics, or education and literacy, or organizing against corrupt and oppressive political forces,
I kind of threw my lot into that,” he continued. “It gave me a whole sense of [how] the Church, as the body of Christ, could be about fundamental freedom for all people.”

When Ian returned to the United States, he began work at the Episcopal Church Center, the national offices of the Episcopal Church, facilitating intercultural exchanges among leaders and churches around the world coming to the U.S. for graduate school education. It was there that Ian first met Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in New York City in 1984, the same year Tutu was presented with the Nobel Peace Prize. Ian found in Desmond Tutu a willing and invaluable mentor. Before long, the question of how the Episcopal Church could participate in the pervasive transformation that was occurring in world Christianity led Ian to pursue both a Ph.D. and Holy Orders. In 1987, now married to Kristin Harris and starting a family, he was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church. All that he had done until then, in Haiti and in New York City, had been as a lay person at the Episcopal Church Center.

Ian fulfilled his role in the transformation by working as an associate priest for the next 20 years at St. James’s Church in Cambridge, a multiethnic, multiracial, relatively poor parish. At the same time, the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge began to recognize the need to explore formally the developing field of World Christianity, something that Ian had been studying before it had been defined as an area of study. He was asked to begin to imagine a subject that took in ecumenical concerns, World Christian concerns, and the changing state of Christianity led Ian to pursue both a Ph.D. and Holy Orders.

Meanwhile, there emerged what for Ian was a fascinating inter-Anglican conversation focused on different understandings of human sexuality. Many likely remember the controversy surrounding the ordaining of gay clergy that reached a crescendo with the election of openly gay priest Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire. For Ian, however, the discussion about which he lectured and wrote while a professor at the divinity school. Between 1995 and 2008, in large part because of the pervasive transformation that was occurring in world Christianity led Ian to pursue both a Ph.D. and Holy Orders.

“For me to focus down and go deeper, rather than broader.” Clearly, Ian’s indispensable work at the Lambeth Conference had helped make him “episcopal material,” as a divinity school friend put it, and Ian was elected Bishop of Connecticut. It is no surprise that, upon his election, Ian’s first email was sent to ask his friend Archbishop Tutu if he would come to preach at his consecration. Beginning work in February 2010 and consecrated in April, Ian assumed responsibility for 61,000 members of 171 parishes and congregations. The first bishop of this historic Connecticut diocese was consecrated in 1784.

After kneeling before it’s presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, the Episcopal Church’s presiding bishop, Ian was encircled by other bishops, who held their hands over his head in prayer. After his consecration, Ian presided at the Eucharist, speaking in three languages—English, Spanish, and Creole. That demonstration, as well as the presence of worshippers from Latino and Haitian congregations, underscored the newly consecrated bishop’s commitment to diversity within the church. “The only thing I can say is that I am humbled and I am honored to be your bishop,” he said, having donned the vestments of his new role. “Now, it begins.” And it will continue, let us hope, for many years to come.

In 2003, Ian was tapped to serve with a group charged with redesigning the 2008 Lambeth Conference. The Archbishop of Canterbury, who hosts the conference every 10 years to bring bishops of the Anglican Communion together from all parts of the world, wanted to be sure that the 2008 conference did not implode because of infighting over issues of human sexuality. The success of the conference earned Ian and his fellow designers the Cross of St. Augustine, which is tantamount to being knighted in English lay society.

Ian then looked at the wider world’s Christian community and realized that many of the things he had been passionate about and committed to had come to pass. It was then that he learned of the opening in the Connecticut diocese and saw a chance—like the one in Cambridge—to locate himself in a particular community with discernible boundaries and see if the same work could be done there. “The invitation now was for me to focus down and go deeper, rather than broader.” Clearly, Ian’s indispensable work at the Lambeth Conference had helped make him “episcopal material.”

*episcopal (small e): of or relating to a bishop. ~Ed.
LA Alumni Gatherings

16th Annual Gagné Winterim Classic
Monday, October 4, 2010

Leadership Reception at the BC Club — October 21, 2010

San Diego Gathering — Friday, December 3, 2010
Chicago Gathering — January 24, 2011

Blazers — February 12, 2011

Alumni Hockey Game — February 19, 2011

DC event — February 24, 2011

A big thank you goes out to Steve Wood '00 for all of his hard work and planning of the alumni hockey game at Milton. It was a great success both in turnout and in their contributions and support of the February Faceoff!
Young Alumni at LA

Front row, L–R: Ann Steward '03 (AC and YAC), Liz Kendall Carroll '00 (YAC co-president), Val Campolieto Templeton '98 (AC president), Susan Meenan Barron '86 (AC), Ruth Glazer White '76 (AC and Board of Trustees), Amanda Doyle-Bouvier '98 (Assistant Director of Alumni Relations), Stefanie Middleton Marcoux '02 (YAC), Jeffrey Marcoux; back row, L–R: Kevin McDonald '70 (AC past president), Jeff Maclaren '70 (AC), Rhianna Cohen '98 (YAC recording secretary), Cameron Fadjo '99 (YAC co-president), Molly Shanklin (Associate Director of Development), Jerry Mead '96 (YAC), and Cory Peterson '07 (YAC vice president)

AC = Alumni Council, YAC = Young Alumni Committee

Stefanie Middleton Marcoux ‘02
and Molly Shanklin

Cory Peterson ’07 and
Kevin McDonald ’70

Val Campolieto Templeton ’98, Jeff Maclaren ’70, Rhianna Cohen ’98, Cameron Fadjo ’99, and Ruth Glazer White ’76

This picture is from the January 27th Young Alumni Committee meeting held at the Westin Copley.
L–R: Emily Avery-Miller ’01, Danielle Woodin ’06, Lindsay Latuga ’00, Rhianna Cohen ’98, Kate Bagshaw ’99, Liz Kendall Carroll ’00

Members of the committee who called in for the meeting and are not in the picture were: Cory Peterson ’07, Bernie Leed ’98, Cameron Fadjo ’99, Jeff Sullivan ’01, and Kristen Schmidt ’02
Hello Fellow LA Alumni,

We have found ourselves honored with the opportunity to reconnect with you and introduce ourselves as the leadership of the newly formed LA Young Alumni Committee (YAC).

The YAC was an idea that came from the Alumni Council in an effort to help reconnect and re-engage young alumni with the LA community. The YAC represents alumni from the graduating classes between 1996 and 2010, serving as the bridge to connect all young alumni.

There are the obvious questions that arise from the establishment of a new group such as this one. How can this group strengthen my relationship with LA? What are the main goals of this committee? In hopes of answering some of these questions, YAC has three subcommittees, each established with the following goals in mind:

• Networking: Develop a strong network of alumni, as well as take advantage of various social media outlets, such as Facebook and LinkedIn, to strengthen the bond across graduating classes.

• Fundraising: Create more awareness of LA’s important fundraising efforts, and, most recently, encourage alumni in class years 2000-2010 to participate in the ISL February Faceoff challenge. This effort was supported through a phoneathon, active communication using Facebook, and encouraging alumni to attend the Boston Blazers and Howl at the Moon events.

• Events: Increase alumni participation at events, with our primary goal to design events that “give back” to the alumni by proving a stronger networking program. In addition, the committee is committed to developing a mentoring program between alumni and students, with a focus of engaging and educating current students on the value of actively participating in alumni events.

Shortly after the creation of the YAC, members volunteered for leadership positions, and in November, the committee voted the Board into place. We are pleased to announce your leaders of the YAC:

• Co-Presidents: Cameron L. Fadjo ’99 and Liz Kendall Carroll ’00
• Vice-President: Cory Peterson ’07
• Co-Secretaries: Rhianna Cohen ’98 and Lindsay Latuga ’00

We appreciate having the opportunity to introduce you to the YAC, and we look forward to serving the young alumni community. If you are interested in joining the YAC, feel free to contact Cameron (clf2110@columbia.edu) or Liz (ejcarroll04@gmail.com). More information about the YAC is available at www.lacademy.edu/YAC.

Kind regards,
Cameron L. Fadjo and Liz Kendall Carroll
Mike Robinson, MD, received the Alumni Achievement Award from the President of Middlebury College at a special ceremony in Mead Chapel. The award was given in recognition of Mike’s long-standing service to the College, his alma mater. He has served as a member of the Alumni Admissions Program, interviewing prospective applicants for over two decades, and as Class Secretary, Class Agent, and Chairman of the Annual Fund Executive Committee. Mike has also served on the LA Board of Trustees and the Board of Visitors.

After nearly 40 years with the American Repertory Theater, Rob Orchard has moved on. In an article in the Boston Globe, the founding director described Rob as “the nervous system and the bloodstream of the company and nothing we have accomplished could have been done without his wisdom, advice, and direction.” Just a few months later, he was named Emerson College’s first executive director of the arts. It was not long before people were talking about what he was doing there. Rob’s work, “now booking shows into the three venues at the new Paramount Center on Washington Street as well as the Cutler Majestic Theatre, all under the umbrella of ArtsEmerson,” was praised in another article in the Globe. In this new position, he has taken a lot of his past experience with him and is now ready to take it to the next level; he told the Globe staff that what he “really wants is to be of some assistance in the creation of the art.” His role now is not merely to bring the companies in but to allow them to grow and develop while in residence at ArtEmerson. Rob is now seeing his vision evolve as companies are establishing residency positions and producing new projects within the Emerson community.

Doug Frank shared his wedding announcement with us to pass along. Christine Elizabeth Pacitto and Douglas Alan Frank were married December 11 at their home in Exeter, NH. Although their furniture does not match, the newlyweds have common interests in travel, cooking, gardening, humor and standard poodles. Doug is a writer who specializes in unreliable narration and satire. He is the author of “The History of Laurence Academy at Groton 1792 to 1992” and is presently working on a screenplay entitled Save It for the Second Date. The bride has one son, Kristopher Garside, who graduates with a degree in culinary arts in 2011 from Johnson & Wales University. The groom has four children from his previous marriage; all are highly successful college graduates.

Lou Curran received the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers’ Leadership Award this fall. He credits his Maryland colleagues’ donation of $5,000 with rejuvenating the association’s Foundation for Criminal Justice. For years, through “Orioles Nights” and other ventures, Lou has been raising money for the association and its Maryland affiliate, the Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys’ Association, on whose board he sits. He has been active in promoting peace, recycling, and finding a cure for AIDS. Lou also raises money for the Maryland SPCA and to pay stipends to law students for internships and clerkships in nonprofit law.

Rich Johnson was presented with the Will Cloney Award on Sunday, December 12, at the Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run, sponsored annually by the Boston Athletic Association. When Rich wrote in to tell us that he had been named the recipient, he said, “If I’d received the call from anybody but Bill I likely would have thought it a joke.” Rich was honored to accept this award and shared that he was planning to run the Jingle Bells event and was looking for his Santa hat in the meantime. For a more detailed article please see the news archive on the Bulletin Board at www.lacademy.edu.

Steve McCabe responded to an invitation to the San Diego gathering with: “Until very recently, my architectural consulting office was located in the 920 Kline building (behind Wells Fargo). For the past eleven years, every morning at 6:00 a.m., you could find me at Harry’s for breakfast with John or Harry Jr.” Steve relocated his family (his wife, Koko, and their daughter, Maya) to Doha, Qatar, as a Senior Engineer for Overseas Bechtel to work on the New Doha International Airport. Steve explained that his “plan is to complete this project in 24 months and then return to La Jolla. We were just awarded the new airport in Oman and I have been offered to relocate to that project when my project completes. We have not decided yet what we will do. It all depends on the state of the [Southern California] economy.” He was sorry to be missing the event but was happy to have met up with classmates Chris Foster, Greg Moffet, and Bob Weeks in Boston before he left for Qatar.

Congratulations to Kevin Anderson and his wife Tiffany on their new additions, Kennedy Andrew Anderson and Kolby Alexander Anderson, born on September 3, 2010. A big thank you also goes out to Naomi Schatz for taking the time to transfer all the old school slides from 1985 to state of the art, retouched, digital format. Naomi is spending this year teaching at the Leysin American School in Leysin, Switzerland.

The class of ’86 is lucky to have Sue Meenan Barron to track down the notes for her classmates this year. She got some good responses to her call of “what is your life like post-LA?” Gregg Jackson responded that he graduated from Colby College with fellow LA alumna Robyn Glaser in ’90 with a major in business and a minor in economics. “When I wasn’t at the library,” [wink] he went on to share, “I played varsity tennis and intramural hockey and football as well as running a hot dog business, ‘Buck a Dog’, with a friend.” Gregg then moved to San Francisco, where he spent five years working in the E&J Gallo management development program. He met his wife, Annie, on an airplane (which he describes as ironic) in ’95, and they were married in ’97. After Gallo Wines, Gregg made a shift in his career and got into medical device sales and management. In 2007, he and his family moved back to the west coast (Los Angeles), where Gregg went to work for a medical device start-up (CSI); they now live in Denver (where they hope to stay for the rest of their lives) and work for another start-up (AngloScore). Gregg and Annie have one child, Jake, who is five. “He’s an amazing kid and is quite the soccer player,” Gregg explains. “He’s also learning to ski and ice skate. We are so proud of our little guy.” In addition to all this, Gregg co-hosted a radio show in Boston, the “Pundit Review,” with a college friend and did his own show in Los Angeles, titled “Truth and Hope;” he is still doing some radio in Denver. “Currently,” Gregg concludes, “I am...
working on my second book, which I am co-authoring with a radio colleague friend of mine in Iowa." Erik Baker graduated from Elmira College and went into law enforcement. “I started with a sheriff’s department in Maine and then went to work for a local police department in Brunswick. After about seven years I applied for the Maine State Police and was hired in November of ’95. I married my wife, Tammie, in ’93 and we have two children. Emily is 12 and is a great student/athlete. She plays soccer and is very passionate about the game. My son, Ryan, is 10 and he loves playing hockey. Todd Wheelenden’s son, Drake, plays on the same team, so we see each other all the time. Besides work and family I stay busy training for triathlons. I have completed three IRONMAN Lake Placid events, and I am training for my fourth one for this coming July. I have also completed two Boston Marathons. It will be nice to meet up with everyone again. I hope all is well for the rest of the class!” Memo Cantu went back to Mexico after LA, graduated from school and played pro soccer for 12 years. He retired at 30, got married at 36 to Daniela and had 3 children: Martina, four, Guillermo, three, and Simon, who will be two in March. “After my playing days I moved to manage pro teams and also the National Team in México. Football (soccer) has been my passion all my life and I am currently in the football business. I am also in business with my dad in a development on the most amazing beach in Mexico.” Chris Bradbury shared that he went to Georgetown University for a finance degree. “Had a great time, including hanging with fellow classmate Peter Dunn.” Chris stayed in the DC area for three years in a small management consulting firm, Kaiser Associates, and married Michelle Green, whom he met at Georgetown, in ’93. He received his MBA from MIT Sloan in ’95, while living down by the aquarium in Boston. After MIT, they moved to the NYC area and Chris worked again in management consulting at A.T. Kearney, focusing on financial institutions and health care. Chris joined Medco Health Solutions in ’98 and moved to Upper Saddle River, NJ, where he and his family still live. They have two kids: Christopher, 13, and Julia, 11, as well as two labs, Beau and Rudy. “Our son is into every sport imaginable, especially lacrosse and basketball. Julia’s passions are horseback riding, guitar, dancing, lacrosse and basketball. Michelle runs our town’s girls’ lacrosse program and I coach basketball.” Ross Langner answered Sue’s question by saying, “Post-LA life has been pretty good. I started at the University of Southern California in the fall of ’86. Trust me when I say the culture shock of going from one LA to the other was severe. Met some great people, including my wife, took interesting classes. I majored in international relations with a Soviet/Russian emphasis, which led to splitting up my senior year to go work for the feds in, of all areas, intelligence. Interesting work! After returning to SC for my last semester, I graduated in ’91 and, a month later, moved to Hawaii (where my wife is from, and where she was). I lived on Oahu for about 10 years. My wife, Ila, and I were married in ’94. We had our daughter, Anastasia, in ’00, and, three months after she was born, relocated to San Jose, California, where we are now. Our son, Jared, was born in ’04 (nine days before the Sox ended 86 years of suffering... of course he’s my good luck charm!). He was diagnosed early as a high-functioning autistic child. He is nowhere near as bad off as some of the more dramatic cases you might hear about. They’re really great kids and a ton of fun. I wonder what’ll happen once we hit the teen years. Gulp. I started working in law firms back in ’93 as a member of the support staff, found I had an aptitude for it, including managing several different departments within some of these firms, and have recently begun thinking about returning to school to get a paralegal certificate.” Beth Potter Beatty tried to give a “quickie version of the last 25 years” and quickly learned that that wasn’t very easy to do. “I can’t believe it has been that long! Am I the only one who looks in the mirror and says, ‘Who is that old lady?’ Sometimes I still feel like I am 17 years old. After LA, I went to Ohio Wesleyan University, where I majored in both international studies and Spanish, spending time studying in both Spain and Mexico. I moved to Miami two days after graduating from college to work for an export company in Miami. After watching flight attendants come to the office with briefcases of cash, and my boss putting a gun in his pants and heading to the bank, I thought it best to leave, so I worked in sales for a few years. Then, I decided to go to law school at the University of Miami, where I met my husband in criminal procedure class. He came in late and the only empty seat happened to be next to mine. We have now been married for 12 years. After law school, I worked at legal services, providing legal representation to homeless people and people in public housing. Young and naïve, I thought I could change the world. However, I had law school loans to pay back, so, after a few years, I went into private practice. After the birth of our first son, and not wanting to raise children in Miami, we moved to Naples, a nice small town in southwest Florida. We have two boys, Robert, age 12, and Thomas, age 8. I work part time as an attorney doing general litigation (unfortunately, with the economy the way it is, that means a lot of foreclosures and bankruptcies). However, I am still able to be home when my boys get off the school bus in the afternoon. Like Sue, I also do the volunteer thing. We are involved in the boys’ schools, Scouts, and Odyssey of the Mind, a cool program that encourages kids to think outside the box and solve problems. I don’t know if I can attend the reunion. I may be busy working on my first book. Will Oprah still be doing her book clubs? However, I would love to bring the boys back to see my old stomping ground.” Sue Meenan Barron answered her own question with, “After LA, I went to Lake Forest College along with a bunch of other LA peeps – Todd Wheelenden, Laurie Randazzo and, can’t forget my now-hubbby, Dev (LA ’85)! I worked at a local TV station after college (TV38... remember ‘The Movie Loft’ with Dana Hersey?), I was in sales for a bit (scary, but a foot in the door!) and then moved into the sports department, which was a total blast, where I basically got paid to attend sporting events. After Dev and I married in ’94 we moved out to Concord and cracked out two kids. Thomas, 14, is now a freshman at LA, just had his first JV hockey game, and is busy making his parents look like total stuff! Annie is 12 and in sixth grade at the local middle school and has a small obsession with horses. Since having kids, I have been home doing the ‘mom’ gig as well as way too much volunteering! Currently, I am still on the Alumni Council for LA and the School Advisory Council for Concord Middle School. About 18 months ago, I started writing a column for the local paper called ‘ Seriously,’ which basically pokes fun at all of this kid-raising silliness... and at Dev! I also recently got certified to teach SPIN classes and have a few gigs a week at local gyms around Concord. Variety is the spice of life, they say!” '87 Craig Eaton married Alexandra of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 2008 in a lovely ceremony in Boston. They live in Winfield, Illinois, and have a beautiful bilingual son, Christopher, who just turned two and has his own ice skates. They are expecting another son in April 2011. Nancy Hamilton and a friend, Diane Lima of Bedford, MA, came together with a fresh idea to help busy people who like to cook healthy meals but can’t find the time. They realized that it is hard to find fresh sauces in the refrigerated section that have multiple uses, so they decided to form a company committed to creating and producing fresh, healthy sauces and marinades that make cooking fun and easy and enhance meals with interesting and different flavors. The Smiling Sauce Company currently has two products, Zing! and Cranberry Burst! Both are made with “moxie” and “think outside the box” ingredients that will “truly excite your taste buds.” Nancy will be serving some of her sauces this year at Reunion during the cocktail hour on the terrace. Chuck Swanson wrote in
to share that he is coming up on 10 years living in Portland, Oregon. “Married with two little girls, Hannah, six, and Elsa, two,” he writes. “Launched my own digital marketing agency, Digital C4, earlier this year and so far so good! Let me know if you need help with search marketing.”

Kirsten Eaton St. Louis wrote in that she happily lives in a small town in Vermont near Mad River with her husband, their nine-year-old son Michael, and their seven-year-old daughter, Bailey. “I stay in touch with Valerie Campolieto Templeton, Betsy Bresnahan Dolan, and Lee Piccirillo-Briggs and love our annual reunions. In September we all enjoyed celebrating with Lee at her wedding. It was so fun to laugh and joke with such close friends. Here’s to the Spring get together!” Betsy Bresnahan Dolan is working as a school counselor after obtaining her master’s degree in counseling, living in Groton with her husband Tim, two kids, Abby and Shane, and their dog, Fenway. Lee Piccirillo-Briggs and Paul Briggs were married September 18, 2010 in Harvard, MA. The couple resides in Belmont, MA.

Karin gets her wishing well.

Amanda Doyle-Bouvier married William Bouvier on September 25, 2011 in a beautiful backyard family celebration. Standing by them were classmates Kathryn McCann, Andrea Cutts, Martha Bouchard, Sasha Weigel, Brad Lennon ’96, and many LA friends and faculty. Amanda’s son, Greyson Powell Doyle, stood beside them as they exchanged vows. Amanda’s father, Greyson Powell Doyle, stood with Mom as they exchanged their vows.

Suzanne Slarsky Dael ’98 and her husband, Martin, welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Rebekka Eya Dael, into their family on August 14, 2010. Rebekka was born on September 14, 2010 in Portland, Oregon. “Married with two little girls, Hannah, six, and Elsa, two,” he writes. “Launched my own digital marketing agency, Digital C4, earlier this year and so far so good! Let me know if you need help with search marketing.”

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Lindsay Moran Dempsey ‘97 and Peter Dempsey were married on August 14, 2010 at Elm Bank at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Wellesley, MA. "Offers a fresh and current perspective to the classic New England look with which she is so familiar." During college, she held various internships in the design field, one of particular note at the famed fabric house, F. Schumacher and Co. Following college and in an effort to enrich her knowledge of interior design, Phoebe attended the New York School of Interior Design on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. During that time, she benefited from an apprenticeship at Victoria Hagan, a residential interior design firm based in Manhattan. Phoebe now resides on Beacon Hill in Boston with her husband, Peter.

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Nikki Vismara-Woodward shared a letter with us that she had sent out to many of her friends and family just after her 30th birthday. In it she wrote, “As most of you know, I recently visited Mali. As cliché as it sounds, it was truly a life-changing experience. The trip was very humbling and it made me realize just how lucky I am and what a privileged society I live in. I went with a non-profit organization, Grain de Sable, which builds schools in Mali and has also helped bring potable water and electricity to isolated communities. The trip was spent touring villages and meeting with community leaders that had contacted the organization for help. For a week, we lived with almost no electricity or running water and experienced firsthand just how tough life is in these remote villages. These people have nothing, and yet they never complain. I was truly moved by the work Grain de Sable has accomplished and have decided to join their organization.” More specifically, Nicole is fundraising and participating in a program called the Biket Initiative, which hopes to distribute bikes in order to provide the children of Mali with a reliable form of transportation to water sources, medical care, and schools. For more information or to help with Nikki’s fundraising efforts, go to http://biket.org/. In addition, Nikki informed us that she was preparing for another art show in Lyon, France, that will be at “Appartement 16” and run from March 23 to April 20.

Chris Milmoe was named Athletic Director at Saint James School and is still the head football coach. The team went 6-3 this past year. On August 31, Alexandra García-Triax Rioux had her second daughter, Elise Victoria Rioux. She joins her sister, Kali Madison. Everyone is doing well!

Conor Maguire will attend the Breadloaf School of English at Middlebury College master’s degree program this summer. Laura Hazzard Levine and her husband welcomed twins, Aubrey Anne Levine and Tyler Wall Levine, into their family on August 11, 2010. Laura’s husband is Captain Geoffrey Levine, USAF, currently stationed in El Segundo, California. They will be moving to Monterey in June for two years, as the Air Force is having Geoff earn an MBA. Brian Drollet, MD, co-authored the article “Residents’ Perspectives on ACGME Regulation of Supervision and Duty Hours—A National Survey,” that was published in the New England Journal of Medicine on December 1, 2010.
Chris Reilly is working at TV/radio station WGBH in major donor relations, with his classmate, Abby Ballou. Kris Ansin is finishing a Master’s in Public Health, studying international health and development at Tulane. Currently, he is working with the Ashoka organization in Mali, practicing his French and learning from some of the best innovators of social change in the world. Eliza Brown has been working at corporate headquarters for Staples, Inc. in the merchandising department since graduating from Syracuse University in 2007. Eliza and her fiancé, Dan Goechy, will be married this spring. At her side as her bridesmaids will be fellow Spartans and classmates Ann Steward and Laurie Gilmore.

After graduating from Skidmore College in 2008, Kacey Schneider moved to Guanacaste, Costa Rica. During her first year there, Kacey managed a surf camp and hostel located in Playa Grande. She now lives in Tamarindo and works at a private school as a history and social studies teacher for middle- and high-school students. In addition to teaching, she is a writer and the English editor for her local newspaper, as well as a dance teacher. Grace Moore is working at the Codman Square Health Center as a PACT Community Health Worker. She helps poor minority women with HIV and or AIDS to manage their care.

Ann Steward ’03 passed along that Ryan Ansin has started an organization called Every Person Has a Story (EPHAS) Productions. EPHAS’ mission is to bring voice to the underserved through photography; they are creating cross-cultural communities through the sharing of vision and imagery of individual worlds. By implementing photography workshops all over Cambodia, Rwanda and Haiti (so far), Ryan, along with recent addition to the board of directors and assistant instructor in Rwanda Alex Magnin ’03, has made a huge impact with students both overseas and domestically. Ryan connects each group taught abroad to middle school and high school photography classes, including that of Laurie McGowan here at Lawrence. See EPHAS.org for more information. Brooke Borstell and her mother have opened a bridal shop in Boston’s North End and are really enjoying themselves. Chelsie Moore McCarthy married Joseph McCarthy on June 5, 2010, at Bride Chelsie Moore McCarthy ’05, and groom Joseph McCarthy.
Elm Tree 2011

Harrington Farm in Princeton. Chelsie’s classmate and friend, Veronica Barila, stood by her as her maid of honor, with Jillian Poirier as a bridesmaid; her brothers CJ ’99 and Todd ’01 were with her as groomsmen. The couple met at Norwich University, from which Joe graduated in 2008 with a degree in criminal justice; he is now a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps. Chelsie graduated in ‘09 with a Bachelor’s Degree in nursing and is now a registered nurse. They live in Jacksonville, NC.

‘07

Zaneta Pinkney writes that she is receiving the Winston Center Summer Grant for leadership as well as the AHANA Summer Stipend for being a minority underrepresented in her field, for a summer internship in the Executive Office of the Treasury of Massachusetts, working for Treasurer Tim Cahill. Kelly Smith graduated early from Lake Forest College in December 2010 with a degree in sociology. She hopes to go into law enforcement. Emily Lindemer wanted to pass along some news of her own to the LA community: “I just ran the Montreal Marathon this past summer, and as a former member of LA girls’ cross-country, I thought I’d let people know.”

‘08

Using networking skills acquired partly through a Winterim Professionals internship at LA, Zack Johnson has successfully launched 1st Round Records, representing hip-hop artist Sam Adams as well as Tom Smith of Swampscott, who isn’t actually a singer but a passionate young man who became paralyzed twice while playing hockey. As a result of his injury, Smith began a foundation, the Thomas E. Smith Just Cure Paralysis Foundation, which 1st Round Entertainment has since adopted. 1st Round is one of six companies Zack runs with partner-investor, Egan, out of Los Angeles. Andrea Kimbrell spent last summer in London, taking a couple of classes and working at an internship at the Actor’s Centre.

‘10

Lake Forest College freshman Grady McDonald contributed to four of the scores with a goal and three assists as the men’s soccer team hosted and defeated Finlandia University 13-2 last fall. He set a program record for goals in a game.

Former Faculty

Former history teacher and varsity boys’ hockey coach Charlie Corey has moved up from assistant to head hockey coach at Nashua North this year, bringing with him all his knowledge and experience. When asked what his plans were for the Titans’ 2010–2011 season, he responded, “I want to do hopefully the same thing we did last year ... just continue to provide an atmosphere where kids can fulfill their potential as students and athletes.” In addition to coaching, Corey is teaching history.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our alumni, their families, and friends who have been affected by the disaster in Japan.
Katherine Mara (Katie) Madigan, a long-time friend of the Academy and widow of former business manager Joe Madigan, died at the Apple Valley Center in Ayer on July 28 at the age of 90. Mrs. Madigan was a trustee of the Groton Public Library from 1975–2005, a member of the Friends of Nashoba Valley Medical Center, a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Groton, and a member of Sacred Heart Sodality. She was a member of the Groton Reading Club, the Groton Garden Club, and was the founder of the Book Club in Groton. She was also the recipient of the Citizen of the Year award.

Survivors include five children, Frances Cramb of New York, N.Y., Joseph (Jay) Madigan of Weymouth, Jane Walsh of Jamaica Plains, John Madigan ’75 of Groton, and William Madigan ’75 of Waban; a sister-in-law, Julia Martini of Weston; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Groton Public Library, 99 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450.

In addition to two brothers and three sisters, Katherine was survived by her husband, Ladd Frisby Sheets; brother, George Archibald Sheets, and sister, Ferne Elizabeth (Lisa) Sheets-Archibald, also a former member of the Groton Reading Club, the Groton Garden Club, and was the founder of the Garden Club, and was the founder of the Groton Sacred Heart Sodality. She was a member of Sacred Heart Sodality. She was a member of the Friends of Nashoba Valley Medical Center.

William Madigan, of Watertown, Mass., 81, of Watertown, Mass., died peacefully in his sleep on October 27 after an illness. Hal taught English and Spanish at Lawrence from 1967 to 1971. He is survived by his wife, Ladd Frisby Sheets; children Abigail Sheets Gibson and Jacob Austin Sheets; brother, George Archibald Sheets, and sister, Ferne Elizabeth (Lisa) Sheets-Archibald, also a former member of the Lawrence faculty.

Donations in Hal’s memory may be made to the Tulane Cancer Center with a designation for “Sartor-Cancer Research” on the memo line: Dr. Oliver Sartor, 1430 Tulane Avenue, SL-78, New Orleans, LA 70112.

Frank Garrett Shanklin of Groton and Menauhant, died peacefully at home in Menauhant on July 27, 2010. Mr. Shanklin was the father of Norman ‘76 and of former LA parents Carole Hill (Kevin ’99 and Brian ’01) and Lea Decoteau (Corey ’04, Shauna ’06 and Kelley ’08.) He was also the father-in-law of Associate Director of Development Molly Richardson Shanklin (Jenna Richardson ’06 and Andrew ’11). A lifelong creator and builder, Mr. Shanklin earned two engineering degrees from MIT. After military service and a few years’ employment at various firms, in 1961 he founded the Shanklin Corporation in Groton, a designer and manufacturer of shrink packaging machinery. Over the next 40 years, the company became the largest and most highly respected manufacturer of that type of machinery in the country.

Outside of his work, Mr. Shanklin was an avid collector and restorer of antique machines—big ones, specifically old automobiles and fire engines and, to the delight of music lovers, Wurlitzer theater pipe organs. He bought and restored the 4-manual instrument from the former Metropolitan Theatre in Boston (now the Music Hall) and, to house it, in 1999 built the Shanklin Music Hall in Groton, now home to many musical events each year.

1938

Charles E. Price, 90, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010, at Elliot Hospital in Manchester. He was born May 1, 1920, in Boston, the son of the late Louis C. and Margaret J. (Lee) Price. He was a Nashua resident for 46 years. After Lawrence Academy, Mr. Price attended Boston College and Boston University Law School. After serving in the Navy in World War II, he was employed as a senior manager for Allstate Insurance in the New England area until his retirement. Mr. Price was predeceased by his wife of 54 years, Susan L. Price, in 2004. He is survived by two daughters, two sons-in-law, and four grandchildren.

We have also received word of the passing of Hugh Cregg. No details were given.

1940

Edward W. Roewer, 90, of Brooksvil, Peabody, formerly of Annisquam, died December 14, 2010. He was the beloved husband of Anna H. (Kreiton) Roewer. Born in Cambridge on January 8, 1920, he was the son of the late George E. and Rosa (Heinzen) Roewer. He was also the great-grandson of Louis Prang, who produced Christmas cards and introduced them to America in Boston in 1868. After graduating from Cambridge High and Latin School, Ed attended Lawrence Academy, where he was captain of the football and baseball teams and pitched a no-hitter against his old team. He was also a graduate of Dartmouth College class of 1944 and received his Master’s Degree from Boston University in 1953. While at Dartmouth, Ed was a member of the 1942 Championship National Collegiate Hockey Team.

After Ed served in the Navy in World War II, he and Anna were married in 1944. Ed enjoyed a long career in secondary education, retiring as Vice Principal of Gloucester High School in 1975. He then worked for the Pike-Gronid Funeral Home for nineteen rewarding years, retiring “for good” in 1995.

1949

Dexter Leon Titus, 81, of Watertown, Mass., formerly of Pittsburg, died on April 29, 2010, after a long illness. He donated his body to the Anatomical Gift Program at Harvard Medical School.

In addition to two brothers and three sisters, he leaves his loving wife of 58 years, Nancy Louise (Rintala) Titus, as well as eight daughters and their families. He also leaves two sons, 18 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Dexter was the son of the late Ernest and Marian Titus (Totman). A graduate of Ayer High School, Lawrence Academy and Harvard University, he was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He worked as a social worker, teacher and locksmith.

1956

Holbrook Linton “Lin” Smith, 72, of Barrington, New Hampshire, passed away in his home from a heart attack on Saturday, January 29. Born in Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1938, Lin was active in sports at Lawrence and held several varsity letters, including lacrosse, hockey, and soccer. Following school, he served in the U.S. Army, after which he founded, with his partners, Seals Eastern, a manufacturing firm with which he remained actively involved until his death.

Donations in Lin’s memory may be made to Trinity Anglican Church, 180 Rochester Hill Road, PO Box 1078, Rochester, NH 03866; Lawrence Academy, PO Box 992, Groton, MA 01450; or the U.S. Power Squadron Century Fund: http://www.usps.org/national/treasurer/centendow.html.

1961

We have received word of the passing of August “Gus” Bonazzoli. No further details were given.

1977


Duncan attended Lawrence Academy and Ellsworth High School, where he graduated in 1977. He attended the University of Maine at Farmington, where he met his wife, Anne. He went on to attend the University of Southern Maine, graduating from the University of Maine system in 1981. After graduation he attended Commercial Union Insurance School in Andover, Mass. He was co-owner of J.T. Rosborough, Inc. insurance agency with his brother, Mark ’67. Duncan was a past member and chairman of the Ellsworth YMCA Board, a Mariaville selectman for several years and a member of the Ellsworth Chamber Board.

In addition to his brother Mark, Duncan leaves his loving wife and his mother, two sisters, two daughters and their families, and many other relatives.

Contributions in Duncan’s memory may be made to National Park Service, Acadia National Park, Search and Rescue, Box 117, Bar Harbor, ME 04609 or MDI Search and Rescue, PO. Box 493, Bar Harbor, ME 04609. Condolences may be expressed at www.jordanfernald.com.

1988

Jeremy Rosenthal, son of Lois Rosenthal and the late Richard Rosenthal, has passed away. He leaves his mother, Lois; his wife, Christine; children, Nik and Dylan; brother, David; and sister, Sara.
Alumni Login

Your new login to our site is your first initial, last name, and the last two digits of your class year. (e.g. fjones25).

Married alumnae should use their married last name, not their maiden name. Use this as both your username and password.

You will be able to change your password, as well as update your profile information by using the My Account link on the Alumni Portal. All previous passwords have been re-set.

www.lacademy.edu

Watch for these fall events

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Boston Food Bank

9:30 a.m.–Noon
Call all LA alumni to help sort food to be distributed to local shelters. More details will follow.

Monday, October 3, 2011

17th Annual Gagné Winterim Classic

Parents, friends, and alumni, join us for a day of golf at Renaissance Golf Club in Haverhill, MA. Proceeds to benefit Winterim Scholarships.
Reunion Weekend

Hope to see you there!

Friday, May 13 – Sunday, May 15, 2011