

ENVOY

A PUBLICATION OF THE
TOWNSEND HARRIS
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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ALUMNI VISIT EXHIBIT AT MET

Over 50 members of the Townsend Harris family, including alumni from the original and reestablished schools as well as current and retired faculty, gathered together on August 10 for a special viewing of the new Hellenistic, Etruscan and Roman Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Harrisites were treated to a special docent-led tour of the exhibit.

With over 5,300 objects on more than 30,000 square feet, the newest galleries present Hellenistic art and its legacy. The

centerpiece of the new installation is the Leon Levy, '42 and Shelby White Court, which is a dramatic, sky lit space linking the various galleries and themes.

A special thanks to Julie Chan, '88, for organizing the event.



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING IS HUGE SUCCESS

On Sunday, October 7, 2007, the Townsend Harris Alumni Association held its annual meeting in the Faculty Dining Room of Hunter College on 68th Street in Manhattan. More than 75 members of the Townsend Harris community attended this gathering, including old alumni, young alumni, former faculty members and some presently teaching at the school. Among the older alumni, those present represented every school year: from Judge Bentley Kassal '33 to Jerry Halpern '44 and Marvin Leiner '44 who were just freshmen when the school closed in 1942. The youngest alumna present wasn't an alumna yet. She's a current student and member of the class of 2011.

The meeting was arranged so that before the formal program was begun, coffee was served to the guests as they mingled with each other greeting old friends and classmates, making new friends and renewing friendships with favorite teachers. Then a Sunday buffet

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Top: left to right – Panelists Tanya M. Odom, Malcolm Largmann, Franco Scardino, Harry Rattien, David Herzzenborn, Martine Guerrier.

Bottom: left to right – Guests enjoying the festivities. Faculty members Wanda Nix and Malcolm Largmann, Martine Guerrier '89 and Faculty member Harry Rattien.



LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

To our fellow Harrisites,

We hope you are having a wonderful fall and we wish to welcome you to the first edition of the Envoy, the Townsend Harris Alumni Association newsletter. We hope that this is the first of many editions of our newsletter to come.

Both the high school and the Alumni Association continue to go strong. The high school is one of the best schools in New York City, and is also one of the most sought after. Its students receive accolade upon accolade. Seniors receive over millions of dollars of scholarships to college upon graduation. Many of those same seniors go on to attend Ivy-league schools. Townsend Harris continues to be a leader in community service; in fact, Lisa Liu, a current student, was a Queens Quality of Life semifinalist last year for her work advocating volunteerism in local parks. School athletics remain a vital aspect of the students' lives. Girls' swimming, girls' fencing, boys' bowling — these are only three examples of current teams that had great success this past year.

As you probably know by now, Thomas Cunningham is retiring as principal of the high school. Mr. Cunningham has been the principal since 2001 and has continued to lead the school to excellence. The Board of Directors wishes to thank Mr. Cunningham for his dedication to Townsend Harris and wish him well in his retirement. The Alumni Association has been quite active in the search for the Mr. Cunningham's successor. We sat on the Department of Education committee that interviews prospective candidates. A new principal is expected to be named shortly.

There have been many school events during the past year in which alumni participated. Over 30 alumni served as judges at the high school's SING! competition. We once again provided speakers for the Townsend Harris Career Day, where many of us returned to the school to share our experiences from the workplace. Kevin Kim of the Class of 1988 was the keynote speaker at October's Founders' Day ceremony at the high school.

Last Fall, we had another of our cherished Hall of Fame ceremonies. We honored another group of extremely distinguished men who pioneered the reopening of the high school in the early

1980s. This year's ceremony was especially unique in that the ceremony was held as a cocktail reception on the campus of Baruch College on 23rd Street in Manhattan, where the school was situated for most of the early half of the 20th century. The turnout was remarkable and the celebration memorable. On the fundraising front, we continue to be quite successful raising funds for the Townsend Harris Forever! campaign. We were able to increase the endowments for the faculty development and community service funds (amongst others). Through several generous contributions, we were also able to purchase new classical language textbooks, procure new library equipment for the Malcolm G. Largmann library and finance advanced courses in the study of Hebrew. Of course, our job is not done; there is still much to do. We encourage you to contribute to the Alumni Association's endowment funds, which go directly towards supporting the wonderful programs of Townsend Harris. Feel free to contact either Ted Peck (tedp25@aol.com), Townsend Harris Forever! Director, or Craig L. Slutzkin (president@thaa.org), Co-President, for additional details.

We are pleased to welcome a new member to our Board of Directors. Moira Casey joins us as our PTA representative, succeeding Maria Becce, whose son Matthew recently graduated from the school. Moira will strengthen even further the relationship between the PTA and the Alumni. The board meets quarterly; all alumni are invited to attend our meetings and participate in the direction and activities of the Alumni Association. Check our website (www.thaa.org) for meeting dates and locations.

We also wish to welcome our new Alumni Administrator, Margherita Wischerth, who is a teacher of fine arts at the high school.

Over the next year, we have exciting events and new Alumni Association initiatives planned. We will expand our professional networking groups to Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Professionals. The Class of 1988, the first class of the reestablished Townsend Harris, will celebrate its 20th reunion. And Julie Chan of the Class of 1988 is currently spearheading the redesign of our website.

ENVOY

Envoy is published by the Townsend Harris Alumni Association. The editors welcome submissions of essays, photos, articles, letters and memorabilia related to Townsend Harris High School at Queens College and its alumni. We also welcome short fiction, creative photography and art work by alumni.

Letters to the editor and other correspondence can be sent to thaa@thaa.org or to: Townsend Harris Alumni Association P.O. Box 20482 New York, New York 10017-0481

Envoy Coordinator Craig L. Slutzkin

Contributors to this edition of *Envoy* include Julie Chan, Sean Gralton, Varsha Ghosh, Gerald P. Halpern, David M. Herszenhorn, Tanya M. Odom, Ted Peck and Craig L. Slutzkin.

Dues for the Alumni Association are specifically used for operating expenses including administering our numerous scholarship programs. Annual dues are just \$10 for the first four years after graduation and \$25 after that. Additional voluntary contributions to support the school and scholarship programs are always welcome.

More information about THAA can be found at www.thaa.org.

2007 dues statements were recently mailed. We encourage you to pay your dues; Dues are specifically used for operating expenses including administering our numerous scholarship programs. Annual dues are just \$10 for the first four years after graduation and \$25 after that. Of course, additional voluntary contributions to support the school and scholarship programs are always welcome.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Envoy and we welcome your comments and suggestions on this or any other aspect of the Alumni Association. We can be contacted via e-mail at president@thaa.org or you can call us at (646) 329-6363.

Best regards,

*Tanya M. Odom '88
Craig L. Slutzkin '91
Co-Presidents*

DRAMATIC GIFT TOPS GREAT YEAR FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FUND RAISING

During the first eleven months of 2007, the Alumni Association fund raising efforts achieved outstanding results. In addition to the generous annual scholarship fund contributions (the Alumni Association provides more than \$110,000 in scholarships to Townsend Harris seniors each year), and the donations which accompanied dues payments, there were some dramatic developments. Early in the year, the Keren Keshet Fund, which was established by the late Sanford C. Bernstein '42, agreed to increase its annual grant for teaching Hebrew from \$20,000 a year to \$25,000 a year.

In September, in response to an appeal, the Jerome Levy Foundation, which was funded by the late Leon Levy '42, wrote these welcome words: "The Trustees of the Jerome Levy Foundation have approved a renewal of its annual grant of \$25,000 to the Townsend Harris Alumni Association, Inc."

In December, the Henry Nias Foundation increased its contribution to \$50,000 for 2007 for annual scholarships.

And certainly the most dramatic of all was the following e-mail message from London: "Leonard Polonsky is proposing to make a gift of 225,000 shares in HSD (Hansard Global PLC, traded on the London Stock Exchange) from the

Polonsky Foundation." For the record, Hansard Global is selling for about \$5.00 a share, which means a gift of significantly more than a million dollars to the Alumni Association to be used to enrich the academic activities, programs and experiences of all Townsend Harris undergraduates — now and in the future.

Thanks to this gift from Leonard Polonsky '43, the Townsend Harris Forever! Fund has passed its goal of raising \$2,000,000 to establish a series mini-funds. The income generated from these mini-funds will provide annual income to various academic, athletic, social and community service projects.

The Board of Directors of the Alumni Association hope that Dr. Polonsky's generous gift will encourage others to recognize that Townsend Harris isn't just another public high school. It is a unique school of excellence with the highest possible standards. Its traditions, and the reputations of its alumni are unmatched by any other public high school in the country.

It is hoped that those in a position to do so will recognize, as Dr. Polonsky has, that supporting Townsend Harris programs and scholarships through gifts or bequests serves, the school, the community, the State and the nation.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TREASURY REPORT

The finances of the Alumni Association continue to be strong. We currently hold over \$1.7 million in cash and investments, and pledged money brings the total to well over \$2.5 million.

The finance committee of the Board of Directors monitors the investment portfolio, which currently consists of a balance of cash, certificates of deposits and balanced mutual funds. The Board of Directors reviews the financial position of the Alumni Association on a monthly basis, and any alumnus may request a report detailing this position.

The largest source of funds continues to be contributions — many of which are for endowments in which only the income is to be expended. During our last fiscal year (September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007), the Alumni Association received \$190,000 of contributions from its members. Membership dues provide much of the source for operating expenses of managing the day-to-day affairs of the organization.

Expenditures include both program and administrative costs; the largest item that we disburse cash for is the many scholarships and awards presented by the Alumni Association each year. In this fiscal year, we have disbursed over \$110,000 in such scholarships and awards. We also provide a significant amount of funding for various programs at the high school, including faculty development, purchase of textbooks, coursework in Hebrew for students and procurement of library equipment. In this fiscal year, we have disbursed over \$50,000 for these items. Administrative expenses include general office expenses, postage and printing for announcements and alumni publications, refreshments for the annual meeting and maintenance of our website, www.thaa.org.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please feel free to contact treasurer@thaa.org.

CAREERS DATABASE NOW ON-LINE!

Looking for a job?

Looking to hire from a top-flight talent pool?

The **Townsend Harris Alumni Association Job Posting** page is back and updated again! This is a unique opportunity to use the Townsend Harris alumni network to pursue your career goals. There are currently postings for a job as an investigator and an administrator listed, and we expect more to come very soon.

You can visit the Job Posting page by visiting us at www.thaa.org. If you wish to post a position — whether it be full time, part time or an internship, please email us at thaa@thaa.org.

We hope that this feature will be useful to the alumni and welcome any suggestions on this and any other services you feel we can provide.

◆ AT THE SCHOOL ◆

AT THE HIGH SCHOOL...

- ◆ **The Ephebic Oath** continues to be the guiding credo for expectations, values and traditions at Townsend Harris. Community service is a strong indicator of the school's commitment to the Ephebic Oath. Last Spring, over 225 students were inducted into Archon, a national honor society whose members perform over 80 hours of community service annually while maintaining high academic standards.
- ◆ Several students and faculty will visit **Greece and Italy** in February, 2008. In Athens, students will see the Sanctuary of Aglaurus, a cave on the north slope of the Acropolis where the Ephebic Oath was first taken over two thousand years ago by young Athenians entering adulthood.
- ◆ According to Department of Education statistics, **Townsend Harris was the most popular, non-specialized public high school in New York City in 2007**. More 8th graders selected Harris as their first choice than any other high school in New York City.
- ◆ **Economics students had outstanding performance** (99.5% passed) on the Wise Financial Literacy Certification test. 16 students scored 95, or higher, and were named Financial Literacy Scholars. Two students achieved perfect scores.
- ◆ Over 430 students participated in this year's **National Latin Examination** and Townsend Harris achieved outstanding results: 158 students achieved Summa Cum Laude; 141 students achieved Maxima Cum Laude; 53 achieved Magna Cum Laude, and 36 achieved Cum Laude. This rigorous examination is taken by more than 134,000 students representing all 50 states and 13 foreign countries. Townsend Harris students' results were better than any other school worldwide.
- ◆ The school's **New York State Regents results** were absolutely impressive with 100% of Townsend Harris students who took the French, Spanish, Japanese and Latin Examinations receiving passing grades.
- ◆ With the mastery of the **Hebrew block print alphabet and script**, beginners are already doing oral and written communication on personal identity items in the target language. Advanced students are accelerating their skills through a very modern text with dialogs, literary and cultural readings, current events and lots of enjoyable activities. They all learned about the recent holidays and are looking forward to the joyous celebration of Chanukah.
- ◆ Townsend Harris dominated the **Quality of Life Competition**, winning two of the top three prizes.
- ◆ Harrisites dominated this year's **International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)**. Each of the students who participated medaled in their event: Markrete Krikorian — 4th place, Chemistry; Bushra Wazed — 3rd place, Animal Behavior; and Ben Aronowicz, Warren Cheng, and Erin Zeqja — 3rd place, Physics. These students competed against 1500 students from 40 countries. All students who compete at ISEF had previously won in their category at regional competitions.
- ◆ The **Robotics program** that started last year is off to a great start — with students capturing medals in the Science Olympiad Robotics NYC regional competition, and placing 9th in the statewide event. Students are planning to enter the First Robotics Competition. The school would appreciate any alumni expertise in robotics, or programming in Java, as we undertake this new venture. In addition, the school is seeking sponsors for this event. For more information, please contact Susan Brustein, Assistant Principal of Science at sbruste@schools.nyc.gov.
- ◆ The school boasts over 100 students this year who are members of **Mu Alpha Theta** — a national math honor society that recognizes the achievement of juniors and seniors with a 93 or better overall math average (and who have finished Math B). These Mu Alpha Theta students volunteer their time once a week to tutor their peers in any math subject during lunch bands or before/after school.
- ◆ On the athletics' front, the **school's teams have had some great victories**, including the girl's swim team being *again* undefeated, the boys' cross country team sophomores taking 1st place in Queens, and the girls' cross country team capturing 1st place in the Mayor's Cup. The PSAL Heisman Award, given each year to the student who is best in his or her athletics field was awarded to four students: Devotia Moore (Cross-Country), Maureen Mc Cluskey (Swimming), Amy Feng (Fencing) and Linda Thai (Handball).
- ◆ In a *U.S. News and World Report* study, Townsend Harris High School was named the **45th best high school in the entire country!**
- ◆ Townsend Harris was the **National Champion of the Youth About Business Summer Business Camp**, the first school from New York to achieve that honor.
- ◆ In the most recent "School Report Card," performed by the NYC Department of Education on all schools, Townsend Harris was one of the few school which **received an "A" rating!**

MESSAGE FROM THOMAS CUNNINGHAM, PRINCIPAL

Dear Alumni:

Welcome to another exciting Fall term at Townsend Harris High School. We have much to celebrate this year. Townsend Harris High School continues to be an academic institution of excellence in New York City and in the country. This year over 700 students are enrolled in AP classes. This past year, once again, our school achieved the highest passing percentage on Regents exams, the highest rate of attendance, and the highest graduation rate of any high school in New York City. I know that you join me in congratulating both our outstanding staff and student body on these achievements.

We have many activities that define our Humanities program at Townsend Harris High School. One of them is the Election Simulation which is of special importance this year because the 2007 Election Simulation will determine who will be the New York State Democratic and Republican representatives at both national nominating conventions this summer. On Founders Day, October 26th, we celebrated and practiced those values that are evident in our community service program and are enshrined in the Ephebic Oath. Students and staff donated food to the needy, and incoming students recited the Ephebic Oath as seniors pass on to them the torch of tradition and community service.

There are several new initiatives underway this year. Thanks to funding provided through the school budget and by our wonderful Alumni and Parent Teacher Associations, our television studio has been restored and is now in even better condition than when the current building opened in 1995. We have received \$150,000 in additional funding to complete our technology upgrade. We wish to acknowledge City Council members James Gennaro, John Liu and David Weprin for their generous support for educational improvements. We know

these improvements will place Townsend Harris High School at the forefront of state-of-the-art educational programs throughout the city.

For the second year, every New York City school is taking part in a Quality Review. The Quality Review ascertains how well schools use data to evaluate students, plan instruction and set goals on the classroom and school levels. Parents, students, teachers and administrators take part in this process. As members of the Townsend Harris community, you should be aware of my instructional focus. This year my instructional priorities are: writing across the curriculum, a focus upon the Essential Elements of Instruction, in particular instructional objectives and enhanced use of technology.

Finally, I would like to mention the outstanding efforts of the PTA and Alumni Association in supporting our educational program. They demonstrate that teamwork, organization, and effort are instrumental in providing quality programs for all students.

I look forward to another rewarding school year and hope to see you at alumni and school events.

Sincerely,

Thomas Cunningham
Principal

The Alumni Association would like to express its appreciation to Tom Cunningham, Principal, Susan Brustein, Namita Dwarka, Ellen Fee, Swan Getting, Lisa Mars, and Janet Solomon, Assistant Principals, and the entire school faculty, for all of their hard work and efforts in making Townsend Harris New York City's #1 high school!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

High School SING! Competition

The 2008 Townsend Harris SING! Competition will take place on each of the evenings of January 24, 25 and 26, 2008 at the high school building in Flushing, Queens. Alumni are welcomed to join in the competition as judges. Please contact Margherita Wischerth, Alumni Administrator, for more details at thaa@thaa.org.

Florida Luncheon and Breakfast

The next annual luncheon of the THAA Florida Chapter will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2008 at the Westchester Golf and Country Club in Boynton Beach, Florida. The lunch will be served at 12:00, noon, following a reception period starting at 11:30 AM, at which hors d'oeuvres and libations will be offered. The chapter's annual Spring breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2008 at Temple Shaarei Shalom in Boynton Beach, Florida. Contact Mort Greene (954-720-5001, email: mortanne75@netzero.net) or Larry Treff (561-731-5880, email: treffl@comcast.net) for further information on either event.

Annual Reunions

The Classes of 1993, 1998 and 2003 will celebrate their 15th, 10th and 5th year reunions on Saturday evening, June 7, 2008. The reunions will be held at the Knitting Factory in downtown Manhattan. Volunteers for the reunion committees are needed. Please contact us at thaa@thaa.org to help plan the festivities!

The Class of 1988 will celebrate its 20th year reunion also on Saturday evening, June 7, 2008. Volunteers should contact the reunion committee at 20yr-reunion@thaa.org for more information.

FIRE Networking Event

The first Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Professionals Networking Cocktail Hour will be held in early 2008. Please check www.thaa.org for updates.



THE DAWN OF A NEW GOVERNMENT

MY PERSONAL ACCOUNT

by Sean Gralton, '88

The evening call to prayer is still drifting across the air. From my rooftop perch, the closest minaret serves to provide perspective for the mountains in the background which ring Kabul.

Kites fly in the air over my head, a reminder that the Taliban are no more — those religious disciples who brought peace as well as terror to Afghanistan, and whose interpretation of Islam could find no room for kites, beardless men, or women's faces.

The neighborhood that I live in, Shash Darak, was the front line during the civil war that decimated Kabul in the 1990's. Nothing much was left here. The military compound that neighbors my house is first being repaired this summer. The bullet pock-marked walls are being smoothed over, the rubble that had been there cleared away in two nights to make way for a new military hospital.

Beyond that compound is the Kabul River, which flowed again recently for the first time in five years, ending a drought which had been the cap to almost three decades of horror for the people of Afghanistan. The more optimistic and philosophically minded might consider this a sign that the new rulers of Afghanistan have acquired the mandate of heaven.

And indeed, there are new rulers in Afghanistan. Last September brought these people the first democratically elected president they have had in decades. This September, Afghans will be electing a new national assembly along with provincial councils. Once these elections are com-

plete, the constitutional government of Afghanistan will be more or less complete, and this will, at least in the legal sense, cease being a nation in transition.

My job is to help midwife the birth of this new government in this ancient land. It is, in some sense at least, a bizarre task. This is a place where the capital city does not have clean drinking water, where home toilets empty onto the sidewalks (for those who can afford sidewalks and toilets), where illiteracy is the norm, and where \$500 a month is an enviable salary.

Some would say that democracy is far down the list of these people's needs. I think not.

Right now, I am the head of the Election Complaints Commission Secretariat, the quasi-judicial body set up to deal with complaints arising out of the electoral process. So far, the Commission has received over 2,500 complaints, many having nothing to do with the electoral process, at least in the legal sense.

A huge number of these complaints have to do with the terror that the complainants say the local warlords, the people who have held the real power in Afghanistan for quite some time, have been inflicting on their fellow citizens. I have seen

pictures of and read descriptions of eyes gouged out, tongues cut, families murdered, rapes, beatings, gun battles with police, drug smuggling, human trafficking, and the list goes on.

The people who do this can get away with their crimes because they are unaccountable to their fellow citizens. Democracy doesn't guarantee good government, but what it does do is make the government accountable to the people.

While it is true that someone who has died of cholera because there is no clean water has no need of democracy, it is also true that someone who has been tortured and murdered by an unaccountable warlord has no need of clean water.

Democracy and accountable government is not something which should be shoved to the back burner because of other social ills; poverty, disease, and illiteracy do not justify taking away a persons



right to choose who will govern, nor does it absolve a person of the duty to do so.

These elections are not the first in which I have been lucky enough to play an important part. I have worked on this year's Iraq elections, several elections in Kosovo, and I have observed elections in Macedonia and Azerbaijan. What is almost uniformly true about all of these elections is the measure of hope that the participants bring to the process. They truly believe that they can change their

While it is true that someone who has died of cholera because there is no clean water has no need of democracy, it is also true that someone who has been tortured and murdered by an unaccountable warlord has no need of clean water.

lives by voting and by participating in the electoral process, something that we in America have seemingly forgotten.

This hope is what makes democracy a superior system. While it may have the flaws of cronyism, corruption, and inefficiency like other systems, there is always the possibility that the people, on their own initiative, can change the system. Like Pandora's Box, inside the box of democracy, hidden away under all the flaws we know are there, unnoticed at the very bottom, is the hope that change can occur, the hope that a people can build a better life for their children and grandchildren. It is my job to help bring this hope to people, and I feel truly privileged to have the opportunity to do it.

Sean Gralton is an international legal, political and electoral consultant. He is a graduate of the Townsend Harris Class of 1988 (the first class of the reestablished school) as well as a graduate of SUNY Albany and the Boston University School of Law.

Annual Meeting, continued from p. 1
brunch of salad, sandwiches and soda was made available. The annual meeting is one of the few times each year that members of both the original and re-opened Townsend Harris High Schools come together in a social setting.

The official Annual Meeting business was conducted quickly and smoothly, and the Directors were elected without dissent. The head of the fund raising program was able to announce a dramatic gift to the Alumni Association of more than a million dollars in stock from Dr. Leonard Polonsky '43.

Philanthropist Eugene M. Lang '34, a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, gave a brief talk about the link between social responsibility and formal education. He reported on the progress that is being made by Project Pericles, a program designed to prepare college students for active participation in a pluralistic society in which citizenship, social responsibility, and community service are inseparable. Next, in a similar vein, there was a panel discussion on the meaning of a Humanities Education in the 21st Century. The panel was led by THAA co-President Tanya

M. Odom '88 and included founding principal Malcolm Largmann, longtime faculty members Harry Rattien and Franco Scardino, *New York Times* reporter David Herszenhorn '90 and NYC Department of Education Chief Family Engagement Officer Martine Guerrier '89. Questions discussed included "How does Townsend Harris maintain its status as the premier Humanities school in the country?", "What tools do today's students need to succeed in the 21st Century?" and "What role can alumni and parents play in a Humanities education?" When the panel discussion was completed, Ms. Odom invited questions from the audience.

This first meeting in Manhattan was successful in every way. It is hoped that if a similar program is undertaken next year, even more younger alumni will attend. Our thanks go to Craig Slutzkin '91 and Tanya Odom '88, co-Presidents of the Alumni Association for the effort, planning and hard work that went into this project. And very special thanks goes to Margherita Wischerth, THHS faculty member and THAA Administrator, for her assistance in organizing this event.

ELECTIONS TO THE ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following Harrisites were elected to the Alumni Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting on October 7:

DIRECTORS

Moira Casey, PTA Representative
Julie Chan, Class of 1988
Thomas Cunningham, Principal
Susan Getting, Assistant Principal,
Humanities
Melissa A. Gibilaro, Class of 1998
Shari Gruber, Class of 1990
Gerald P. Halpern, Class of 1944
David Herszenhorn, Class of 1990
Alicia Hughes, Class of 1991
Malcolm Largmann, Former Principal
Marvin Leiner, Class of 1944
Donna Manion, Class of 1990
Norman Merino, Class of 1938
Tanya M. Odom, Class of 1988
Charles Sigety, Class of 1939
Craig L. Slutzkin, Class of 1991

EMERITUS DIRECTORS

Abraham C. Bein, Class of 1928
Jerome Chazen, Class of 1943
Robert Edelstein, Class of 1934
Saul A. Grossman, Class of 1939
Herbert Z. Kadison, Class of 1935
Morton Lisser, Class of 1938
Samuel Malkin, Class of 1942
Gerald E. Maslon, Class of 1940
Sidney I. Silverman, Class of 1929

◆ CLASS NOTES ◆

1929

Eugene Leiman was an active trial lawyer from 1936 until he was sidelined by ill-health in 2004. He wrote music and lyrics for the City Bar Association Musical Shows from 1947 to 2005. Eugene was an Assistant District Attorney for New York County from 1938 to 1957 and was also an Adjunct Professor of Law at NYU Law School from 1957 to 1979.

Sidney Silverman reports that he is currently engaged in research at the NYU School of Medicine in the Department of Neurology. "My research is in the correlations between gum disease infection and stroke. Another study is in electronic measures of tremor in Parkinson's Disease." In addition, he recently had a book published titled, *Comes the Millennium: It's Still Tough to be Jewish!* He has another book which is being considered by John Hopkins University Press for publication titled *The Tooth of the Matter: Tales of Delusion and Reality*. It describes the case histories of patients referred to me, who were "difficult to treat" during his 50 years of practice. Sidney was also recently awarded a Citation for Outstanding Contributions to the Science and Clinical Care of patients who experienced Traumatic Injury to the Brain. The Award was given by the New York Academy of Traumatic Brain Injury (NYATBI).

1932

Richard Fuld remembers Townsend Harris "with great affection and pride. No school, including college, has ever been blessed with the THHS faculty!" He has been married over 60 years to the same woman, has a daughter who lives in Belfast, Maine with her husband and a son, 60 years old, married to a wonderful lady over 25 years. They have three children – twin girls almost 25 years old and one son, almost 21 years old at Middleburg, VA. Richard's grandson is a great ice hockey player. One of the twins graduated Dartmouth and the other graduated Middlebury. His son graduated the University of Colorado and has been the Chairman of Lehman Brothers since 1996.

Carl Hartman retired from AP-Washington staff in September 2006 after 62 years of service and is now doing book reviews for AP and a little freelancing.

Henry Scheier is an attorney who is "98%" retired.

1933

Jack Landman is now the oldest folk and line dance teacher in the Catskills, having just finished his 56th season with Kutsher's Country Club!

1934

Gene Lang continues involvement in the Alumni Association, having attended the recent Greek and Roman Art exhibit tour at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, sponsored by the Alumni Association as well as being the featured speaker at the recent annual meeting.

1935

Richard Carlton reports that "Right now, my number one activity is playing tennis (age 87!), spending winter in Palm Desert, CA, enjoying good health, social life, great weather, etc., etc. I write a column about every two to three weeks which can be seen on my website: www.TheCarltonViewpointOnline.net."

Marvin Grossman spent 63 years in private practice in NYC at the Medical Arts Building, 57 W 57th Street during which time he also taught part-time at the NYU College of Dentistry for 17 years. He is still in private practice — the last of his classmates to hang up the gloves. Marvin is married with three children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild (and another on the way). "I have had and still have a most wonderful life, and look back with fondness to the days spent at Townsend Harris. If there is one person I would be interested in learning about from my class — it would be Stephan Kraft."

1936

Kenneth Arrow attended City College and then Columbia for graduate study,

receiving a Ph.D. in economics in 1951. He has been on the faculty at Stanford University for most of his career, though he was also a professor at the University of Chicago and at Harvard. His academic work has been mostly in economics but some in operations research. He received the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science in 1972 and the National Medal of Science for 2004. Dr. Arrow is now retired but actively engaged in research and lecturing, as well as participating in learned societies and other good works.

Morton Teicher is a free lance book reviewer and a member of the faculty of Walden University, an on-line university. In June 2006, he attended ceremonies at the University of Toronto to celebrate the 50th anniversary of receiving his PhD in anthropology. He was the first person to be granted a PhD in anthropology at the University of Toronto.

1937

Howard Freiburger is retired, but continues scientific and naval activities at New York Academy of Sciences, Naval Order of the US, Navy League. He is a frequent volunteer worker at Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic.

Nelson Levitt owned and operated a number of furniture stores in the NY area up until 2000. Taught courses in small business development at Baruch College and FIT.

Morton Nadler writes that "It has been 69 eventful years, too much to put into this small box. I have lived on three continents. I'm now writing my memoirs and have actually finished Part I, up to my senior year at THH and a fateful decision I made at age 15 that determined the rest of my life, up to now. The URL is <http://filebox.vt.edu/users/tamps/Morton-Nadler.htm>."

Richard Setlow is still at Brookhaven National Lab in Upton, NY as a tenured staff member working in research on the "Wavelengths in Sunlight that induce Melanomas" and on the "biological effects of heavy, energetic cosmic ray nuclei."

Alfred Sloan is in his 50th year of full-time service at the State University

CLASS NOTES

of New York where he is a Professor of Marketing at the Fashion Institute of Technology, one of SUNY's "glamor campuses". He still has his baseball glove from 1935-1937, and still uses it occasionally! Hurrah for the Crimson & the Gold!

1938

Seymour Beder — After THHS, he received an accounting degree at CCNY (now Baruch), then served as a fighter pilot in the 8th Air Force during World War II. He became a CPA and recently retired from a career as an accountant. He is currently enjoying life in Florida, where he is an active member of the Florida Chapter of the Townsend Harris Alumni Association, and is doing volunteer work for his synagogue.

Samuel Brendler is seeing 1-2 consultations a week (he is a neurosurgeon). He is also in his 4th year of assisting in 8th grade science in middle school of an inner city school system, 1-2 half days per week.

Norman Merino is still an active member of both the Parent Alumni Board of Directors and the Florida chapter.

1939

Herman Chernoff is a retired professor of statistics at Harvard and professor of applied mathematics at MIT. People ask how things have changed since he retired. His answer? "They don't pay me anymore!" He still does research at a somewhat slower pace. His major current interest is in one aspect of data mixing specifically relevant to detecting genes involved in complex diseases.

Morton Klotz has been retired since 1981 after a 30 year career as a chemist, the last 25 of which were spent on exploring high-energy rocket propellants. Since retirement, he has gone back to my first love: photography.

Harold Smith has spent 30 hours a week as a volunteer tutor at elementary schools in poor economic areas since his retirement.

1940

Martin Bruce was busy until age 75 consulting in industry, pursuing private practice and maintaining and publishing

organization devoted to psychological testing and personnel books and forms. His lifelong hobby pursued in travels to 66 countries, with an emphasis on Africa (20 trips). He is an international color slide and print competitor, attaining rank worldwide in pictorial color slides and in nature slides.

Lawrence Cash — At age 82, Larry was appointed Associate Professor at VCA Medical College of Dentistry and at O.D.V. School of Dental Hygiene in order to supervise students at the Red Cross Dental Clinic in Norfolk, VA.

Gerald Maslon has been living in a retirement community (Peconic Landing) north of Greenport on the North Folk of Long Island since 2002. Life is pleasant, the country is beautiful and his health is not too bad. He has started to paint again, for the first time since Art Society days at Townsend Harris!! He would be happy to see any Harris people who can find their way out here.

David Roth is a Senior Fellow, Child Welfare League of America. He was elected as a Pioneer of the National Association of Social Workers, for distinguished long-term service in social work.

Harvey Sabinson has been inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre in ceremonies held at the Kennedy Center. During his 50 year career as a publicist he has represented some of the legendary figures (David Merrick, Cheryl Crawford, Roger Stevens, Alexander Cohen) and productions ("Finian's Rainbow", "Guys and Dolls", "Hello Dolly", "The Fantasticks", "Marat/Sade", "Luther", "Carnival", and ten of Neil Simon's plays starting with "Barefoot in the Park" and ending with "The Sunshine Boys") of the American Theater. As a principal in the public relations firm Salters, Sabinson, and Roskin, he represented such artists as Carol Channing, Barbra Streisand, Hume Cronyn, Jessica Tandy, Jason Robards, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. He joined the League of American Theatres and Producers in 1976 and became its Executive Director in 1982. In 1995, he was honored with a special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement.

1941

David Brainin just returned from Oahu. It was the first visit since 1945-1946 for him, and the first for his wife, Sema, who attended an International Educators' Meeting and was kind enough to bring him along! He keeps active as an arbitrator and mediator, taking time off to enjoy children (5), grandchildren (8) and great-grandchild (1 and another expected) in California, Puerto Rico and points in between.

Anton Hansmann keeps busy trying to keep four computers on-line (iBook-G4, Toshiba 8000, Pentium II, IV — mostly self assembled). He is the webmaster for www.usna/classes/1946 plus database manager.

Peter Norden is currently a professor in the Engineering School of Columbia University in New York City.

Jesse Seligman is a volunteer fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. He is also a volunteer literacy reading partner for a public school and a facilitator for the Prostate Cancer Support Group.

Leon Weiss is now in his eighties and subscribes to the aphorism: "How did I ever find time to work at my profession, considering my current interests?" (Pardon the dangling participial which his THH English mentors would not approve, he reminds us!). His granddaughter, Brook, has been accepted for admission to the University of Pennsylvania (entering 2007).

1942

Howard Bennett just finished his 1,490th song! Howard and his wife, Pauline, celebrated their 55th anniversary on February 11, 2006.

Rolf Hubbe is still researching Mauck's Meeting House in Page County, Virginia, a Union Church of log construction from about 1800 — that is the history of the building, features of its structure, and persons involved in its early history. He is also guiding visitors through the building as a docent for the Page County Heritage Association.

Arnold Ritterband retired from private practice of internal medicine and is now co-medical director of the Schenectady Free Clinic, which with mostly retired

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volunteer physicians, nurses, pharmacists and others provides free medical care for people without health insurance.

Ted Peck continues his active involvement with the Alumni Association, contributing to event planning and fundraising efforts. He recently traveled to Thailand to see his son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

James Selonick is unfortunately dealing with mesothelioma and a hip replacement but very happy with his standard poodle. He has had him for nearly 1 1/2 years but they are buddies.

1943

Richard Amelar was the recipient of the 1999 Distinguished Andrologist Award of the American Society of Andrology, for his leadership and contributions to the progress of Andrology. His clinical research began in 1958 with studies on patients with congenital absence of the vasa deferentia and seminal vesicles, determining that their semen lacked fructose and failed to coagulate upon ejaculation. He has made several contributions to the understanding of male infertility, and is known for his publications on sperm and semen analysis, the diagnosis and surgery of varicoceles and congenital anomalies of the male reproductive tract, and studies which laid the foundation of knowledge for assisted reproductive technology methods in the treatment of infertility. He has lectured extensively and has authored numerous books, book chapters, and articles. Besides teaching, his current interests are in the field of Public Health, serving as an Expert Consultant to the New York State Department of Health.

Irving Hirschberg is doing community service, including tutoring. He is playing golf and tennis, and also is writing poetry.

Joseph Kesselman — Since his retirement a few years ago as CEO of a public company, he has continued to serve on the boards of several companies, both public and non-public, in the United States and abroad. He has been married for 52 years, has three married daughters, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He would be pleased to hear from any of his classmates: meemtoo@aol.com.

Maurice Laszlo is a cardiologist at Primitikin Longevity Institute in Aventura, FL — still working part time and loving it!

Stuart Simel writes that “As I approach my 80th birthday, I begin to wonder what can be said at my funeral as to what I did to make this a better world than when I entered it. In the interim, I am enjoying playing duplicate bridge, tennis, theatre, Florida in the wintertime, and the companionship of a breathtakingly beautiful woman.”

1944

Seymour Evans is now a permanent resident of Arizona and wants to know if any other alumni are in the Phoenix area.

Gerald Halpern recently retired from his practice after a long and distinguished career in law. He and his wife Carol recently traveled to Australia. Jerry and Carol live in Great Neck, New York.

1988

Rogelio Alvarez is still in the Navy as the Executive Officer onboard a Guided Missile Frigate in Mayport, Florida.

Elizabeth (Bulla) Castelli reports that she is a stay-at-home with 4 children; 3 boys and 1 girl, ages 2 thru 11.

Julie Chan recently joined the Commercial Real Estate Practice of CIT in New York City. She continues as the THAA Vice-President as well.

Karen (Vandenburg) Curzio works at Ernst & Young. She has been married to James Curzio since 2000 and has three children.

Nicolle Dabbs is an AIDS certified registered nurse in the division of Infectious Diseases Division at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset. She has worked there for the past six years.

Love Foy started teaching high school English in Brooklyn at Prospect Heights. She then transferred to Brandeis High School and taught English there for 8 years. She left that to become a staff developer in the Bronx and now is working at the district/regional level. “I have a daughter named Thandiwe. We call her Thandie for short! She is 5 years old.”

Varsha Ghosh, after college, participated in VISTA and Peace Corps and

went to graduate school. She still travels a lot and works in community health and youth development in Boston. She says that she is lucky enough to be still in touch with many friends from high school and looks forward to the next reunion.

Lisa (DeMairo) DeLange — After finishing various degrees in English Literature, Culinary Arts, Restaurant Management, Food Studies and finally back at QC in Library Science, Lisa is now a Young Adults' Librarian in Rye, NY (www.ryelibrary.org), reading and buying books for a living, suggesting to impressionable middle and high schoolers what books to read and what movies to watch, maintaining the library's website and my own, and having fun!

Kevin Kim is a partner in a law firm and also serves as an aide to U.S. Congressman Gary Ackerman. Kevin recently was the keynote speaker at the Townsend Harris High School Founders' Day ceremony.

Daniel Lew resides in Minneapolis, got married in 2004, and is now the managing attorney for public defender services in Northeastern Minnesota.

Tanya M. Odom continues to work as a diversity and inclusion consultant and coach, as well as continues to work in schools and not for profits. She was recently profiled in *New Visions* and *Business Magazine*. “On the side,” she serves as the co-president of the Alumni Association. She is also now on the Board of the Vassar College Alumni Association. She resides in Manhattan.

Cheryl (Schustack) Smith is married with one daughter. She has a doctorate in organizational psychology.

1989

Lisa (Feintuch) Brodsky relocated to Massachusetts in 2004 where she currently lives and works. She is still teaching and would like to go back to school at some point to finish her doctorate. She hopes everyone is well and says hello to Elliott Roman, Corey Ackerman, Ian Madover, Heather Wacht, Esther Soffer and the classes of 1988 and 1989!

Catherine Cadette has been living in London for five years. I married an Englishman. She has been working at J.P.

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Morgan, managing communications in Europe, and has been rebuilding a very old and very leaky sailboat on the weekends.

Sean Davis currently resides in Bowie, Maryland and is in the process of finishing his doctoral degree in education at George Washington University. He started his own mental health clinic for children four years ago and it is doing well. He has been married for nine years and has a five year old daughter.

Adrienne Valencia Garcia is a senior attorney at IBM and got married to Jaime Garcia, a music producer and deejay, on October 1, 2005.

Anita (Zieba-Irizarry) Graham received her BS in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell and MBA in Finance from NYU; she has been working the last 13 years in human resources. She is currently working as a Human Resources executive in the pharmaceutical industry.

Cory Harris is currently working as a managing editor for a trade publication called Military Club Camp.

Jennifer (Snyder) Latner is currently an in-house attorney for an insurance company, working part time. Along with her husband Ted, she welcomed son Sam in December of 2004. She resides in Port Washington, New York.

Eileen Gunn recently published *Your Career Is An Extreme Sport*, published by Adams Media. She is still freelance writing, living in Brooklyn with her husband, and traveling as much as possible.

Renata Kobetts Miller recently published her first book, Recent Reinterpretations of Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde: Why and How This Novel Continues to Affect Us*.

Stephanie (Epstein) Ralton has been taking care of her daughter, Melli. Along with her husband, she resides in Great Neck, New York.

Steven Torres reports: "Life is good for me and my family. I am pastoring two churches in Upstate New York. My wife Deborah and I now have two children. We have a daughter Grace who was born in November of 2004 and our son Noah who was born in February of 2006. I graduated from Queens College in 1994 and after several years of floating around with no direction God found me and called me to ministry. I received my Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University Theologi-

cal Seminary in December of 2003 and have been pastoring since that time."

1990

Lisa Antinore-Duer writes that she is "on maternity leave from my junior high school ESL position with the Board of Derr Ed... Did I say that? These days I'm raising my scrumptious 2.5 year old, Michael Jude, with my husband, attorney Paul Duer in beautiful North Flushing in a funky, old restored Tudor, teaching SSSAT/SAT English prep and general advanced English enrichment to about 30 brilliant students each week in the comfort of my kitchen (many of whom end up at our alma mater looking for the passionate teachers I've recalled time and again), traveling the world, reading voraciously, learning languages (Mandarin and Urdu are my two newest challenges) writing about food and adventures, meeting wonderful people, and in short appreciating my many blessings. Life is beautiful!"

Jeffrey Cohen graduated from Kellogg with an MBA and has moved back to Boston. He is currently an associate at McKinsey & Company, the management consulting firm.

After graduating Baruch College, **Sera Congi** worked as a reporter and anchor at WCAX in Burlington, Vermont. Since April 2005, she has been a reporter for WBZ in Boston, Massachusetts.

David Herszenhorn continues as THAA co-Chairman and has relocated with his wife, Christina Pan Marshall '90 to Washington, D.C. with their two sons, Miles and Isaac. David now covers the U.S. Congress for the New York Times while Christina continues to practice law.

Scott Kossove was recently made a partner in the law firm, L'Abbate, Balkan, Colavita & Contini, LLP, where he is a litigator, primarily representing lawyers, accountants and directors and officers.

Donna Manion is now the THAA Secretary. She recently joined the law firm DLA Piper as the Legal Recruiting Manager.

David Mattis just moved to Los Angeles to continue working with Circle of Confusion, managing screenwriters and directors.

David Nelson and his wife Lisa have two children — Jessica Hailey and Jack

Samuel. The family lives in New City, New York.

Wladyslaw (Vava) Rocznik received a Bachelor's Degree in History and in Philosophy and Masters in Philosophy from Queens College, and a Masters in History and a Ph.D in History from the Graduate Center, CUNY. Vava spent eight years teaching history as an adjunct at Queens College while working on a Ph.D dissertation, and now, for the past two years, has been an Assistant Professor at Bronx Community College, CUNY.

Kirsten Rodenbeck-Kennedy writes that she has been busy being a mom. Her THHS English classes have come in handy, as a few humorous articles about her experiences have been published in her local paper — www.themamadiaries.blogspot.com. "West Point was nothing compared to parenthood. Hope all is well with my fellow Harrisites...and Girls Volleyball is still #1!!!"

Taffy Lab founder **David Stone** has experience writing commercial tracks and collaborating on spots and remixes for the likes of MTV, VH-1, Tommy Hilfiger, Jennifer Lopez, Donna Summer, Etta James, In Demand, Reebok, Columbia University and the Magnolia Pictures award-winning film "Control Room". His experience as a pianist, drummer, clarinetist and alto and tenor saxophone player bring an unmistakable musicality to the commercial world. David also has live performance, composition and recording experience with former Profile/Another Planet artists, The Insteps. His first work composing was scoring the feature-length independent film "3rd On A Match". From sound design to full scoring projects and everything in between, his philosophy of "there is validity in all forms of music" and his love of music in all its permutations is clearly audible in every track he writes.

1991

Natashi (Pino) Anthony is married with four children, three boys and a girl, and resides in Fairfax, Virginia. Three out of her four children are in Gifted and Talented programs in their schools. She is an office assistant in her daughter's elementary school and has been for the last five years. She would love to get in touch with Nan-

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dita Mathur, Nisha Chopra, Margaret Kasahara, Inga Laino, Jessica Rodriguez, Tasha Bailey and Elena Murray. "Please email me at Natashi.Anthony@fcps.edu!"

Kathleen Critharis-Carras has started a PhD on urban science education.

Michael Detweiler is currently deployed to "Southwest Asia" providing psychological support to Operation Iraqi/Enduring Freedom. He is currently the sole member of the Persian Gulf Townsend Harris Alumni Association Chapter, as far as he knows.

Justine Eisenstein got married in May 2006.

Marissa Gluck reports that "After working in advertising and research in New York for seven years, I left in 2002 to go to graduate school at the London School of Economics and the University of Southern California." She now resides in Los Angeles and has started her own custom research and consulting company: Radar Research.

Craig Slutzkin is the Chief Financial Officer of New Leaf Venture Partners, a healthcare technology venture capital firm based in New York that manages over \$1.3 billion in assets. He has also been the co-president of the Alumni Association for three years. Craig resides in Manhattan.

Keith Wilken married **Melanie Eichelbaum**, Class of '91 after high school. They have a son, Kieran Scott. They are now living in Seaford, LI.

Jung Yueh got married in 2005, and resides in Iowa City, IA since 2006.

1992

Lauren Caiaccia went back to school at none other than Queens College. She is getting state certified to teach physical education and is coaching volleyball at City College.

Bari Schultz Evola and her husband welcomed their first child, Enzo Anthony, in January 2007.

Adrienne Donovan Kraus and her husband David welcomed their first child, a baby boy named Dylan Donovan Kraus on November 22, 2005.

Melanie Nappi got married on September 23, 2005 to Daniel Buckley. She is currently working for CVS as a Supervising Pharmacist in Forest Hills, N.Y.

David Park returned from a year long deployment to Babil Province, Iraq. He conducted over 50 combat patrols and four raids as a company commander in charge of 150 Army combat troops. David returned to Iraq in October of 2007.

Shari and **Jason Nocera** have two daughters – Sydney and Sophia. They reside in Long Island, New York.

Dien Taylor reports that "Susan Appel, my biology teacher and wonderful Assistant Principal for Science, Music and Art, tutors young people in my parish's Homework Help Tutorial Ministry. We are still laughing...no surprises there. It's wonderful to have Mrs. Appel around. In other news, I recently returned from Finland as the main speaker for an international Lutheran Youth Gathering in Turku."

1993

Christine Benedetto was married to Justin Brown and now resides in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is an attorney for National City Bank.

Stephen Dackson has been working as an assistant editor at Dateline NBC in New York City for the past two years. He has also created five video pieces in the last year for an art installation in Los Angeles. His screenwriting career also received a boost when his script, *The Brane Universe*, placed in the semi-finals, top 50 out of over 2,000 entries, at the Slamdance Screenplay Competition.

Jaime Edrosa lives in the Reno, Nevada area and really likes it out here. The weather is great, the mountains are awesome, and Lake Tahoe is great.

Danielle (Tropea) Friedland and her husband welcomed their daughter Anya Lucia into the world on October 14, 2005. Danielle left her job at Avon Products to stay home with Anya but since then her website, *The Celebrity Baby Blog* (www.celebrity-babies.com), has been so successful that she runs it full-time in addition to caring for Anya at home. She just incorporated and can put "President" on her business card! "It's a crazy, hectic life but I love it! I started a mother's group in Forest Hills — we now have over 20 moms and meet every Thursday. I haven't seen my old gang for a long time but I know that Alexis Vega Singer just gave her daughter a brother and that Marni

Sussman's little sister graduated from my alma mater, Hampshire College. Through my mom's group, I met Michelle Agin (nee Bilbao). Small world!"

Samantha (Graber) Hawson married Ron in 2002 and is living in Westchester, New York. Samantha finished all of her actuarial exams in 2003 and is now a full-fledged Fellow of the Society of Actuaries. She had a baby boy named Brandon Joshua Hawson in March 2007.

Michelle (Brandoff) Hecht met her husband on the popular www.jdate.com website in 1999 and was married in 2004. They have a baby boy, Jordan, who was born in November 2005 and according to mother, is gorgeous! Michelle has been in pharmaceutical sales for years now, concentrating on treatment for heart diseases and heart attack prevention, if possible. She currently resides in Bayside, New York.

Ya-Ching Liu is still working at Hewitt Associates and also teaches ballroom dance at Ballroom Dance Sport in Southport, CT in the evenings. "I have not competed professionally for a year so if there are any guys out there needed a partner, look me up!"

Laarni (Mateo) Hazel works in the Advisory Services group of PriceWaterhouseCoopers. She currently resides in Brooklyn, New York with her husband Andre and two year old daughter Lailah Drea.

Melissa Rothchild completed the Columbia University MBA Program in 2006.

Stephanie (Strajchter) Schaefer left a career in construction project management to become a Social Studies teacher. She currently teaches 7th and 8th grade at The Young Women's Leadership School of Queens, a single-sex public school in Jamaica, Queens. She is also the proud mom of an almost 5 year old son, Jacob.

Adisai Sirisinha returned to her home in Bangkok, Thailand. She attended university in Bangkok and is currently working for Ford Thailand as Product Planning Manager.

1994

Aleema Bachus-Hosein will be celebrating her 8th anniversary this July. She and her husband, Saleem, have two

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girls and a boy, and recently bought a house in Long Island.

Jennifer Chand and her husband own a small, cozy, hip, thriving coffee shop in a burgeoning neighborhood of artists and bohemians in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Owning her own business has been such an exciting journey. She says, "It's great to be part of such an interesting and creative community. Potion (the name of the cafe) just celebrated its first anniversary. And speaking of anniversaries, my husband and I just celebrated our 6 month anniversary. If any of you are in the neighborhood, please stop by for a cup of coffee."

Betty Chu recently switched careers. After seven years of teaching second-grade in Chelsea, she is now working full-time as an Event Planner at Harvard Business School. She continues to teach part-time at the Museum of Science in the evenings.

David Eber and wife Stacy had their first child, Mason Charles Eber, in January 2007, weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces. David and his family live in Pittsburgh, PA. David works for Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz School of Public Policy and Management as the Director of Admissions.

Stephanie (Bernstein) Nelson is living in Huntington, New York, with her husband, Christopher. She has been teaching English at Herricks High School for seven years and has taken on the daunting (and often rewarding) task of newspaper advisor. She saw Dr. Largmann at a party in December 2006, which was very nice!

Jennifer (Nitka) Perri is working as a special educator and a mother to a beautiful son, Jack.

Susan Stewart continues her double life as a professional actor and book publicist. In 2005, she played a bridesmaid in a national Verizon commercial, and also originated a role at the Cherry Lane Theatre. She appears in the new music video at www.aaronhillandthecrimson-guard.com, and is currently promoting authors Joe Conason, Kevin Phillips, and Barbara Stanny.

Teresa Tse graduated from UCLA Anderson with an MBA is now an Investment Banking Associate at JPMorgan Chase.

Anna (Schinco) Walters is raising her 5-year-old daughter Kaitlyn who started

kindergarten in September and loving every minute of it!

1995

Bonnie Levis Aronowitz — I live in southern Vermont with my husband, Oliver, and my one-year-old son, Gavriel. We spend our time taking care of our cow and chickens, and the guests at our holistic retreat. You can see photos of us and find out what we're up to at www.teleionholon.com.

Kelly Vilella Canton got married in September 2004. Along with her husband, John, she bought an apartment in Douglaston, New York. She is Acquisitions Editor, Curriculum and Instruction at Allyn & Bacon.

Seth Cohen is currently a litigation attorney with Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe LLP in Manhattan. Before joining Orrick, Seth was a summer associate in the New York office in 2004, and a summer law clerk to the Honorable Nina Gershon in the Eastern District of New York in 2003. Seth is also co-founder and vice president of NightFunk.com, a nationally recognized online entertainment guide for college students, from 1998-2000. Before his legal career, Seth served as an associate producer at ABCNews in New York from 2000-2002, researching and writing content for ABCNews.com and Good Morning America's website. Seth also was the lead singer and lyricist of two rock bands, one of which, *Who's Confused*, released its debut album in May 2005.

Miguel DaSilva married his college sweetheart Michelle in July 2005 to Michelle Teixeira. He reports that he is still in touch with Nancy Torres '95.

Jasmine Flores works in Chinatown at a non-profit Chinese ministry called Chinese Christian Herald Crusades.

Anthony Kunjbehari currently works as a Business Analyst/Relationship Manager for a software firm in Syracuse, New York.

Matthew Soran graduated from Brooklyn Law School in June 2005 and is an Associate in the New York office of O'Melveny and Myers.

Michael Stein got married in January, 2005, separated from the Navy after five years of service in the nuclear propulsion program and moved to Bellmore, New York with his wife and two dogs.

Florence Wasserman has been teaching pre-K at a private preschool in Manhattan while slowly but surely working towards a master's degree in early childhood education.

1996

Jessica Gazsy graduated from Brown University in 2000, married her college sweetheart in 2003 and graduated from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in 2004. She is performing a combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Nancy (Manzillo) Pierdipino received her MA in Marriage and Family Therapy from Hofstra University. She sees clients and is working toward her New York State MFT License. Nancy got married in October 2006 to Salvatore Pierdipino, bought a home in Howard Beach and is hoping to get in touch with Stella Apostolidis.

Kristy Sottolano reports that "After working in Broadway advertising and publishing (DC Comics) for three years, I switched gears and went back to school. I'm expecting to graduate with my M.S. in Childhood Education in December 2006, and I'm currently very happy teaching in a private school. I recently moved to Forest Hills, where I'm living with my boyfriend, a freelance and comic book artist for DC Comics."

Louvere Walker resides in Boston, Massachusetts and works as a Training Engineer (this job is a Trainer/Consultant position) for the MathWorks, Inc.

1997

Ilana (Yagudaev) Aranbaev is married, has two kids and is currently practicing as a Pediatric Physical Therapist.

Michael Garber has had a bunch of amazing experiences since graduating, everything from being a waiter at Planet Hollywood Times Square, to working for WXRK 92.3 FM K-ROCK Radio. After transferring from Clark University, he landed himself in a Neuroscience/Cell Biology program at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. After doing research on transgenic mice in exploration of cell cycle control mechanisms in the central nervous system, he ended up working for Bellevue

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Hospital Center as a coordinator and educator in a Bioterrorism Preparedness course.

Wendy Monterosso married her college sweetheart and is now a Staff Hydrogeologist.

Jerome Sherman is the Washington, D.C. correspondent for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

1998

Chanda (Casas) Delgado graduated from Marymount College in 2002 with a BS in Business Administration. She is currently a clinical trials coordinator in the department of Neurology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Chanda tells us that she was married to a wonderful man, Joel Delgado, last year and is currently going for a degree in Nursing.

Kimberly Finneran is in her fifth year of teaching Social Studies, and is now at a middle school in Huntington, NY.

Melissa Gibilaro graduated from St. John's in 2002 with a BA in Psychology and did the job hop as a substitute teacher, counselor for homeless youth at Covenant House and then Volunteer Liaison at Covenant House. Now, she is back at St. John's working in the Office of Campus Ministry on the Staten Island campus...yes — the other borough.

Melissa tells us that "I try to keep my sanity by volunteering as a youth minister in my parish, Chapter Advisor for Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority – Beta Omega Chapter, Northeast Youth Representative for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and member of the THAA Board of Directors, among other things. My love for DMB hasn't faded — and the summer of '07 plans to have me hit up shows #26, 27 and 28. Oh, sweet outdoor concerts!"

Daniel Gold is currently a resident in Internal Medicine at the North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y.

Eleanor Hynes is an associate at Goodwin Procter LLP in Washington, D.C., focusing on intellectual property law.

Erika (Zwetkow) Larkin was married April 1, 2005 to Mike Larkin. She became a Class A PGA Golf Professional in September 2006 after 3 years of certification and education and is currently teaching golf at a private country club in Fairfax, VA. She is publishing a new website:

www.larkingolf.com and tells us that she still keeps in touch with the "Barbies" from THHS ('94-'98).

Natalka (Palczynski) Roumeliotis was married on July 29, 2006 to her college sweetheart, John Roumeliotis. She continues to work in finance at J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Midtown Manhattan.

Nicole Strippoli is an associate with the law firm of Wein, Young, Fenton & Kelsey handling all aspects of law with a specialty in real estate and trusts.

Linda Sulsona graduated magna cum laude with a B.B.A. in Advertising and Sales Promotion, and finished her M.B.A. concentrating in Marketing. She works at Valassis in metro Detroit working with research data/census info/demographics to define target audiences for client advertising promotions.

1999

Erin Buscemi has been living in Chicago and working a residential treatment facility for adolescents with severe behavioral problems since 2003. She earned a Master's Degree in Social Work in 2006.

Amy Chan-Daniels recently completed her doctoral degree in Biomedical Engineering; Biotechnology, and is currently a post-doc at The University of Massachusetts at Lowell, working on Alzheimer's therapeutics. She got married in May 2007. Amy and husband reside in Tewksbury, MA.

Marla (Diamond) Lemonik is happily married and living on the Upper West Side in Manhattan. She started another company — Calm Kallahs LLC and loves being a wedding planner!

Nancy Luo works in merchandising at Ann Taylor Stores doing what she says she likes to do best: buying clothes.

Regina Marasia resides in Connecticut and works with Verizon Wireless.

Maggie Yuan recently celebrated her one-year anniversary with her husband, Clifton Lin, on June 17. She is still in school, having just finished her third year in human development and psychology at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her research is on sleeping habits of early adolescents and risk factors associated with poor sleeping behavior. Maggie and Clifton just bought their first home in Arlington, MA. She is looking forward to

hearing from old classmates of graduating class of '99!

2000

Paul Bruno attended the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan to study painting but then switched his major to graphic design. During his third year, while working at an art gallery, he was offered a great job with Playboy Enterprises as a product designer and decided to take it. He worked at *Playboy* for almost two years and then got a job as a designer at *Star Magazine*. He worked at *Star* for a little over a year when he was offered the position of *Associate Art Director* for Seventeen. He accepted, but in his absence, *Star* realized what a loss they were dealing with, and counter-offered in a way that he could not refuse! So now he is back at *Star* as *Associate Art Director*.

Ramon Gallegos has been working at Goldman Sachs as a Financial Analyst. He is hoping to retire at 40 and start getting enough sleep!

Simona Polyakov earned a bachelor's degree in Business from Stony Brook University. She recently started law school.

Donna Wasserman graduated summa cum laude from Hofstra University with a BBA in Finance in May 2004. She has been working at Estee Lauder for the past two years (she also interned in the finance department there during her senior year). She is currently working in the corporate financial planning department as a financial analyst. She is currently enrolled in the company's on-site MBA program through Hofstra and is expecting to complete her MBA in May 2008.

2001

Danielle Carlino graduated from Queens College June 2005 with a B.A. in Urban Studies. She is currently attending Queens College MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching) Graduate Program and is working full time at a publishing company in Long Island City, New York.

Vivian Intermont worked as a paralegal at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Alice Iosifescu is in medical school at Mount Sinai. She had previously graduated from Columbia University.

CLASS NOTES

Asha Rhodes teaches dance at the Pierrepont School in Westport, CT, and is a dancer in the Jamal Jackson Dance Company.

Sachindeep Singh graduated from Stony Brook University with a double major in Economics and Business Management. Sachindeep is currently working at Goldman Sachs as a Financial Analyst in the Securities Team of the Management Controls Department.

Sara Tilitz is a paralegal and aspiring law student.

2002

Rosa Celeste graduated Pace University in three years and then went straight to law school. She attends Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida.

Marisa Cohen graduated from Cornell University in May 2006 and started her studies as a PhD student in Educational Psychology at the CUNY Graduate Center. During the Fall, 2007, she will be instructing two undergraduate psychology courses at Hunter College.

Anton De Pasquale is attending Polytechnic University as a graduate student for a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

Jennifer Fernandez graduated from Yale last May and completed the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs.

2003

Steven Torem completed his BA in psychology from Binghamton University and is now getting ready to begin graduate school at St. John's University School of Law. Although his high school friends might be surprised to discover that medical school was not in the books for him, they will be reassured to know that he is still working and volunteering as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician.

2004

Aida Branez has been an honors student at SUNY Albany, expecting to graduate a year early. She is double majoring in Political Science and Japanese Studies. Aida finished her second study abroad in Japan as well as visited Thailand.

Dhanwanti Doma started the Nursing Program at the Hunter-Bellevue School

of Nursing. She reports, "It is such an amazing program. It challenges me every day and encourages me to become a compassionate and learned individual. I get to spend seven hours a week at a hospital interacting with the patients and incorporating the skills I learned in the classroom. It's such an exciting opportunity!"

Shanay Freeman has interned at the Brooklyn District Attorney's office in the juvenile crimes department and plans on going to law school. She is a Forensic Psychology Major with a minor in Criminal Justice. She is also a member of the Women's Basketball Team at her college.

2005

Matthew Aglialoro is currently studying abroad in Vienna.

Raquel Albarracin continues her studies at Hunter College. Her ultimate goal is getting her PhD in Psychology.

Anthony Diehm is attending Polytechnic University and is a civil engineering major.

Catherine Durante is attending Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, PA. She has decided to be a math major and also concentrate on pre-dental. She plans to go to the University of Pennsylvania dental school.

Kimberly Go attends Barnard College, majoring in East Asian studies. She went to Beijing, China for a language acquisition program with Columbia University. She plans to study abroad again, this time in Melbourne, Australia.

Brian Na has been an undergraduate at Harvard College. As a history and science major, he would like to go onto medical school. He writes, "I value my Harris education everyday; it has taught me time management, critical thinking and writing really great papers!"

2006

Amber Samalot received the JP Morgan Chase Thomas G. Labrecque Smart Start Scholarship. She has also been a full time JP Morgan intern.

Maryam Sultan — During the summer after her graduation from Townsend Harris, she worked at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, continuing scientific research on the genetic causes of autism.

FACULTY

Michael Anzel has been busy as an attorney, adjunct at Nassau Community College, and this fall at C.W. Post. He recently attended an Alumni Association event at the Metropolitan Museum of Art during the summer.

Lawrence Ceraulo, athletics instructor, has been playing tennis at least four times a week, golf and plays poker once a week. He won the Martin county and Florida State doubles tournament (ages 50-54) in 2004. In 2005, he won the county doubles tournament (ages 55-59) and the county singles tournament (50-54 and 55-59). Mr. Ceraulo currently works part-time at Indian River Community College in Stuart. He works in the Assessment Center, proctoring all the on-line exams, pre-admission and final examinations. He tells us that he has made many new friends and stays busy and plays... a lot! He truly enjoys retirement but does miss his friends and colleagues at THHS.

Saul Cohen continues as a member of the State Board of Regents to encourage other schools to achieve the excellence attained by Townsend Harris.

Sondra Eiseman is now retired and living in Florida, but just for the winter months. She plays lots of tennis, a little golf and goes to concerts, plays and book reviews.

Malcom G. Largmann, Harry Rattien and **Franco Scardino** were panelists at the annual meeting (see page 1).

Anthony Morales, former art instructor, currently studies civil engineering courses at Nassau Community College and also freelances in architectural design and construction. His objectives are to complete a master's degree of architecture and to become a certified architect.

Myron Moskowitz recently attended the 2007 Founders Day ceremony at the high school.

◆ OBITUARIES ◆

Over the past two years, Townsend Harris lost many members of its alumni family. Our Florida chapter lost four longtime Board members — Al Feld '40, Harold Jaffa '40, Norman Packer '35 and Henry Scheier '32.

Below find obituaries of a few of our fellow classmates and friends:

David Aronoff, 81, Class of 1942

By Ted Peck '42

The first name in April 5th's *New York Times* obituary list is my classmate and friend David Aronoff '42. He died of cancer on April 4th. Dave was a remarkable guy, probably the finest swimmer to ever attend Townsend Harris, and still playing tennis at 81. Although he was a so-so student in his Harris days, he became a true intellectual in his later years. He continued to take college courses until the very end of his life, expanding his mind and satisfying his curiosity. It always impressed me that he studied Italian so that he could read Italian literature in its original form. It didn't seem pretentious or artificial when he mentioned to me one day how much he enjoyed reading Ovid's poetry. (In translation, in this case.)

Dave was personable, kind, generous and thoughtful — a straight talker who spoke from the heart but was careful not to offend. A very private person, I don't know if he had any very close friends, but I know I cherished him as a dear friend. At our 1942 Commencement ceremonies, Dave was awarded two medals relating to strength of character. They sure had that right.



Louis Elbaum, 95, Class of 1928

Louis Elbaum, a New York businessman, passed away in Miami, FL, Tuesday October 23, 2007, at the age of 95. Mr. Elbaum was born in New York City, where he attended Townsend Harris High School and New York City College. He received his JD degree from Brooklyn Law School and was admitted to the New York Bar in 1941. During World War II, Mr. Elbaum served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an instructor in radio mechanics. He married Esther Hianny,

of Milwaukee, in 1944. Mr. Elbaum was the proprietor of Nelson's Embroidery, a business specializing in custom quilts and embroidery. He was a life member of Friends of Na'amat.



Edward Hall, 91, Class of 1931

Col. Edward N. Hall, an engineer who as an intelligence officer scrutinized the V-2 rockets of Nazi Germany and went on to supervise programs leading to the development of the United States' intercontinental ballistic missiles, including the Minuteman, died on Jan. 15, 2006 in Torrance, Calif. He was 91.

As relations with the Soviet Union rapidly deteriorated after World War II, fears surged in the American military that the Russians were gaining superiority in missile technology. As hundreds of millions of dollars were poured into a crash program to jump-start the American effort, Colonel Hall emerged as a technical leader, particularly in the rush to develop rockets using solid, not liquid fuel.

His result was the Minuteman, the first 10 of which were installed in nearly impregnable underground silos in October 1962 during the Cuban missile crisis. Ultimately 1,000 were positioned in hidden locations in the Midwest.

In 1999, J. D. Hunley, an Air Force historian, wrote that even considering the technical complexity of weapons programs, where assigning individual credit is exceedingly difficult, Colonel Hall was "pivotal to the development" of the missile.

At the time of the Minuteman project, Colonel Hall had already led development of some of the principal liquid-fuel missiles, the Atlas, Titan and Thor.

Edward Nathaniel Hall was born in Forest Hills, Queens, on Aug. 4, 1914. He was the son of a furrier who went bankrupt in the Depression, but he was able to attend the City College of New York, which was then free, where he earned undergraduate and master's degrees in chemical engineering. Later, while in the Air Force, he earned a master's degree in aeronautical engineering (propulsion option) from the California Institute of Technology.

In September 1939, as war was beginning in Europe, he joined the Army Air Corps as an enlisted man. He was sent to England to repair Boeing B-17 bombers and Martin B-24's, both used in the bombing of Germany. In 1943, as a captain, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, an unusual award for a junior officer, for devising a way to repair a bomber's fuselage rapidly.

His introduction to missiles came near the end of the war, when he was assigned to acquire intelligence on Germany's wartime propulsion work. He analyzed parts recovered from exploded V-2 rockets or retrieved by spies.

At war's end, he led a group to Germany to study underground missile assembly facilities at Camp Dora. He assisted in the division of captured missile equipment between England and the United States.

After a second European tour, he was stationed at what is now Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio to work on a variety of rockets, including the Bomarc, Navaho, Snark, Rascal and Falcon. In 1951, he was a leading instigator of what became the Atlas program.

From November 1953 to February 1954, Colonel Hall served as Wright's representative at meetings of the Air Force group, overseeing ICBM development, popularly known as the Teapot Committee. In August 1954, he moved to Los Angeles.

He retired in 1959, and the next year won a second Legion of Merit. He worked for the United Aircraft Corporation and several other firms, and in 1999 was elected to the Air Force Space and Missile Hall of Fame.

In addition to his daughter, who lives in Calabasas, Calif., Colonel Hall was survived by his wife of 62 years, the former Edith Shawcross, and his sons, David, of La Crescenta, Calif., and Jonathan, of Kendall Park, N.J.



Monroe Inker, 80, Class of 1942

From the *Boston Herald*, Tuesday, April 18, 2006:

Monroe Inker of Newton, a lawyer, teacher and author, died Saturday of

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heart failure at his home. He was 80.

Born in Boston, Mr. Inker grew up in Brighton Beach, N.Y., where he attended Townsend Harris High School. He later attended Harvard Law School on the GI Bill.

He began his law career as a criminal defense lawyer before moving into family law in the 1960s. His advocacy for women's rights and child welfare led to the passage of no-fault divorce and equitable division of marital assets statute in 1975.

As a young man, Mr. Inker taught at Harvard and Northeastern University Law School. Later, he taught at Boston College and Suffolk Law School. He and Charles Kindregan co-wrote the four-volume Massachusetts Practice Books on Family Law, now in its fourth edition. He also co-wrote an annual paperback on domestic relations rules.

Mr. Inker was survived by his wife of 46 years, Elaine; two daughters, Lauren of Needham and Rachel of Jericho, VT; four grandchildren and a niece.



Boris Kostelanetz, 94, Class of 1928

Boris Kostelanetz, considered the dean of tax defense lawyers, died in early 2006 at St. Vincent's Hospital near his home in Manhattan. He was 94.

Mr. Kostelanetz, a founding partner of Kostelanetz & Fink, handled the defense in tax evasion cases for scores of well-known clients like Imelda Marcos and James Brown. But he made his own name as a tenacious federal prosecutor who took on organized crime.

As a special assistant to the United States attorney general in 1939, Mr. Kostelanetz helped expose the Mafia's ties to the movie industry. He went on to prosecute several organized crime figures who had infiltrated the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees and extorted huge sums of money from Hollywood studios and neighborhood cinemas. That 1943 case was among the first to lead to convictions for murder, extortion and conspiracy directly under federal statutes, not state laws.

Soon afterward, Mr. Kostelanetz was appointed chief of the war frauds section of the Justice Department, which examined fiscal irregularities during World

War II. From 1951 to 1952, he served as special counsel to a United States Senate committee headed by Estes Kefauver. The televised hearings of the committee showed the extent to which Mafia figures had received special treatment from government officials.

Yet Mr. Kostelanetz always said he felt more at home as a courtroom advocate than an administrator on Capitol Hill. In 1946, he helped found the law firm that evolved into Kostelanetz & Fink, and he continued to show up at the office regularly until just before he died.

During his long career, Mr. Kostelanetz handled a heavy load of tax evasion cases. Among the clients he defended were Bobby Baker, a protégé of President Lyndon B. Johnson; Dr. W. Kenneth Riland, the physician to President Richard M. Nixon and Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller; and Anthony Conrad, chairman of the RCA Corporation. His efforts were frequently successful.

Born in 1911 to a wealthy family in pre-revolution Russia, Mr. Kostelanetz and his family fled St. Petersburg and eventually arrived in New York when he was 9.

In 1933, Mr. Kostelanetz joined Price Waterhouse as an accountant. But to stand out from his peers, he enrolled at St. John's University law school at night. Upon graduating from law school, he joined the United States attorney's office in New York, where his financial background made him the expert in prosecuting complex securities and tax crimes.

Mr. Kostelanetz was an adjunct professor of taxation at New York University, where he also served as a trustee. He was also president of the New York County Lawyer's Association and chairman of the character and fitness committee of the Appellate Division, which oversees the admission of lawyers to the bar.

Mr. Kostelanetz's wife, Ethel, died in 2002. In addition to his daughter, Mr. Kostelanetz is survived by a son, Richard, and a granddaughter.



Harold S. Lynton, 97, Class of 1925

Harold S. Lynton died at age 97 on June 11, 2007. Lynton was a former partner in the law firm of Shea & Gould

and was Of Counsel to Dornbush Shaeffer Strongin & Venaglia. He specialized in corporate and tax law. Lynton, who was a graduate of the Class of 1925, attended Yale University and Harvard Law School and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He was mourned by his wife Hattie, sons Stephen and Dick, as well as his granddaughters.



David Mark, 81, Class of 1939

David Everett Mark was an American career diplomat.

Born in New York City to Leslie Mark, and Lena Tyor Mark, Mark graduated from Columbia University, and while serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, he completed his studies at Columbia Law School. He joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1946, serving in South Korea, Germany, Finland, Romania, and Moscow in the 1950s.

In the early 1960s, Mark served in various capacities in the "Intelligence and Research Bureau" until his appointment as Ambassador to Burundi from 1974 to 1977. From 1979 to 1981 he served again at the U.S. State Department as a deputy assistant Secretary of State. After retirement from government in 1981, he consulted on international affairs for ALCOA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

A gifted linguist, Mark spoke fluent Russian, German, and French, and was conversant in Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and Japanese. With the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1989 and the dearth of Russian linguists, Mark was asked to help establish the American Embassy in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia. He returned to Tbilisi in 1992 to participate in helping the Georgians write their Constitution.

During the 1990s until his death, Mark was an active member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City. He volunteered every week for nine years as a guide and translator for Big Apple Greeters of New York. He worked full time as a licensed New York City tour guide for Gray Line/CoachUSA, sharing his love for the city with thousands of tourists each year in any number of the languages he spoke. Mark taught a variety of courses as an

OBITUARIES

adjunct professor of global affairs at New York University.

Mark, 81, died in 2005 while on vacation in northern Montana.



Maurice Paprin, 85, Class of 1936

Maurice Paprin, a real estate entrepreneur who built thousands of apartments in New York and spent decades promoting liberal causes, died on November 25, 2005 at a hospital in Manhattan. He was 85.

Born in the Bronx, Mr. Paprin got his start building single-family homes in the 1960s and went on to build, buy and manage large apartment buildings and subsidized housing complexes throughout the city.

While he made his fortune in business, Mr. Paprin was busy as an activist. He protested U.S. wars, bought newspaper advertisements calling President Clinton's impeachment an "obscene circus" and founded a nonprofit called the Fund for New Priorities.

The group organized forums on issues ranging from the plight of the U.S. farmer and Watergate to the ouster of President Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines.

Mr. Paprin also served as chairman of the Business, Labor and Community Coalition of New York and was president of Associated Builders and Owners of Greater New York for 14 years.

Mr. Paprin served on the Townsend Harris Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years and was a Vice President of the Board for several of them.

He was survived by his wife, Jacqueline Paprin, his sons Seth, Yale and Fred-

erick, a daughter, Judith, and stepsons Steven and Miles Stuchin.



Gilbert Perlow, 91, Class of 1932

By John Schiffer and Charles Johnson, Argonne National Laboratory

Gilbert Perlow, one of the pioneers of the Mössbauer effect and an editor of the *Journal of Applied Physics* and *Applied Physics Letters* died on February 17, 2007, a week after his 91st birthday.

He was born in New York City on February 10, 1916. Gil went to Cornell in 1932 as an undergraduate at age 16 to study medicine, as his parents saw this as a good career during the Depression. But so strong was his interest in physics (and, as he said, his talent for medicine was not so great) that he switched. He went on to graduate work at Cornell, and his Masters thesis was on measurements of satellite x-rays was supervised by F. K. Richtmyer. He then moved to the University of Chicago and did his Ph.D. thesis research with S. K. Allison on nuclear reactions of ^6Li using a Van de Graaf accelerator. For assistance with making a lithium target he consulted a chemist, Mina Rea Jones, who became his wife as well as scientific partner until she died in 2003.

Gil's Ph. D. thesis was completed in 1940. With America's involvement in World War II approaching, he left Chicago for the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington DC, where he worked on submarine detection using ultrasound. The system he built was so successful,

that he was flown to Pearl Harbor to supervise its installation in a submarine. After the war he turned to cosmic ray measurements in the upper atmosphere using captured German V2 rockets.

He designed and built several detector systems that were launched from White Sands, New Mexico.

In 1952 Gil joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota and in 1954 he moved to Argonne National Laboratory where, apart from sabbaticals at Harwell and Munich (where he was the recipient of a Humboldt Fellowship), he spent the rest of his career.

Gil had always believed in the importance of looking for applications of research and in communicating and disseminating the results of research (and indeed held a patent for using the Mössbauer Effect to measure γ -ray polarization). He became Editor of both the *Journal of Applied Physics* and *Applied Physics Letters* in 1970. He retired from the Physics Division at Argonne in 1981, but remained an important influence in the AIP's physics journals office at Argonne until he finally retired in 1990. He was an inventive editor, and instituted a high-Tc panel when these materials were discovered, assuring rapid publication and APL's share in this exploding field. Following the example of *Reviews of Modern Physics* he established *Applied Physics Reviews*. He wrote many of the form letters still used and his ad hoc correspondence was a delight to read. His constant support was highly appreciated by his successors.

A witty and cultured man, he enjoyed reading, sketching, listening to music and sailing his yacht on Lake Michigan. He served as Commodore of the Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club.



WANTED: ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS!

The Board is looking for volunteers to help us with the following:

- ◆ **Finances**
- ◆ **Event Planning**
- ◆ **Magazine and Newsletter production**
- ◆ **Fundraising**
- ◆ **Website**
- ◆ **Chapter Liaisons**

If you have an interest in volunteering in any of these areas (or one not even mentioned!), please contact Craig L. Slutzkin, Co-President, at president@thaa.org.

ASSOCIATION BRIEFS

- ◆ Townsend Harris Alumni Association t-shirts are now on sale! All shirts are white and short-sleeve and come in all sizes. T-Shirts are \$15 each. For more information, please email us at thaa@thaa.org.
- ◆ CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein hosted a memorial service for Maury Paprin '36 who passed away in late 2005. Among those in attendance were Sidney Silverman '29, Ted Peck '42, Gerald P. Halpern '44 and current high school principal Thomas Cunningham.
- ◆ Over 150 alumni from the Classes of 1992, 1997 and 2002 gathered on June 9 for their 15th, 10th and 5th year reunions in Manhattan. The reunion was held at the famed Knitting Factory in downtown Manhattan.
- ◆ On July 1, Tanya M. Odom '88 and Alicia Hughes '91 spoke with 15 current students at Columbia University

about college and career planning. Students were treated to a brunch and a tour of the university campus which was coordinated by Alicia.

Remarked Tanya, "I think this was useful to the students on so many levels. We allayed many of their fears about the whole college admissions process. And they were able to hear about how Alicia and I made our decisions on our college and career choices."

- ◆ The Fall semi-annual Breakfast Meeting of the Florida Chapter was held on Thursday, November. Bob Kahal reports "Thankfully, the tropical storm Noel with its gale force winds veered away from South Florida allowing the gathering to enjoy the usual reminiscences and good natured banter."
- ◆ Townsend Harris has dedicated a section of the Malcolm G. Largmann Library exclusively to literary works by or about Harris alumni and their families. This will include works in which Townsend Harris High School

or Townsend Harris Hall are mentioned, referred to or discussed in any way. It is expected that the library's "Townsend Harris Corner" will eventually contain hundreds or even thousands of volumes with a Townsend Harris connection. And this section by its very existence will serve as a constant reminder to present and future students of the accomplishments of their fellow Harrisites. It will also be a constant reminder of what a humanities school can produce.

Please contact us at thaa@thaa.org if you have something to donate or information to provide. You may also send items directly to:

Ms. Margherita Wischerth
Townsend Harris Alumni Association
149-11 Melbourne Avenue
Flushing, New York 11367

TOWNSEND HARRIS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

Last October, Abraham Bein, Irving Gerber, Saul Grossman, Gerald P. Halpern, Herb Kadison, Malcolm B. Largmann, Morton Lissner, Louis Lowenstein and Norman Merino were inducted to the famed Townsend Harris Hall of Fame. Over 100 members of the Townsend Harris family attended the ceremonies, which were especially unique in that they were on the campus of Baruch College on 25rd Street in Manhattan, where the school was situated for most of the early half of the 20th century. Sumit Patel, current Townsend Harris High School student and newspaper photography editor, attended and wrote his thoughts about the ceremony to Tanya M. Odom, co-President of THAA:

Hello Ms. Odom,

I wanted to thank you for making it possible for me to attend the Townsend Harris High School Hall of Fame Induction this year. It really wouldn't have been possible without your help. I truly appreciated every single moment of the night, and enjoyed spending time with such wonderful alumni and their family members.

I felt so much pride as a Harrisite after listening to the stories and speeches made by the new inductees. Although I knew how special Townsend Harris was and still is, the induction really enriched my knowledge of the amazing history that Townsend Harris High School has. Listening to the words of the inductees and of the alumni I was able to speak with after the ceremony was inspiring. The induction added to the passion I have for my high school and to my tremendous feeling of gratefulness at having a chance to leave my mark on the history of Townsend Harris High School.

I think that somehow holding the induction at Townsend Harris or making it open to all current students in the future would be spectacular. I know that my fellow students would also appreciate the induction and that it would really help them all understand how special their high school is to a greater extent.

Once again, please accept my deepest gratitude for making it possible for me to witness something so special and inspirational.

Sincerely,
Sumit Patel

BOCA BRUNCH BRINGS TOGETHER GENERATIONS

On Sunday, April 29, graduates of the Class of 1988 and members of the Florida Chapter gathered at the home of Ruti Kon Bell '88 in Boca Raton for a delicious brunch. Alumni and their families got to meet, eat and talk about their Harris experiences. Ruth Quiles took pictures to capture the festivities.



ENVOY

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