ON CAMPUS

8

A beautiful friendship

ON THE COVER:

Recent upgrades to the Ian H. Graham ’50 Athletic Center are a game changer. See page 5 for more.
My first job

“I worked as a lighting designer and stage manager.”

—HAROLD TONKIN ’85
TECHNICAL ACCOUNT MANAGER, MICROSOFT

Brad Smith ’82 pursues his purple passion

“I seem to remember a Volkswagen finding itself at the top of the stairs of the classroom building with its tires deflated one morning.”

—ALLEN LYNCH ’62

Matt Burr ’99: Journey to now

2019 Sports Hall of Fame Inductees
FEATURES

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Peddie’s tech philosophy makes anything possible

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First-year Falcons: Mia Huang ’22 and drama teacher Mark Cirnigliaro

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Tour de force: Peddie’s Tour Guide Program is on the right path
Congratulations!

College and university destinations for the Class of 2019

American University (2)  
Babson College  
Berklee College of Music  
Boston College (2)  
Boston University (7)  
Bucknell University  
Cabrini University  
California Northstate University College of Health Sciences  
Carnegie Mellon University (2)  
Columbia University (2)  
Cornell University (3)  
Denison University (2)  
Dickinson College (3)  
Drew University  
Drexel University (2)  
Duke University (2)  
Fordham University (3)  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Gettysburg College  
Harvey Mudd College  
Haverford College  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Indiana University at Bloomington  
Ithaca College  
Johns Hopkins University (2)  
Lafayette College (3)  
Lehigh University (4)  
Loyola University Maryland  
McGill University  
Middlebury College (2)  
New York University (8)  
North Carolina State University (2)  
Northeastern University (2)  
Pitzer College (2)  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
Purdue University (2)  
Queen’s University  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Rhodes College  
Rice University (2)  
Rider University  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rutgers University-New Brunswick (2)  
Saint Joseph’s University  
Santa Clara University  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
The George Washington University  
The University of Alabama  
The University of Texas, Austin  
The University of Texas, Dallas  
Tufts University (3)  
United States Military Academy - Army  
United States Naval Academy  
University of California, Los Angeles (2)  
University of California, San Diego (2)  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
University of Delaware  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2)  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Miami (3)  
University of Pennsylvania (4)  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Richmond (3)  
University of Southern California (3)  
Ursinus College (2)  
Vassar College  
Villanova University (4)  
Virginia Tech  
Wake Forest University  
Washington and Lee University (2)  
Washington University in St. Louis (3)  
Wellesley College  
Wesleyan University  
Williams College  
Wofford College
This photo by Andrew Marvin, manager of multimedia strategy and production, won Gold in the 2018 InspiRED Brilliance Awards. See page 88 for more Peddie faculty and staff accomplishments.
Thanks to Graham’s latest gift to Peddie, the Athletic Center was upgraded this winter with two new wooden basketball courts, a curtain system and a resurfaced indoor track.

Athletic Director Jason Baseden called the enhanced facilities “game-changing.”

“Having wood floors as opposed to our old rubber floors not only provides the proper playing surface for basketball, but it is much safer for our student-athletes,” Baseden said. “The curtain system acts as a noise inhibitor and safety barrier, allowing us the flexibility to conduct multiple practices and games simultaneously.”

Coaches praised the new facilities for their beauty and functionality.

Indoor Track Head Coach Tim Brennan said that the new track is “by far the best surface in the world.”

Among the track improvements are an additional fifth lane, which has sped up practices and competitions, two expanded lanes to accommodate the 55-meter dash and 55 hurdles, and the ability to run the international standard 1500 and 3000 meters in addition to the high school events, the 1600 and 3200 meters.

Matt Roach, boys’ varsity basketball assistant coach, raved about the new court. “It’s the nicest surface I’ve ever played or coached on,” he said. “I think some of our players jumped a little higher and shot a little sharper because of the springiness and traction.”

“The new court gave a fresh feel to our season,” said Sarah Crider Venanzi, girls’ varsity basketball coach. “I’m grateful that we have a more functional classroom for our athletes to improve their basketball skills, and learn life lessons that will continue to have an impact long after they hang up their Peddie jerseys,” she said.
Transitions

Six influential, long-serving Peddie faculty and staff members retired at the end of the academic year. Collectively, they represent 149 years of service to Peddie.

KELLY BULLOCK P’99 ’02

Years at Peddie: 36
Positions and activities: Maintenance foreman
What’s next: “We’re moving up to Sussex County this fall near my son who lives in Sparta on Lake Mohawk.”

“Working with Kelly has been a great experience. He has a keen memory. We often joke he could write a book about his experiences at Peddie.”
— John Newman P’94 ’15 ’20, director of building services

YUAN GAO P’03

Years at Peddie: 29
Positions and activities: Chinese and French teacher; Asian Studies program coordinator; head of the Chinese language program; and alumni relations.
What’s next: “Time to read and travel, and continue to help Peddie’s partnership with our sister school, EFZ.”

“Mr. Gao believed in me and recognized my potential to learn Chinese and use it in my future career.”
— Morgan Rawlings ’09, program coordinator at American Councils for International Education

FRANK DELAURENTIS P’00 ’02 ’05

Years at Peddie: 22
Positions and activities: Math teacher; assistant athletic director; head varsity football coach; varsity football assistant coach; varsity wrestling assistant coach; JV baseball coach; and dorm supervisor.
What’s next: “In Ocean City, Maryland, I’ll have many options, including tutoring, substitute teaching, adjunct teaching for the local community college, Home Depot, sun and fishing.”

“When people ask me today why I became an educator and football coach, Frank deLaurentis is top of the list.”
— Ryan Nase ’03, head football coach at Cheltenham High School
DAVID PAGANO

Years at Peddie: 23

Positions and activities: French and Spanish teacher; Italian teacher; French, Spanish and Italian Club advisor; JV baseball, JV softball and JV tennis assistant coach, thirds baseball coach; dorm supervisor; and Faculty-Student Senate.

What's next: “Enjoy spending time with my wife, Cecilia, and indulge my passion for languages by tutoring, translating and perhaps learning a new language. I also hope to do some volunteer work.”

“Mr. Pagano exudes kindness and compassion. I couldn’t help but smile in the presence of such a benevolent nature, even if it was 8 a.m. on a Monday.”
— Mia Salas ’18

MARY PALILONIS P’03 ’05 ’09

Years at Peddie: 17

Positions and activities: Registrar; math and physics teacher; information technology teacher; technology support; Faculty-Student Senate; and girls’ golf coach.

What’s next: “Gardening, supporting my children, needlework, furniture refinishing, golf, travel and reading.”

“Mary and I shared a classroom and were the best ‘classroom buddies.’ While we were particular about how we wanted the classroom arranged, we wanted the same arrangement. It was a classroom match made in heaven!”
— Mark Gartner ’84 P’08 ’10, math teacher at Peddie

ADRIANA MORALES RHETT P’00 ’02 ’03

Years at Peddie: 22

Positions and activities: Spanish teacher; Spanish Club and Spanish Table advisor; Spain summer immersion program; Origami Club advisor; Family-Style Dinner coordinator; and International Student Organization faculty.

What’s next: “I am moving to Virginia where I hope to do many of the things I enjoy.”

“The Señora (as we all affectionately called her) was always very genuine in her ways, and I always felt that she wanted me to not only learn Spanish but to love it as well. I credit her with some of my best memories at Peddie.”
— Cory Wingerter ’01
I’ve had many amazing opportunities at Peddie, but perhaps none greater than living near Meadow Lakes senior living community, where I met a good friend of mine, Mrs. Isabel Sefton.

I met Mrs. Sefton last year after I learned about a volunteer opportunity at Meadow Lakes from Mr. Truslow, Peddie’s director of community and service. Mrs. Sefton’s family was looking for a Peddie student to visit with their mother once or twice a week to provide good company and do some basic tasks around her apartment, like organize paperwork and read the newspaper. Little did I know that this “housework” would turn into something that, despite our 82-year age gap, has evolved into a genuine friendship.

It has been over a year now since our visits began. They still involve the usual scheduling of Mrs. Sefton’s week and organizing papers, but as we have grown more comfortable with each other, the visits have become increasingly full of laughter. (And gossip!)

Mrs. Sefton and I have more in common than I realized. She grew up in New York City, so after spending a day at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) with my art history class, I told her all about it. She remembered when the MoMA opened in 1929 and recalled how her parents allowed her to run free and explore the museum when she was 10 years old.

In addition to the amazing stories that she tells, I also get a glimpse into Mrs. Sefton’s life through the art that she keeps in her room. Every once in a while we will choose a painting that has been on the wall for a bit, and exchange it for a different work that she believes deserves to see the light of day. Though her vision has gotten worse since I first met her, Mrs. Sefton never complains, and instead explains that though she can’t see small details anymore, the colors and the presence of the art are what’s most important. Through Mrs. Sefton’s influence, I am more passionate about art and have become a more open-minded person.

I think about what my life would be like had I not responded to Mr. Truslow’s email last year. I would never have met Mrs. Sefton who makes my weeks so much more enjoyable. It’s nice to know that Mrs. Sefton enjoys me visiting as much as I enjoy her company.

When people ask me why I spend my free time at Meadow Lakes, my only response is, “Why not?” If we have the chance to make someone’s life better, we should jump at the opportunity. I hope that by following Peddie’s mission to strive for the highest quality of citizenship, we will all realize that the benefit of community service is not one-sided.

Sophie McClellan ’19 heads to the University of Richmond this fall. She plans to visit Sefton when she is home on break.

Left: Sophie McClellan ’19 (left) reviews Isabel Sefton’s weekly schedule during a visit to her home in Meadow Lakes.

Right: Sophie McClellan ’19 said that she’s more open-minded since meeting Sefton.
Peddie students staged “Fiddler on the Roof” in February at the William Mount-Burke ’54 Theatre, a musical that director Liz Sherman called “especially relevant in today’s political and social climate.”

Set in the Jewish community of a Russian village in the early 1900s, “Fiddler” tells the story of a poor milkman, Tevye (Ethan Govea ’19), who wants to find good husbands for his five daughters and instill in them traditional values in the face of the growing anti-Semitism of Czarist Russia.

When Tevye’s eldest daughter, Tzeitel (Kavya Borra ’20), begs him to let her marry a poor tailor rather than the middle-aged butcher that he has already chosen for her, Tevye is forced to examine his traditional Jewish life against the influences of a changing culture and a changing family.

Though the story takes place more than a century ago, “Fiddler” manages to tackle issues that are relevant today. With stories about female empowerment and heated immigration debates regularly making headlines, the musical’s universal themes were especially appealing to Sherman.

“Even though it’s a historical piece about another place and time, ‘Fiddler’ is also a story about immigration, and it’s also kind of an American story,” she said.

Sherman sought out a musical with strong female characters and cast Ellen Yan ’20 in the traditionally male role of the Fiddler. “It’s not a feminist show by any stretch,” Sherman said. “But it’s almost like a pre-feminist story featuring young women who are subjected to a certain role in the world and are stepping out. It’s true they are stepping out in relation to the men in their lives, but they are stepping out in a way they had never done before. They never even had agency over that choice before,” she said.

Sherman added, “It felt important to remind our students that we all came from somewhere else, that we take a lot of the freedoms we have for granted.”

Left: Director of Theater Liz Sherman directs a scene from “Fiddler on the Roof.”

Right: “Fiddler” cast members.
The site once housed WKAQ, the island’s first radio station (and fifth in the world). It’s now home to Burr’s latest venture, San Juan Sound, a nonprofit music organization he launched in 2018.

Back in 2017, Burr intended to launch a modest radio station there and outfit the space with a recording studio. He was just months away from opening when Hurricane Maria made landfall in September.

“In the beginning, I did my best to stay positive as I enjoyed a very large pepperoni pizza dubbed my ‘possible last supper,’ ” Burr remembered. “My calm turned to shock with the arrival of unforgettable screaming wind and crashing noises.”

Burr considered himself “blessed” compared to those who lost loved ones and homes in the Category 5 storm.

“I tried to remember that all of the gear in the studio was material and staying hopeful was crucial to survival,” he said.

SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING NEW

Burr journeyed to Puerto Rico in 2015, a move he said was “triggered by personal events.”

“I had only visited the island once before and did not know a soul but decided to unpack my bags after it became crystal clear I had to rebuild my life,” he said. Burr soon fell in love with Puerto Rico, and the island’s music scene inspired the original concept for San Juan Sound.

Many schools in Puerto Rico shuttered after Hurricane Maria pummeled the island. Music programs and concert venue budgets were slashed or altogether abandoned. It was a heartbreaking reality, Burr said, for “a place where you are born into music, and local sounds are your soundtrack to survival.”

In anticipation of the storm, Burr collected all the studio gear and stacked it in the control room, which escaped flooding. Still, after the hurricane, the future of the studio was in question.

“All we could do was wait out the power outage before testing the gear,” he said. “This left me with no choice but to expect the worst, hope for the best, and come up with a new plan.”

A MISSION BORN IN CRISIS

The idea for a nonprofit to support Puerto Rico’s struggling artists had been on Burr’s mind when he enrolled in Harvard’s nonprofit management program in 2016, before dropping out after Maria hit.

“In Puerto Rico, the independent music community and programs began suffering well before the Hurricane when the financial crisis forced budget cuts, closures and fewer opportunities to survive as an artist,” he said.

Motivated by Hurricane Maria’s devastation, Burr filed the paperwork for a music nonprofit in November 2017 and also launched an instrument donation program, Gift of Sound.

Matt Burr ‘99 (seated front) leads a recording session at San Juan Sound.
“With patience and one miracle after another, we had our first Gift of Sound event shortly after the power returned in December and officially opened the recording studio on the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Maria,” said Burr.

According to Burr, Hurricane Maria ultimately inspired the true identity of San Juan Sound, which provides free recording, workshops and live music for independent artists and students directly impacted by Puerto Rico’s economic crisis and Hurricane Maria.

“San Juan Sound is a mission born in crisis and driven by the truth that music remains one of the greatest forces and gifts in the world,” he said.

**SURVIVAL THROUGH MUSIC**

San Juan Sound has provided free recording and workshops to scores of local artists and students since it launched in September. But, according to Burr, there is a lot of work to be done to reach more artists in need.

“As much as I want the world to support Puerto Rico and San Juan Sound, what I care about most is the world supporting the arts any way they can. Every living soul relies on art whether they recognize it or not,” he said.

**A LIFE-CHANGING INJURY**

Burr severely injured his knee during his final football game against Blair Academy. He later said that this was the “best and main reason” he pursued music.

**MB: My biggest fan (aka Dad) used to angrily recall a super dirty hit, although I don’t remember that nor do I care. It was the greatest injury of my life, and less than a year later I realized my calling was in music despite having no formal training. I only played a few times while at Peddie when campus legends Nucca and the Gang allowed me to sit in on their rehearsals, which ironically featured a drum set I sold to Peddie.**

**FAVORITE PEDDIE MEMORY**

**MB:** Mr. Tattersall, aka “T.” Beneath his lieutenant-general exterior was a brilliant and warm soul who touched many lives. I’ll never forget seeing “T” and his unmistakably stoic poise at one of my concerts in Portland, Maine.

**LIFE LESSONS LEARNED AT PEDDIE**

**MB:** I learned about the beauty of evolving with people from all walks of life and corners of the world. Looking back right this second makes me realize my experience at Peddie was my first eye-opener to the power of diversity and acceptance.
“At Peddie I not only received an appointment to West Point, but one to Annapolis, a full Naval ROTC scholarship, and a co-op engineering position.”

Palmer McGrew '54
Retired

“My interest in fundraising was sparked at Peddie when I volunteered in the Alumni and Development Office. After college, I became a professional fundraiser at a Massachusetts boarding school.”

Meg Critchell '93
Owner, Meg Critchell Events LLC

“I took an entry-level job at a hot N.Y. creative advertising agency thinking I would work my way up into a cool gig as a copywriter. The agency went under in a year, and I wound up in media. While living in Tokyo, the internet launched and was the catalyst that led me to digital sales leadership.”

Nick Johnson '85
Head of advertising, McClatchy

“I taught at Trinity-Pawling School in N.Y. where I lived in the dorm with my new wife, Ann, and waited until I had the opportunity to come home to Peddie.”

Mark Gartner '84 P'08 '10
Math teacher, Peddie

“I pasted the headline and ads, and copy strips for the Princeton Packet.”

Laura Martinelli '85
Graphic Designer

“I lived down the street from Peddie in the late ’50s. The business manager said he would pay us to collect apple tree branches near where the current gym is now since they had plowed down an apple orchard. We worked for a few days and got paid and felt quite the grownups.”

Andrew Shaw ’66, Esq. LLC

“I was walking down a Brooklyn street past a car wash and was offered $2 to dry off a car. My next two paid jobs were at Peddie where I worked at the library and at Mr. Potter’s request completed an inventory of the Outing Club barn. Once in college, I held numerous consulting and part-time jobs that led me on a path in technology and entrepreneurship, with a side trip in public service. The lessons have been many, going all the way back to the car wash — be courteous, on or ahead of schedule, exceed expectations, and don’t be afraid to take a chance.”

Robert Zakon ’86
Founding partner, Zakon Group LLC
Presidential Innovation Fellow

“I took a very circuitous route to discover my purpose as a composer, performer and recording artist. I’m grateful to Peddie, where I learned how to learn.”

Jon Sprout ’70
Grammy-nominated recording artist

Read more about Peddie alumni first jobs in Class Notes.
STEAL THE LOOK ONLINE AT PEDDIE.ORG/STORE
Sports Hall of Fame

Peddie honored a remarkable group of athletes and coaches at the 31st Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony in June. Visit peddie.org/shof to read about their incredible accomplishments.

H. Farquhar Jones ’44*
Football

Gerard J. Hart ’69*
Cross Country
Track & Field

Michael Parker ’69
Basketball

Mark G. Gartner ’84
Track & Field Coach

1989 Boys’ Basketball Team

Back row (from left): Robert Foote (assistant coach), Jason Van Brunt, Lance Rucks, Evan Carlson, Tom Caldwell, Mike Yesler, Hank Bounds, Adrian Lozier, Alfred Lozier (coach).

Front row (from left): Dave Mayfield, Spencer Day, Greg Dalin, Jon Greene (captain), Brad Daggett, Mike Lester, Jennifer Schnitzer (manager).

*Posthumously inducted
1993 Girls’ Soccer Team

2008 & 2009 Girls’ Varsity Crews

The 2008 Girls’ Varsity Crew at the Stotesbury Cup award ceremony (from left): Erica Lockard, Erin Hawes, Emily Boudreau, Sheila Dave and Shelley Pearson.


Not pictured: Avery Steele, Jen Lombardo, Kumari Lewis and Bailey Yuro.
1. Class of 1979 golfers (from left): Joel Poorman, Mark Carduner, Thomas Taylor and Guy Eckert
2. Bell Society Luncheon attendees (front row from left): Zak Steinhauser ’19, Bob Werner ’53 P’82, Marisa Procopio ’87 and Board of Trustees member George Chen ’84. Back row from left: Mary Donohue P’03 ’06 ’07, Frank Blasdell ’89 P’02, John Vaught ’65, Charlie Ascher ’52 and Director of Gift Planning Anne DeMesa P’21
3. Members of the Class of ’74 celebrate their 45th Reunion (from left): Al “Scooter” Masland P’03, Steven Cohn, Joann Coates, Art Ammermuller and Michael McCrabb
4. Members of the Class of ’14 (from left): Simi Olagundoye, Chris Henderson, Jaimie Harraka and Kayla Roca
5. Members of the Class of ’04 (from left): Courtney Jackson, Sara Fusco, Brian Grossman and Laura Aronson
6. From left: Richard Heuser ’59 and Kelly Jo Burnett ’88, associate director of Peddie Fund Reunions, prepare for the Bike Boogie.
7. From left: Director of Alumni Relations Brian Davidson and Peter Finnerty ’89
8. Molly Lloyd ’14 greets a fellow classmate during Reunion Weekend.
9. From left: Chavon Sutton ’99 and former Peddie Chaplain and English faculty Rosemary Gleeson
10. Members of the Class of 1964 and Class of 1965 (from left): Board of Trustees member John Lloyd ’64 P’16, Paul Peterson ’64, Norman Grant ’64, Paul Olson ’64, John Vaught ’65, Don DeRosa ’64, Stephen Stumpp ’64 and James Smith ’64
11. Members of the Class of ’84 celebrate their 25th Reunion.
12. Members of the Class of ’89 celebrate their 50th Reunion.
13. Members of the Class of ’84 (from left): Jackie Shoback, Jane Kwalick O’Connor and Patti De Blasis Wendling
14. From left: Kathryn Hawrylik, Ashim Midha ’09 and history department chair Alison Hogarth
15. Members of the Class of ’89 peruse an old Peddie yearbook (from left): Brian Lynn, Tricia Robles and Peter Ghosh
A SENSE OF PLACE

Jim Steinberg ’67 often says that his favorite place is the last place he’s been.

A professional photographer since 1975, Steinberg has logged more than two million miles traveling the globe with his camera. “I always travel with enough equipment to make NASA envious, and destroy anyone’s back,” he said. Steinberg’s award-winning nature and travel images have been published in dozens of books and major magazines, including National Geographic.

On a recent trip to Oman, Steinberg spent the day photographing a nomadic family, hoping to capture the importance of the Bedouin culture to the Arabian Peninsula. Steinberg: “Part of creating a sense of place is trying to convey a sense of culture. I saw the light beginning to come alive, and the floor of the Wahiba Sands begin to swirl with dust, so I waited for the light and framed the family to give the image a sense of the scope of the landscape.”

Previous page and below: A Bedouin family camps in the Wahiba Sands of Oman (Photos by Jim Steinberg ’87)

STEINBERG SNAPSHOT

• In 1988, Steinberg became the first director of the National Geographic Photography Workshops.

• Steinberg is the son of noted cultural philanthropists Harold and Mimi Steinberg and a trustee of the Steinberg Charitable Trust, which supports and promotes American theater.

• Steinberg’s favorite Peddie memories include the burgers in Longstreet Hall and writing for The Peddie News.
FIRST-YEAR
Take a freshman day student from Cranbury, N.J. and a former college professor from Hoboken, N.J., sit them down in Adirondack chairs on Armellino Quad, and it’s surprising how many Peddie firsts — and personal discoveries — they have in common after nearly a year in our community.
**Mark:** What was your first day like at Peddie?

**Mia:** I remember crying in the car because I was so nervous. Because I prepped myself over the summer by watching all the possible chick flicks about high school. I got really, really scared. I thought I was going to, like, get shoved into a garbage can.

**Mark (laughing):** You thought you were going to get shoved into a garbage can?

**Mia:** I didn’t know! I didn’t know what to expect. And so I was really nervous.

**Mark:** What movies did you watch?

**Mia:** “Mean Girls.” And “Heathers.”

**Mark:** [leans forward] And “Heathers?”

**Mia:** And “Clueless.”

**Mark:** Has high school turned out to be remotely close to “Heathers” or “Mean Girls?”

**Mia:** No, I like it. It’s a lot more chill.

**Mark:** My first teaching day, I think I was just nervous, like you, because I’ve never taught this level before. So it was like, “Can I do it?” and “What am I doing?” and “Is how I’m teaching gonna work?” That kind of stuff. And with the Freshman Musical in particular — where I met you — that is a very intense, short time period with a group of students that I don’t know at all. And there’s a lot of you guys (laughs).

**Mia:** Yeah. I felt that way, too. That was totally crazy. Because I’ve never done anything like that before. But then I pulled up the email that said I was cast as Peter Pan. I didn’t know what to do for a few minutes.

**Mark:** Surprise! You’re Peter Pan!

**Mia:** It was crazy. But it was really fun. And before I was really shy. But I feel like that helped me gain a lot of confidence.

**Mark:** Really? You were great.

**Mia:** Because I’ve never done that before!

**Mark:** Well, you wouldn’t have known it. I was an adjunct professor at a community college before Peddie. I was dealing with adults versus dealing with 33 13-year-olds, some of whom were not interested in being in “Peter Pan.” But then, I think, (they) came around by the end. I felt everybody had a very good experience. I think the challenge for me as a first-time high-school-level teacher, is, “How do I make the work fun and interesting while also educating with a standard in place?” Whereas, that’s something I didn’t have to worry about so much at the collegiate level; I could just do the work in a more strict form.

**Mia:** I knew that this was a crazy good school and everything, but I expected it to be really competitive. But when I actually got here, it wasn’t like that. It was very calm and everyone was nice.

**Mark:** So you were expecting it to be more cutthroat?

**Mia:** Yeah.

**Mark Cirnigliaro** said that he was “nervous” on his first day teaching theater students at Peddie.
Mark: Yeah, I don’t get that vibe here, either. I was expecting kind of an enclosed, kind of stodgy, place. This is not like that at all.

Mia: I didn’t even think that I would come here at first, because we always used to drive by here and see all the brick buildings and be like, “Oh, that’s Peddie. That’s the nice school.” (Mark laughs) And so in middle school and eighth grade, my dad was like, “Why don’t we just try — try to apply?” (She laughs) And I was like, “Sure, that would be fun.” And so I did it, and I made it. And now I’m here.

Mark: I think it took me a while to get used to being around students 24/7. In my other teaching experience, you teach your class and then you go home. You don’t see students outside of class. I had a connection with my students, but it was built over the work that we did in class. And here I feel like it was strange to eat with students. It was weird the first time I saw students in Target.

Mia: Oh, yeah.

Mark: But I think that’s good, because I think it helps — and you can tell me if this works — it helps students see faculty as people and not as, like, the enemy. And I think it helps faculty see students holistically as well, and be more invested in the person, and not only the grade.

Mia: I get that. Before Peddie, I was so shy. I didn’t really step out of my comfort zone a lot. And when I came to Peddie I was like, “I’m in high school — I can reinvent myself. I should try to audition for something.” And I did. And it was really fun! And I feel like that helped me gain a lot of confidence. And now I’m not really afraid to be who I am in front of an audience. ‘Cause now I can act or sing in front of people without — my voice used to shake a lot. My voice used to shake because I was so scared. But now I’m fine.

Mark: Knowing you from the Freshman Musical, and then your work in the Declamation Contest, and then the fact of that mural — it feels like you’re putting yourself out there all the time.

Mia: So there was this diversity mural contest that I actually won (laughs). It was during the second week of school, and I guess I was very eager the first week of school; I went crazy.

I was just kind of observing everything. And so I based the people on the mural off of someone I met from a different place or a different culture. People that I saw around, people that I knew of. And yeah. People liked it, I guess.

Mark: Peddie feels intimate in a supportive way, like a family kind of way, for me. But at the same time, because there’s such a wide array of students from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities, and because the administration encourages us to deal with the students on a human level, I think that stops it from being a closed circuit. It allows for growth, it allows for change. When I was told I was going to teach Theater Foundations and what was normally done there, I immediately responded to that with, “I want to change this.”
Not drastically, but I wanted to implement some change right off the bat, and being met with a yes. Like, “Go ahead.” I think that’s encouraging and we’ve done some things in that class now that have spurred me to want to do other larger projects that I want to try to implement, even starting next year, if possible. Do you have any experience like that as a student?

Mia: Well ... I haven’t really tried yet. I guess I could – to do something that’s facilitated.

Editor: If you guys were to go back to August of 2018, just about to walk on this campus, what would you give yourselves a heads-up about?

Mia: I would tell myself to calm down and just chill out, and not cry out of pure nervousness, because it’s fine and it won’t be as scary as it seems.

Mark: I would second all of that to myself, because everything’s going to be fine. It’s going to be a lot of work, but you’ll make it through. I’ve just never been a part of an institution like this.

So I think the whole thing is sort of a constant surprise. Almost universally in a good way. I think a lot is asked of the faculty and the students here, and while it sounds like both Mia and I have managed that – I don’t want to put words in your mouth – though we’ve managed that over the course of this first year, it doesn’t mean it wasn’t overwhelming at some points. And that’s never a great feeling. But that’s also the rigor that this institution demands of its faculty and its students to maintain its culture.

“I’VE JUST NEVER BEEN A PART OF AN INSTITUTION LIKE THIS.”

Mark: First day here I bought two mugs, two ties, and t-shirts for me, my wife and my son.

Mia: A hat, and a sweatshirt, and sweatpants that were too tight, so I returned the sweatpants, and I think I got chocolate instead.
TOUR FORCE

PEDDIE’S TOUR GUIDE PROGRAM UNCOVERS THE SCHOOL’S GREATEST GIFTS
Sarah DiLuzio ’19 had just finished her debut Peddie performance in the 2015 Freshman Musical, “Beauty and the Beast,” when she was greeted by an unexpected visitor.

“She walked up to me and said, ‘Hey, I came to see you,’” remembered DiLuzio.

It was Imani Ermeus ’20, then a prospective student. The two had met a couple of weeks earlier when Ermeus came to Peddie for an admission interview and campus tour. DiLuzio was Ermeus’ tour guide and had casually mentioned the Freshman Musical while talking about Peddie’s arts program.

“I was shocked,” recalled DiLuzio. “It was the sweetest thing. I would never have expected Imani to take the time out of her day to come to see me,” she said.

Yet Ermeus, who was just then beginning to think about her options for high school, was inspired to attend the performance of someone she had only recently met. “I had such a great experience with Sarah on my tour that I wanted to come back to support her,” she explained.

First impressions mattered to Ermeus, who was accepted to Peddie the following March. Ermeus said that her positive tour experience was “definitely a factor” in her decision to attend Peddie. “Sarah has such a sincere passion for Peddie, and that came through during my tour,” she said.

Typically students peruse stacks of admission brochures and browse countless websites during their school search. All great, McCollum said, but the best way to get a sense of a school is by visiting campus. “Coming to campus for a tour is the most authentic way to get a sense of the culture of the place – the energy and how people interact,” she

Shannon Boyle ’21 and Alessia Codella ’22 give a tour to a prospective family this spring. “I’ve gotten used to walking backward so I can make better eye contact,” joked Codella.
emphasized. “It’s tough to get that intangible feel of the culture until you are on campus.”

**Jane Richardson ’19** agrees. She’s been a Peddie Tour Guide for four years and is one of 11 Head Tour Guides, which means that she leads training for recruits. “You can read all you want about our community, but when you get on campus and see it for yourself, you start to believe, ‘Wow, that’s actually how this school is.’”

Fellow Head Tour Guide **Owen O’Neill ’20** considers Peddie’s inclusive community to be a strong selling point for prospective students, and something that is enhanced by the tour experience. “I enjoy talking about our community the most,” said O’Neill. “It’s so easy to talk about because it’s happening all around you while you’re giving a tour.”

### THE PATH TO BECOMING A PLEDIE TOUR GUIDE

There are more than 160 Peddie Tour Guides. Among them are 35 Blue Key Guides who have at least one year of experience and have committed to giving a tour every week during the busy season as part of their work job responsibilities. Eleven Head Tour Guides, who have earned elite status, help the admission department run the Tour Guide Program by leading training sessions and participating in Revisit Day activities.

In addition to prospective families, Peddie Tour Guides give tours to other visitors – like job applicants and guest speakers. It all adds up to more than 900 tours a year, with the bulk of tours happening between September and January (before the application deadline).

Since McCollum began working with tour guides two years ago, she has instituted new training guidelines and refined talking points along tour routes.

“We build our tour guides up in a positive way so that they have all the tools they need,” McCollum said.

What’s mandatory: Tour guides must attend a training session every year. These are led by Head Tour Guides, who review program expectations and share personal experiences with their fellow students. New tour guides shadow veterans on at least two tours (one with a visiting family), and the admission department often pairs them with an experienced tour guide for their first official tour.

There’s also “Everything you need to know about being a Peddie Tour Guide,” a program guide with talking points that the admission department distributes to all program participants. Last fall all tour guides attended an additional strategic messaging training.

**“Every tour guide should find a way to provide a lens into what Peddie has been like for them.”**
There are no tryouts for the Tour Guide Program. “We don’t always know who’s going to be an excellent tour guide, so we intentionally invite all students to participate,” McCollum stressed.

That includes first-year students, who receive an invite to join the program in mid-October after they have had several weeks to get acclimated to Peddie. “We love their energy and enthusiasm and their proximity to the process,” McCollum said of the program’s youngest recruits.

QUALITIES EVERY PEDDIE TOUR GUIDE SHOULD HAVE

The admission team entrusts tour guides with providing the information prospective students and families need to decide whether they will join the Peddie family. Tour guides discuss the school’s academic, arts and athletic programs, showcase campus facilities and talk about student life. They are encouraged to share personal experiences, address families’ specific interests and, of course, to have fun!

Tour guides must be prepared to answer a plethora of questions about student activities, school traditions, dorm life, curriculum offerings, food options, academic support, what it’s like to transition to high school and much more. Just as important is feeling comfortable deferring questions to an admission staff member. “It’s OK to say ‘I don’t know,’” said McCollum.

Tour guides are expected to have a certain level of enthusiasm, but that energy may not present itself the same way for every student.

“We don’t need everybody to be a super emotive person,” McCollum cautioned. “Every tour guide should find a way to provide a lens into what Peddie has been like for them.” The best tour guides, McCollum said, are always thinking about how they can become even better tour guides.

Students have different motivations for wanting to become a tour guide, but a number of them said they were driven by their positive experiences at Peddie. Nadia Bhatti ’19, for example, said that getting a tour when she was a prospective student

What are people most impressed by when you give a tour?

The amount of faculty that live on campus and their availability to the students.

Yousef Soltani ’20

Do you remember your tour of Peddie?

Every place we walked by I thought, “I can see myself living here, I can see myself taking that class.” I felt so welcomed.

Jane Richardson ’19
was a crucial part of the application process. “Now I want to be that person who can share my own experiences,” she affirmed.

Meagan Maes, assistant director of admission, who helps McCollum with program recruitment and training, is enthusiastic about recognizing tour guides for a job well done. She’s implemented “Tour Guides of the Month” and organizes program holiday and end-of-year parties. “These kids are invested in Peddie,” she said. “We love to recognize them for the great work they are doing.”

GOOD FRIENDS

It’s springtime and campus is arrayed with blooming cherry blossoms and kids studying and playing Frisbee on center campus. Sarah DiLuzio and Imani Ermeus are catching up on the steps of Ayer Memorial Chapel.

Ermeus asks DiLuzio if she’s made any college decisions. She tells Ermeus she’s committed to Rhodes College. Ermeus mentions that she’s doing her Summer Signature Experience at Duke University. “You’ll love it,” said DiLuzio. “My sister goes there.”

DiLuzio remembers being thrilled to see Ermeus at Peddie’s new student orientation three years ago. “When I first saw her on campus I gave her a big hug,” she recalled. “I was so excited that she got in.”

“We’re really friendly,” Ermeus said. DiLuzio added with a smile, “We’ve been good friends since we met on the tour four years ago.”

Who’s your favorite person to run into?

Miss Salmon. I always go by her classroom. She’s always like “Come in,” and we talk about biology class from two years ago.

Matt Stefanowicz ’19

Do you feel invested in kids you give tours to?

Raga [Bhagavathi ’19] and I gave one of our first tours together to someone we’re good friends with now. She’s on the field hockey team with us.

Sruthi Kocherlakota ’19

Imani Ermeus ’20 (left) and Sarah DiLuzio ’19 have been good friends ever since DiLuzio was Ermeus’ tour guide four years ago.
Most of our math, English and language classes are held here. Mr. Wood's class is analyzing the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, and Mr. Ruiz's class is using virtual reality technology to learn about Spanish culture.

The Annenberg Library is a great place to study, grab coffee and snacks or to hang out with friends. It's also home to our Writing Center.

If you’re passionate about science, you’ll love our “Chemistry of Cancer” and “Forensics” classes. Students who participate in our EXP program do graduate-level work at university or corporate labs over the summer.
We have a design studio and an engineering studio with professional equipment. You can take part in a robotics competition where you’ll help build a 120-pound robot in just six weeks!

Students, faculty, staff and their families all eat together in the dining hall which brings us together as a community. The Grille is a great hang out spot when the dining hall is closed. There’s a student lounge on the second floor.

We have exhibits and visiting artists and vocal groups, like the acaFellas and TrebleMakers. We even put on Les Misérables two years ago!

You’ll make so many friends, and fast. Between your dorm supervisor and dorm faculty, you’ll never be without someone to go to for advice.

Day and boarding students come together here to play games, picnic or just hang out and catch up. Sometimes a teacher will hold class outside in the courtyard.

The entire community gathers twice a week at chapel to listen to student, faculty or guest speakers. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke here in 1957.

All freshmen take Humanities. And there are numerous electives for juniors and seniors, like the “Golden Age of Piracy.” This entire building is decorated with materials from the Peddie Archives so that we can learn about the history of the school.
Spanish teacher Jose Ruiz uses virtual reality to teach his students about the running of the bulls in Pamplona, Spain.
Language department chair Jose Ruiz teaches more than language; he’s committed to sparking students’ curiosity about life and culture outside of their native countries.

“Giving students insight into the life and people of another country creates a context for the practice of grammar and vocabulary and translates to a much stronger sense of purpose and connection,” explained Ruiz.

That’s why, when approached by Emily Jee, director of academic technology, about the idea of using Virtual Reality (VR) glasses in the classroom, Ruiz leaped at the opportunity.

With Jee’s support, he dove headfirst into researching available applications.

Soon, his students were at the running of the bulls in Pamplona, Spain and visiting the historic sanctuary of Machu Picchu in Peru.

“Experiencing these places through VR makes learning the language more fun,” said Toby Bickford ’20. “It’s helped me develop a better understanding of Spanish and become more confident speaking it.”

CREATIVE PEDAGOGY

At Peddie, innovation is encouraged. With support from Associate Head of School Catherine Rodrigue, faculty have the resources to generate impactful ways to challenge, inspire and support students. It’s a culture that attracts exceptional faculty to the school and emboldens them to experiment and innovate once they get here.

Jee’s role in itself illustrates Peddie’s commitment to intentional innovation. A member of the technology department who reports as a faculty member to Rodrigue, Jee serves as tech support to faculty but also attends department and curriculum planning meetings. There she gains a sense of what is happening in the classroom so that she can bring new ideas, tools and solutions to teachers’ attention.

“Peddie benefits from a terrific technology department that supports teacher initiatives,” said Rodrigue.

“But we don’t lead with the technology; rather, we lead with the pedagogy.”

TECH INTEGRATION

Last year, English and humanities teacher Grant Edwards offered a new elective course called “Navigating the ‘Influencing Machine’ – Truth, Power and Trust in the Media.” Executing the class was tricky; the course materials centered around current events and required that students engage with a topic or issue on social media. Looking for the best way to facilitate this, Edwards turned to Jee.

“Emily helped map out the progression in the course from one topic to the next,” said Edwards. “We talked at length and workshoped plans for the course. Her insights and ideas were invaluable.”

“Faculty here feel emboldened to try new things,” explained Jee. “It’s great modeling for our students. They’ll try something, and if there are hiccups, they adapt. It teaches the kids flexibility, which is essential to any learning experience.”

Jee regularly visits classrooms to see what is happening and encourages faculty to ask questions and present their challenges and ideas. Sometimes, a teacher will come to Jee, as Edwards did, with a specific need. Other times Jee will hear a conversation in a department or curriculum meeting and suggest a product or tool that might help.
“That’s where I learn about many of the curricular thrusts that departments are embarking upon or snafus that folks are attempting to unravel,” said Jee. “Often I can offer tech solutions or suggestions; sometimes to make current practices easier, other times to bring a new tool to a teacher, course or department’s pedagogical arsenal.”

**CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION**

Word tends to spread quickly when one teacher finds success with a particular technology, and teachers in other departments are eager to jump on board. Such was the case with Microsoft OneNote, a digital note-taking app that encourages multi-user collaboration. Math department teachers collaborating on the curriculum for their Math Problem Solving course found OneNote to be the perfect tool.

With OneNote, teachers develop a Class Notebook and share it with their students. The application supports images, graphs, drawings, video and audio. Teachers assign homework through the Class Notebook; students complete their assignments and collaborate on their work in real time while teachers easily get a sense of how students are grasping the material.

Peddie’s commitment to digital equity goes far beyond the one-to-one laptop program. All students and faculty have access to the same high-quality hardware and software, allowing them to take full advantage of the capabilities of an application like OneNote.

“OneNote spread like wildfire among both students and teachers,” said Jee. “Students asked their teachers to use it and even created Class Notebooks for group work. Many teachers now use it with their teaching teams. It’s so easily shareable.”

Jee noted other examples of cross-institutional collaboration. “Our teachers have used data-visualization software for the history curriculum,” she said. “They’ve created artistic representations of polynomials utilizing particular software in math and then created digital artwork with the product of that equation.”

“This speaks to the dissolution of siloed academic departments at Peddie,” explained Jee. “When teachers from different departments share ideas and adapt different technologies for use across disciplines, it’s bound to create a richer learning experience for our students,” she said.
Leland House in downtown Hightstown served as a Peddie dormitory from 1919-1926. Situated on the bank of Rocky Brook, the building initially served as a tavern when Hightstown was a popular stagecoach stop midway between New York City and Philadelphia, and later became a hotel. In 1926 the building was razed to make way for construction of the Hightstown Engine Company No.1 firehouse. Here, Peddie students pose for a photo outside Leland House (c. 1921). Carl Geiger (far right, second row from top) was housemaster there for several years.
1939

**80TH REUNION**

Kenneth Seyffer  
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To the best of my knowledge, there are only two of us left from the Class of ’39. We have not lost that Peddie spirit. Average age: 98.

Duyane Hoffman lives in Apopka, Fla. He flew war supplies with Pan Am during World War II. He stayed with Pan Am for 36 years, flying to Europe and South America, and retired as a 747 captain in 1978.

I am a retired banker and have lived in a retirement village in South Hadley, Mass. for 17 years. I lost my wife of 72 wonderful years in 2016. I’ve been active on our community’s finance committee and investment committee. Must keep that mind busy.

If there is anyone else left from the Class of ’39, please contact me.

1944

**75TH REUNION**

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Bill Kincaid writes: “Shirley and I returned on December 17 from a five-day trip to Texas where we got together with our grandchildren and great-grandchildren at our oldest grandson’s ranch. I was very fortunate to be able to go because I was hit by a car on October 24.

“After five days at UC Irvine, I was transferred to The Pavilion at Sunny Hills nursing home in Fullerton. After what seemed to be forever I was released, just two days before Thanksgiving and exactly four weeks from the day I was hit. As a result, Shirley and I were able to enjoy a lovely Thanksgiving dinner at our son’s home in Coto de Caza.

“Today, I am still in the recovery process and will continue to be so for some time until at least the arm and leg are healed. However, I am ready to take on the challenges of the world and will do so within my physical limitations. Thanks for all your kind thoughts and prayers.”

1945

Earl Thomson  
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Art Hill’s daughter, Pamela, wrote to tell me that Art passed away on October 4, 2018, at the age of 92. Pamela said that Art led an amazing life.

1946

If you are interested in serving as class secretary, please contact editor@peddie.org.

1947

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Bill Kincaid ’44 and his wife, Shirley (foreground), attend a family reunion last December.
We recently caught up with class secretary and reunion volunteer Ken Seyffer '39, who lives in South Hadley, Massachusetts with his 15-year-old cat, Max. The former VP of Shawmut Bank was married to his wife, Lolita, for 72 years before she passed away in 2016. Seyffer has four daughters and is a great-grandfather. At 98 years old, Seyffer is one of Peddie’s oldest living alumni. But age hasn’t stopped him from being active in his community (he sits on a few committees and boards). Or giving up his dream of joining the Yankees.

Q: What motivated you to serve as a reunion volunteer and class secretary?
A: Simple — I wanted to be a part of the action. I am the class secretary for Colgate University’s Class of ’43. There are 12 of us left out of 224. So I thought I would test Peddie. There are only two of us left (that we know of) out of the entire class: Duyane Hoffman and me.

Q: What do you remember about your time at Peddie?
A: Larry Kelly ’33 (the first Heisman Trophy winner) was my floor supervisor. I remember trying to analyze the poem “Daffodils” by William Wordsworth. I had great trouble.

Q: What’s it like living with your cat, Max?
A: Max is my best friend. For years I have been trying to teach him to speak. He is fed, has his litterbox, sleeps on his bed in the guest room ... why should he learn to talk when he gets all of this for nothing?

Q: You are an avid reader of biographies. What have you read recently?
A: I am currently reading “Patton: A Genius for War” by Carlo D’Este. I was in the 76th Infantry Division in his Third Army. We never met.

Q: You want to be on the Yankees?
A: I believe I have the speed on the base paths with my walker. But Max disagrees, and I have yet to hear from them. I guess they don’t want to meet my large salary request.
In spite of my rather frequent conversations with our classmate, Mighty Ian Graham, I learned even more about him from the recent article Peddie published in the Bell Society newsletter. We can all be proud of what our classmate has contributed, and continues to contribute, to Peddie.

Had a nice talk with Ed Soderlund who is doing well, but has started to have some eye problems. We all hope that Ed’s condition improves.

Bob Murphy has been retired for 26 years, married for 60 years and still going strong! His favorite teacher was Bertram Strohmeier, as he was always patient with Bob since he never really got the gist of algebra.

Noel Perry marvels at the life of Phares Hertzog, who endured until he was 107, and gave up gardening at 105. Though Noel doubts he’ll match that age, he concedes it’s been an interesting run so far. Unfortunately, his wife collapsed and died suddenly in December 2017. The pain of mourning this past
year has been eased by his sister moving to his house in Salinas, Calif. Our thoughts are with Noel.

1951

If you are interested in serving as class secretary, please contact editor@peddie.org.

1952

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Ed Pitts and Marilyn spent the winter at their home in Key West, Fla. enjoying a constant flow of family visitors; they now have 17 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Also escaping from the chill of winter were Bill Merizon and Martha, who made their annual pilgrimage to the Florida west coast. Bill said he’s spending less time on the slopes in Sun Valley, Idaho. Tony Romano had his annual visit to Florida with his son. In late November I briefly saw Al DiCenzo, who attended a trustee meeting.

By the time you receive this issue of the Chronicle, I will know if Jack Barrett was able to join me for lunch at Peddie. Bob Felver and I had a game of telephone tag with messages via answering machine and through my wife, Mary. He is well. A long conversation with Sandy Hampton revealed that he knew well the minister of the church Mary attended in Oak Park, Ill. I also discovered he and I were avid Dodger fans when they were “Dem Bums” in Brooklyn. One of my first jobs was at Ebbets Field. Dan Gold and his wife are well. Dan asked me about the community we moved to across from Peddie, but for now, he and Frances are firmly ensconced in North Jersey.

During a late February trip to meet with Florida alumni in the Fort Lauderdale area, Peter Quinn and Brian Davidson drove to Naples to visit with Roger Kaufman and his brother, Herb Kaufman ’47. Roger, unfortunately, missed their visit, but when I spoke to him, he enthusiastically told me about a cruise that he and Kristen took from Costa Rica, which sailed the length of the Panama Canal ending in Panama City. Sponsored by Harvard, Yale and Princeton, a faculty representative from each school made informative presentations on their disciplines. Roger said that the discussions that followed were found stimulating by all, as was the scenery. Ira Haupt and Joyce are well and continue to take advantage of living in New York. They attend concerts, the opera and lectures. Ira planned to be at the April Bell Society luncheon.

I had a good chat with Don Woolfenden, who lives in Monmouth Beach, N.J. with his wife, Doris. After attending Cornell for two years, having knee problems and a dislike of the cold, he transferred to the University of Mississippi where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science. Both locations are a long way from where Don spent his business career as mining titles manager in Perth, Australia. At one time he also supervised air traffic controllers in Western Australia. Don and his wife have traveled the world, but he has not been back to Peddie since graduation. Hopefully, that will have changed by the time you receive this issue of the Chronicle.

Pete Paschall, who spent a number of years as a high school football coach, proudly told me about his grandson, a junior at Lipscomb Academy in Nashville, Tenn., who was named an all-state linebacker. Pete was hoping to be at reunion in June.

Ted Lederman had a good stay in Thailand and was about to leave for Florida when we spoke in March. He was planning to be at reunion again in June.

On a personal note, Mary and I now live at Meadow Lakes, a senior community on Etra Road between Peddie and the Peddie Golf Course. Pangs of nostalgia occur when I drive past Rivenburg, now faculty housing. I lived on the top floor there 70 years ago when Bill Thompson was dorm...
master. Unlike me, I'm glad you
gentlemen are still young. Stay well
and let me know what keeps you busy.

1953

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I wish I had more to report
this time around. Maybe most
classmates found themselves in an
extraordinarily restful summer or
had nothing interesting to report.

However, I did connect with Bill
Winters in Florida. Had a great
conversation. We remember Bill
for his performance as a diver on
Peddie’s 1953 swim team. As a
matter of fact, it was written in our
yearbook: “Assistant Coach Joe
Flynn, former Rutgers diver, aided
in developing the best diving trio in
Peddie’s swim history: Bill Winters,
Bill McLean and Jack Mattress.”

Our ’53 swim team had a 9-1 record.
We beat the Princeton University’s
freshman team 39-36 and then
went on to beat the University
of Pennsylvania freshman team
59-22. We came in second in the
State Championship meet. Not
too shabby! It is not surprising
that during our 60th Reunion
Weekend, Bill was inducted into
the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame.
Congratulations, Bill.

After graduation Bill entered Villanova
University. He left Villanova after his
first year and joined the Navy, 1954-
1958. When discharged, his rate was
ATN3, aka petty officer third class.
His service took him to the Philippines
and Japan. Bill shared that he had a
great experience with the Japanese,
who were very friendly and welcoming.

In 1958, after discharge, he was
given a book titled “Good News
of the Kingdom” by his sister. In
speaking with Bill, it was the most
enlightening book he’s read. He has
been a Jehovah’s Witness ever since
and very active in the faith.

Bill has four daughters, one son
and three grandchildren. He is an
avid golfer and is in touch with his
Peddie roommate, Sam Hoagland,
who moved to Florida recently.

Bill had some cardiac issues and
spent a week in a Veterans Affairs
hospital, but now is on the mend.
We wish him well.

In the last issue of the Chronicle I
wrote that in the 2017-2018 annual
fundraiser, our class came in with
48% participation. That was the
number I was given from the Alumni
and Development Office at the time
the class secretaries had to submit
their contributions to the Chronicle.
A month or so later the results of annual
giving were published and mailed to
alumni. Turns out our class — 1953
— came in with 51%, exceeded our
goal of $25,000 and once again came
in first in participation! Peddie truly
thanks all of us. A special shoutout
of thanks goes to Joann Neiderhoffer
who donated to the annual fund in
remembrance of her husband, Harold
Neiderhoffer, and his long-term
dedication to the school.

In February I dropped by the Alumni
and Development Office to say
hello. Following the brief visit, I went
over to the field house to watch
Peddie take on George School
wrestling team. Ended with a tie
score: 36-36. It did bring back fond
memories of my “mat” time, 1949-
1953. Those were the days!

The Alumni and Development Office
mailed my letter about the Bell
Society to you in March. I hope you’ll
give it your thoughtful consideration.
Planning ahead is a good thing and
having Peddie remembered in your
estate planning can help you as well
as helping future generations of
Peddie students.

That’s it for now. Until next time be
in touch and be well.

Bob Werner ’53 P’82 (left) catches up with Board of Trustee Jeff Larsen ’93 at the Bell Society
gathering during Reunion Weekend in June 2018.
public service: He chairs their local housing authority board, serves on the building committee for a new human services building, makes two Foodshare runs per week and, for a not-for-profit agency, drives patients back and forth for medical appointments. Bob, you are a terrific credit to our class.

Skip Goldfein has been the other great communicator of our class. Skip is wonderful at reporting info on various of our classmates but is pretty chintzy in sharing news on himself. He lives most of the year in New York (except January and February in California), where he has an active law practice with a particular focus on environmental issues and eco-friendly land development. Skip would never tell me this, but I know from other sources that he is very generous of his time and effort with several not-for-profit entities in the New York area. He and his first wife have a son, Josh, also an attorney, who works for Legal Aid in New York. Skip’s wife, Judy, is an accomplished artist who was once married to Dean Edell, with whom she had a son, Jordan, whose own son, Oliver, Skip and Judy are taking to London this spring. I have not heard directly from Dean and, rather than report hearsay on his prominent

If you are interested in serving as class secretary, please contact editor@peddie.org.

Martin Tweedale writes: “I lost a leg in 2017. Last year, our classmate and my lifelong friend Jack Lieber died. But I’m still kicking around, organizing Philosophers’ Café, translating medieval philosophy, reading and writing as well as learning how to play a decent game of bridge. Greetings to all.”

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Lauren Schnipper Rausch ’97 (left) and Mort Goldfein ’59 catch up in Pasadena, Calif. Lauren’s father was Mort’s fraternity brother at Tufts University.
enough to visit regularly, and we still can keep up with them enough to do likewise. I am still pretty active with corporate and not-for-profit boards and with my Moscow-centered chemistry company. Louisa’s myeloma remains in stringent full remission and she is the essence of human kindness and generosity. She and I enjoy travel; this year we are going to Madagascar for 10 days, followed by some southern African sites, taking a riverboat trip through Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic and a trip to some of the Canadian Maritime Provinces.

Oscar Romer has also been a wonderful communicator. Two years ago, he shared with us a long and news-filled email. This year, he expressed genuine regret that he would be unable to attend the reunion for several reasons: One, he is recovering from two major surgeries; two, his wife, Luisa, is about to undergo some major surgery; and three, under the current Venezuelan regime, it is difficult to renew one’s passport. He described the problems obtaining essentials like food, medicine, eyeglasses, etc., all made worse by the poor relationship between President Trump and President Maduro. Oscar, we all send you our love and our hope that the conditions in your country resolve such that you may join us in enjoying freedom and happiness in your golden years. Continuing on a Latin American theme, it was good to hear from Manuel Celedon who was not able to make the reunion but wanted to assure us all that he is still alive (and, I hope, well).

Lloyd Reynolds, Clem Kost and Stan Solomon have kept in close touch with each other since graduation. Lloyd wrote a lovely, warm note expressing regrets that he would miss the reunion. He and Lee have carved out an idyllic life, I refer you to his extensive bio on Wikipedia.

Gabe Galindo has been terrific in helping to bring our class together. He and Skip Goldfein keep in close touch and got together in New York last December. It was Gabe who shared with me an email from Ben Norris that was filled with fond memories of cavorting with Gabe and Ed Martin on the fifth floor of Wilson Hall, reveling in their torture of Mr. Watson and the two night watchmen and, most amusingly, reminding us of the breath that whistled through Dean DuBois’ mustache when he was angry!

Bob Perrin sent me a great catch-up email: “I designed my life to make time, not money — time for my passions, my son, my continuing education and traveling.” Bob’s son, Josh, 44, and his wife, Diana, created a novel business that is now the world’s largest renter of high-end tabletop place settings; and, 11 months ago, they created Bob’s first grandchild. After 20 years of serving Merrill Lynch clients in Palm Beach, Fla., Bob opened an art gallery that specialized in vintage posters, a business that took him all over Europe in search of posters. In 2000, Bob divorced both his wife and his business and decided to devote his full attention to personal investing. Rather than follow the herd into the tech world, Bob focused on utilities and high-dividend stocks. The inherent stability and income generation of such investments gave Bob the time and ability to indulge in travel to the Galapágos, China, Uzbekistan, often to Paris and a total of 80 countries. He also began dating, thinking he would quickly remarry, but 17 years and dozens of women later (Bob thinks he was an online dating pioneer), he remains single but hopeful that the next date will bring Ms. Right. Bob treasures the friendships made at Peddie, was very moved by our 50th Reunion and looked forward to renewing friendships at our 60th and reliving the feeling of his original arrival in Hightstown.

And I am very grateful for the continued concern that Bob, Gabe and Skip have shown for the health and well-being of our son, Dave, who, you may remember, suffered a very rare type of stroke three years ago, at age 30. (He is much, much better and a wonderful father of two.) Our other five sons, six daughters-in-law and our twelve (and counting) grandkids still love us enough to visit regularly, and we still can keep up with them enough to do likewise. I am still pretty active with corporate and not-for-profit boards and with my Moscow-centered chemistry company. Louisa’s myeloma remains in stringent full remission and she is the essence of human kindness and generosity. She and I enjoy travel; this year we are going to Madagascar for 10 days, followed by some southern African sites, taking a riverboat trip through Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic and a trip to some of the Canadian Maritime Provinces.

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Barry Radick ‘59 (left) and his wife, Sloane Elman, escort their daughter, Julia, down the aisle on her wedding day in August 2018.

life, having recently moved to a retirement community in Falmouth, Maine, where they can be near both their family and their South Port Marine business in Portland, which Lloyd and his sons have built into a thriving enterprise. They do still escape the cold for a few months, however, at their beachfront condo in Cape Canaveral, Fla. Clem also recently moved to a house in Bluffton, S.C., very close to Hilton Head, where he loves the warm winters that enable him to play golf two or three times per week and spend his days “sitting in shorts and T-shirt with the doors and windows wide open.” It was particularly meaningful to hear from Stan, who was the guest of honor last November at the 243rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball held in Okinawa, Japan. His talk was: “The Forgotten Vietnam Vet.”

Dave Henshaw seems to have his act totally together, being thrilled to have moved to a new 55 and over condominium community in the same town (Londonderry, N.H.) as his old house, and emotes: “No more shoveling, no more leaf raking, no more lawn mowing, no pool maintenance, etc. It’s a good life.” Amen, Dave. John Waterman has read the same book, writing that he and his wife have moved into a retirement community in Louisville, Ky. to be near the grandkids. “The life is definitely an adjustment, but it’s the right time to move — before it becomes a necessity!” But Dick Heuser seems to be a long way from seeking, or needing, a retirement community since he and his wife ride their bicycles from Freehold to the Hightstown Diner for breakfast on the weekends. Indeed, Dick planned to ride his bike back and forth to Peddie for reunion.

Neil Garfield has been very successful in the business world, first as one of the early investment bankers and then as the chairman and CEO of Mechanical Plastics Corporation, the everyday running of which he has now turned over to his two sons, Teddy and David, who, Neil says, have grown the business exponentially. Neil and Carol still live in Purchase, N.Y. but frequently travel to their home in Florida.

Art Siccardi has had a very eventful previous year: In May 2018, he went to the ER with terrible pain on his left side. The pain was due to a kidney stone, but a CT scan revealed an otherwise silent cancer in his right lung and the tip of his pancreas. In June, he had a resection of the middle lobe of his right lung and, in January of this year, the tip of his pancreas. Art writes: “I returned to the golf course on February 28, 2019, and God has given me my life back as I am now cancer free. Pam and I consider ourselves extremely lucky and are so grateful God sent me the warning kidney stone.”

Barry Radick sent some great photos of his family at the August 2018 wedding of his elder daughter, Julia, to a fellow dancer, Elijah Labay. The couple were both members of the NW Dance Project, a contemporary dance company based in Portland, Ore., but recently left NW Dance Project to become principal dancers for Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal. Barry’s younger daughter, Olivia, is also giving back to the community as an environmental educator for the Hudson River Park Trust. Barry has retired as a partner in the New York law firm Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy but continues as a senior advisor at Alvarez & Marsal two days per week. His wife, Sloane Elman, is VP and deputy general counsel for the Hospital for Special Surgery. (By the way, guys, HSS is the best orthopedic hospital in the world in case you need any of your aging parts fixed or replaced!) In keeping with the “family business,” Barry’s elder son, Neil, is a public defender in Los Angeles, and Neil’s younger brother, Rob, is a partner in a New York firm.

While Barry and his family have been winning trials in the courtroom and on the stage, the other Barry in our class, Barry Reisman, has been winning dog show competitions. His latest entries have been a French bulldog and a Jack Russell terrier, and he has had an English Mastiff in the past. He has two sons, 39 and 37, and a daughter, 50. But

NOTES
Barry has had more than his share of adverse encounters with the medical world: His first wife died in the gynecologist’s office, and his current wife of 40 years had to have an eye removed due to severe bleeding following laser surgery for a detached retina. (Sounds like he needs the services of the other Barry!)

Tom King planned to be at the reunion. I expect to hear about the latest triumphs of Tom on the track (in both car and on foot) and on the dance floor. He did remind me about his terrific triumph on Peddie’s old wooden track over Frank Budd in both the 50-yard dash and the mile relay. Bruce Brenner also planned to attend the reunion. Bruce and his wife, Felicia, spend their winters on Marco Island, Fla. They have four kids aged 50-54 and five grandsons at or near college age. Felicia is an accomplished artist who specializes in traditional Chinese brush painting, and she and Bruce have traveled extensively in China. Bruce himself retired from business ten years ago and now spends his time flying radio-controlled (RC) planes, sailing RC boats, fishing, woodworking and enjoying his family.

I will close on a somber, but loving, note: in the past year, we have lost six more classmates: Tom Hope, Phil Pullen, Jan Simon, Jerry Friedman, Steve Mainster and Fred Davis. RIP, guys.

**1960**

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Rick Williams has been through a ton. “I had a stroke seven years ago and totally lost my speech. I had to learn every single word again but am doing very well now. Other changes: I moved to California and live in shorts. Still playing the banjo and guitar. Reunion chances: pretty good. I went to the 50th and would always like to reconnect with other classmates. I am fully retired, so pretty wide open about time or location.” Rick’s new email is rw072142@gmail.com.

Serial monogamist Larry Kash “got married again — No. 4!” Larry and Mary Ellen met as colleagues at Dreyfus Corporation in New York City. They live in Palm City, Fla., near Stuart, coincidentally in the same condo complex Larry called home 30 years ago. He’s “getting old, with back surgery coming sometime this year, but still playing golf four times a week with a 3 handicap. Lot easier to shoot my age now!” The bad news is Larry won’t make our 60th, but the good reason is he’ll be honeymooning on Lake Como and in Croatia.

From recently-widowed Ron Cantlie: “My life-altering experiences have changed my future to the point I’m moving to Las Vegas to leave the tough decade behind.” Ron muses, “As I get further away from Peddie, I’m thinking more seriously of being at our 2020 reunion. Hell, last time I looked, we’re all getting older unless some of you found the answer to life everlasting.” Amen to that!

Charlie Wingert sees his 60th Reunion attendance chances as “better than 50%” and cites his “decision to retire from my business as a financial advisor at the end of 2018” as his biggest change since we saw him at our 50th. Charlie credits “working a variety of jobs from engineering to general management
to financial services” as being key to his career satisfaction. He still serves “as treasurer of the board of a small Bible camp in southwestern Pennsylvania. The camp’s niche is helping children improve reading and math skills.” Charlie’s new email is cdwingert@gmail.com.

Health issues are taking a toll for many of us. Lee Smith admits, “I haven’t taken the greatest care of myself.” He uses a walker to get to the supermarket since becoming car-less — a “big blow” after losing his license despite only two accidents in 35 years. Now fully retired, Lee taught at Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia until 2006 before moving to New Hampshire and working ten years evaluating student essays with testing company Measured Progress. He hopes to join our 60th if he can swing the long train trip down through Boston.

Al Gutermuth spends lots of time on the road visiting and helping care for his mom, aunt and sister-in-law who are all fighting cancer. In good health himself, Al keeps in shape playing competitive golf and maintaining a top-flight course in upstate New York near his home outside Albany. He rates himself “maybe but unlikely” for our 60th given a potential conflict with a big tournament at the course where he works, as happened during our 50th. Jim Gauntt expects to miss the reunion because of health concerns. “Otherwise,” he writes, “I would love to join you because I have many fine memories of days at Peddie. My best regards to all!”

Peter Blanchard has “good days and bad days,” so he’s tentative about the 60th until he sees how his days are behaving when Reunion Weekend 2020 rolls around. Pete retired last December after a prominent career in commercial real estate, first with the family firm, Wm. Blanchard Co., New Jersey’s oldest construction outfit, and more recently as principal of The Garibaldi Group. He’s been a mover in purchasing, leasing and managing over 50 million square feet of real estate. Now that Peter and wife, Carol, are free for more travel, they enjoy visits with their four kids and eight grandchildren, including frequent trips to California’s Mill Valley and the Sonoma wine country near San Francisco.

After 50 years in pool construction and home remodeling, Charlie Taverner and his wife, Diane, started marketing “Kettle Korn” in 2001 (sales@NortheastKettleKorn.com). Their “slightly sweet, slightly salty” popcorn is a crowd-pleaser at fairs, arts and craft shows, and church and school fundraisers up and down the East Coast. Decked

Thomas B. Peddie’s legacy certainly went far.

To learn more about planning your Peddie legacy, contact Anne DeMesa, director of gift planning, at (609) 944-7615 or bellsociety@peddie.org or visit peddie.org/giftplanning.
out in western attire, Charlie and Diane use a wooden paddle to stir the popping corn into a huge copper kettle under a cowboy-style cooking tent. Who knows, maybe Ma and Pa Kettle Korn will pop up at our 60th.

Mike Kay counts several “big things” in his life since our 50th: “Watching grandchildren become teenagers; deciding to stop doing surgery, but still working and enjoying it; working on my golf game and hoping to shoot my age again; and being grateful for 50 years with my great life partner (she wrote this).”

Walt Ingram has officially retired from commercial salmon fishing in Alaska, and after breaking a leg at his condo in Playa de Carmen, Mexico, warns all of us to “beware of steps.” We hope Walt is completely recovered by the time you read this.

Terry Hensle says family obligations will guarantee he attends our 60th. “My daughter, Laura-Lee, is the Peddie events planner, and my grandson, Jake Radtke, is a Peddie freshman, so I have to come back.” See you there, Terry!

Roger Golden is another likely reunion returnee. As to major life events, Roger offered possibly the most sensible reply: “Fortunately nothing really big has happened in my life since our 50th. ‘Big’ things at our age are not always good things!” Footloose Roger and his wife, Joanie, “just returned from Mexico — our fifth trip there since 2014. We stay with American friends in Puerto Vallarta, then go on to other places. Three times in Mexico City. We’ve also toured Oaxaca, Guadalajara, San Miguel de Allende and Guanajuato. We both speak enough Spanish to make the visits really enjoyable. In April we hope to return to Japan for our 16th time. About 15 years ago Joanie started volunteering to teach survival English to Japanese mothers who live near us in Bethesda, Md. As on our last visit in 2016, Joanie hopes to reunite with former students who have moved back to Japan. They now number in the hundreds.”

The decade’s biggest changes for Dick Harrison: “1. All four of my grandchildren were born in the last ten years. Two to each of my sons and daughters-in-law. This grandfather stuff is great. 2. I retired at 70, and Mary (who’s younger) just retired a couple of months ago. We’ll be finding a new home — smaller, one level — here in Knoxville, Tenn. then selling the one we’ve been in. Mary has lived here all her life and has a large network of family and friends. I’ve lived all over the place and tend to be comfortable wherever I am, so it works for both of us. 3. I’m working on a series of books, and after a lifetime of writing quickly and effortlessly, it’s slow going. Probably because this is more portentous — and probably pretentious — stuff than I did for half a century.”

Rick Turner says he and wife, Glo, will do their best to drop anchor at our Peddie 60th during their busy cruise schedule. Don Gavin also expects to join us. He adds that since leaving his law firm, “The big surprise is that I have at least as much high-quality work to do as I want. A good deal of it is international.” Paul Albert writes, “My biggest event since our 50th is happening right now.” After 48 years in South Salem, N.Y., Paul and Irma put their house up for sale and, by the time you read this, should have their new home on a lake in Sienna Plantation near Sugar Land, Texas well under construction while living in temporary digs nearby.

Gene Scanlan reports from his Tucson retreat: “We’re headed back to our Canada home soon, after experiencing a surprising winter here in the desert. Cool temperatures, rain, and even snow on the mountains behind our house were all unexpected, especially after 80-to-90 degrees during February and March in recent years. Yesterday was our first day in shorts since we got here in November. It will be nice to get back to the sunshine and warmth of British Columbia!”

This column’s downer is news we lost Tom Darlington in July 2017. Tom was born to British parents in Honduras and also lived in Panama and Cuba where his dad was a diplomat and businessman. “Cuba was a wonderful time for me,” he reminisced. “Life was vibrant and musical and joyful in many ways.” About his time at Peddie he added, “I’ll never forget Mr. Ogden, who brought me through a rough period in my life, and Mr. DuBois, who was a really good person. The camaraderie with fellow classmates was incomparable to the icy reception I received at a previous boarding school. I was a proud cheerleader whenever Peddie played.” Tom became a naturalized Canadian in 1978 and taught at Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute in Guelph, Ontario. An English department colleague recalls him being “part of the ‘dirty dozen,’ a group of somewhat eccentric male teachers who had been at Centennial for a long time.” Friends prized “his kindness, strong sense of honor and gentlemanly ways, his hearty laughter, love of learning and enjoyment of debating ideas” and they tell us “students remember him as a caring man and a stickler for punctuation, especially correct use of apostrophes.” Tom’s Peddie schoolmates can be happy knowing he found a full life without losing his sweet-tempered ways.
It doesn’t rank, recalling, the lobby of Davidson: “John [Sussek] and his Alumni Relations Director Brian We then received this report from upstairs is consequential. cowing and down-cowing are vastly universal knowledge that up-to be — common-bordering-on-it has long been — and continues observation strongly suggests that not down. We note that her correct can be led shared her understanding that cows two generations younger than we) member of Peddie’s staff (perhaps Hazlett’s name, I can relate that a deed. Without mentioning Laura state with impunity that it was of age, we could categorically were then at or under two years it happened. Since most of us confirmation that this was true Sussek confirmed that the myth reported in our last installment. Mr. heard from John Sussek ‘50, as reported in our last installment. Mr. Sussek confirmed that the myth was fact and that the event actually happened in 1945 or 1946.

Our first reaction to Mr. Sussek’s confirmation that this was true Peddie history was to note when it happened. Since most of us were then at or under two years of age, we could categorically state with impunity that it was not one of us what done the dirty deed. Without mentioning Laura Hazlett’s name, I can relate that a member of Peddie’s staff (perhaps two generations younger than we) shared her understanding that cows can be led up a flight of stairs but not down. We note that her correct observation strongly suggests that it has long been — and continues to be — common-bordering-on-universal knowledge that up-cowing and down-cowing are vastly different undertakings. Taking a cow upstairs is consequential.

We then received this report from Alumni Relations Director Brian Davidson: “John [Sussek] and his lovely wife were [recently] with us at a Bell Society dinner in New York City. His grandson and namesake is a junior in my dorm.” We assume this means that young John will keep this story alive through the next generation. Grateful for this confirmation of his earlier report, Pete Henry responded, “Thanks for backing me up in this and thanks to John Sussek.”

The foregoing prompted a revival of interest in another event that most of us remember from our time on campus. Allen Lynch wrote to ask, “I seem to remember a Volkswagen finding itself at the top of the stairs of the classroom building with its tires deflated one morning. Did I create a false memory or did that actually happen?” Within a few hours of our receiving Allen’s inquiry, we heard from Aris Sophocles, recalling, “How about the VW Bug on the steps of Memorial Hall, John. That really happened, too.” Of course, it did, except that Peddie Master John Cuyler’s Volkswagen was actually left, again, by persons unknown (or unknown to your secretary), inside the lobby of Memorial Hall (now known as Annenberg Hall and library).

Seeing no humor in these events, Mr. Cuyler called the N.J. State Police to come to take fingerprints from the crime scene. Learning that gendarmes had been summoned to investigate the purloining, droves of students then abandoned their breakfast and dashed to Memorial Hall to place their fingerprints on the car to thwart that effort (which would likely have accomplished nothing, in any event). As Aris explained, “The wheels inverted when the car was lifted, but the tires were not flat.” We will pay big bucks for photographic proof of that event. These exchanges prompted us to ask Aris for an update on what he has been up to, as we had not heard from him in a while. Aris is a doctor-lawyer who still practices medicine and lives near Boulder, Colo. with wife, Suzanne, whom he married about five years ago. He reports, “These are the ‘dessert years’ (a term coined by a friend who purchased a $2,000 bamboo fly rod and reel to rationalize his self-indulgence) — a time when one has permission to live life on his terms. For me, that has meant continuing to see patients, but on a half-time basis, with quarterly trips to Oahu to play with my two-year-old granddaughter and her family.

My daughter is a nurse there, living on the North Shore. Her husband, John, just published a book about the ‘Hokulea,’ a Polynesian sailboat that went around the world without instruments. My son, a cardiothoracic anesthesiologist, who lives with his wife in Bend, Ore., recently became the state’s champion road bicycle racer. Visiting them is part of the ‘dessert’ also. All’s well, thankfully.”

Our reportage about roof cows prompted this recollection from Mike Christensen: “It doesn’t rank with cows, but in the year I spent on the top floor of Wilson Hall, several fearless friends did roam the roof now and then, something like the college roof-climbers scene in Michael Ondaatje’s novel, ‘Warlight.’ I recall one night when Dean DuBois was in the street below shouting, ‘Come down here, you cowards,’ or words to that effect.

“By the way, when Joan and I were driving back to Washington, D.C. from western Mass. some months ago, we chance to stop for a break in Hightstown, which was disorienting because there were flower baskets hanging from streetlights and a decent restaurant.
"After lunch, we drove through the Peddie campus, where I tried to find something familiar. Well, the Chapel and Avery and Coleman are still there, but it’s a lot more crowded. I noticed that Rivenburg House, where I lived as a freshman, is still there, but not a dorm now. My spouse was very patient." Mike, you’re not alone in having a spouse patiently await your renewing an old relationship with the Peddie campus.

The Chronicle editor suggested that all class secretaries ask constituents to provide reminiscences about their first job. At age 15, your secretary was fired from a job as a Dobbs House short-order cook for eating too much. I also became Florida’s youngest Fuller Brush door-to-door salesperson (not sure which of these was the “first” job). While both were memorable, the experience of coming into the homes of large numbers of people in suburban Miami to urge their purchase of hairbrushes and cleaning aids was eye-opening.

Responding to this tell-us-about-your-first-job assignment, Fred Davis replied, “Actually one of my first summer jobs was working for Peddie maintenance during the summer of 1961. Skip to 1972 when I took a job with the South Florida Water Management District in West Palm Beach setting up their water quality lab and conducting research on Lake Okeechobee and nonpoint runoff from agricultural sources (dairy, citrus and cattle). Later, I managed their Land Stewardship Program until 2007 when I retired and hiked the Appalachian Trail. Never thought I’d live in Florida this long, but a good job and family keep me here. I am staying active doing volunteer work with the Florida Trail Association, traveling and spending some of the summer months at a house in North Carolina.” The A.T. is the longest hiking-only footpath in the world, ranging from Maine to Georgia. Many try it, but few walk the entire 2,175-mile course, which Fred accomplished about a decade ago.

Bill Kontes laments the modern practice of enhancing job titles with self-laudatory descriptors. He adds that he is “still trying to ‘go home again,’ or at least stay above the poverty level.” Pete Henry reports having had “a good year in 2018. We spent Christmas in the Bay Area with Todd, Brooke, Sydney and Noble in San Francisco, and then with our whole brood up in Tahoe for the New Year’s week celebrating at John and Erin’s home and our cabin in Truckee. Hope to stay in touch in 2019."

Some months ago, we wrote to classmates about the Class of 1963 Memorial Grove, dedicated in honor of 1963 classmates and friends who have passed away. The efforts by our class and the Class of ’63 to create on-campus memorials are strikingly similar. The Memorial Grove was dedicated on June 2, 2018, at a Saturday afternoon ceremony that also honored 1963’s 55th Reunion Weekend. Our Class of 1962 Memorial Carillon was dedicated on June 3, 2017, at a dinner on Saturday evening of our 55th Reunion, with a plaque placed last summer. Our Carillon and the Memorial Grove became realities at about the same time. Both of these class memorials involved similar sums of money and major anonymous gifts. And the 55th Reunion dinners for both classes were at Swetland House.

By the way, the Class of ’63 has a class flag that bears the motto: We Lived it Hated it Loved it Peddie 1963 Without making any promises, we are open to suggestions for a Class of ’62 class flag that captures the experience we had in ten words or less (or shows a photo of Mr. Cuyler’s VW Bug).

Upon learning of the Memorial Grove, we reached out to Mike Duffy ’63, class secretary. (Mike has been at that post for almost 55 years and hopes that the job will soon be made permanent.) We shared recollections of Wilson Hall, Dr. Morong, nagging classmates for news and Peddie alumni who went to Denison at the same time (e.g., Mike and our own George Barber — see below).

We then heard back from George Barber, writing jointly to Mike Duffy ’63 and your secretary: “Appreciate the update with the ’63 Memorial. I’m surprised it’s taken the school (read other classes) so long to do this. Kudos to you both for the work you did on these projects.”

As for Peddie alums at Denison in the 1960s, there are a few more, as I know Mike [Duffy] is aware. Kugs [Clarence Kugler ’63], of course, but also Scottie Smith ’61, YD (Dave) King ’60 and I’m sure I’m missing another one or two. Mike, I’ve always enjoyed your news over these last 55+ years, and I’m just glad we were able to enlist John these last few years."

Trump advisor Roger Stone is being represented by Fort Lauderdale, Fla. criminal defense lawyer Bruce Rogow. We asked our own Rick Rogow if there was a connection (apparently not). Rick responded: “Thanks for asking about Bruce Rogow who, you tell me, is one of Roger Stone’s attorneys. As for an update — I’m still healthy, grateful for a terrific family and working as a mediator.”

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to encourage and reward excellence in Peddie students through the J.W. Doherty award.

Enjoy the summer and the “dessert years,” and think about what news (or class flag suggestions) you will be sending to your class secretary between now and late August. Once again, due to inflation, we have doubled the amount we can pay for usable news reports from class members. Stay well.

1963

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Shake it, don’t break it, you crazy septuagenarians! It’s time once again to kick out the Class Notes jams. So let’s get right into the update groove.

First stop, the Pacific Northwest, where Virginian Sharon Evans jetted cross-country last fall for a visit with her old Peddie roommate Bob Walter and his wife, Kim, at their home in Issaquah, Wash., outside Seattle. The two former roomies had been out of touch for many years and really enjoyed the reunion. “It

Also, for those keeping tabs on the front door of Howie’s St. Maarten condo that blew off in Hurricane Irma in September of 2017, he got a new front door just this January. Think about that.

As you know, Peddie now remembers our fallen classmate, John W. Doherty, through an annual essay competition. John’s brother, Paul Doherty ’61, provides this report on the current winner: “The second recipient of the J.W. Doherty Award for Research in Modern Global History is Dennis Zhang ’20. Dennis, a boarder from New Jersey, is a superior student, athlete, elected class officer and is involved in apparently all the aspects of student life at Peddie. Deanna Harkel, director of donor relations, wrote a glowing summary of his personal attributes, school activities and accomplishments that illuminate the incredible depth of purpose that Dennis demonstrates at Peddie. (His diverse list of activities exhausts me.)

“Dennis’ research paper dealt with the interactions of the government of South Africa, the AIDS crisis and institutionalized apartheid. Dennis hopes to get his paper published after additional work on it with Mr. Maley, his 10th grade history teacher. The Doherty family is proud to encourage and reward excellence in Peddie students through the J.W. Doherty award.”

Sharon Evans ’63 at a wine tasting room in Leavenworth, Wash. while on a visit with old roommate Bob Walter ’63.

Enjoy the summer and the “dessert years,” and think about what news (or class flag suggestions) you will be sending to your class secretary between now and late August. Once again, due to inflation, we have doubled the amount we can pay for usable news reports from class members. Stay well.

1963

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Shake it, don’t break it, you crazy septuagenarians! It’s time once again to kick out the Class Notes jams. So let’s get right into the update groove.

First stop, the Pacific Northwest, where Virginian Sharon Evans jetted cross-country last fall for a visit with her old Peddie roommate Bob Walter and his wife, Kim, at their home in Issaquah, Wash., outside Seattle. The two former roomies had been out of touch for many years and really enjoyed the reunion. “It
Pete Minard '63 on a snowmobile in Northern Idaho where he grooms cross country ski trails.

Clarence Kugler '63 (right) and his wife, Ali, visit Stonehenge during a recent trip to England.

Arthur Brown '63 (right) and his wife, Jo, on the bowsprit of Wind Spirit during a visit to the South Pacific in February.

Bill Matlack '63 (left) with Roger Burns '63 during a visit to Roger’s home in Hilton Head, S.C. last winter.

Joe Latchum '63 (left) with his granddaughter Catherine on a dock in Islamorada, Fla.

Tim Hurson '63 (right) greets his wife, Franca, on the runway in Fort Myers, Fla. in January.

Bob Walter '63 wears his Mickey Mouse ears.
was a great time, and we did some very interesting things over the four days that I stayed,” says Sharon. Bob echoed those sentiments, saying, “Sharon’s visit was a lot of fun. Kim and I enjoyed spending time with her.”

One of the trio’s little road trips involved a visit to Leavenworth, Wash., a postcard-pretty community founded by settlers from Bavaria. “The historic town looks like it would fit right into the Bavarian Alps,” notes Sharon. As luck would have it, Oktoberfest was in full swing with parades and lots of beer.

Alas, as Sharon notes, she’s not into suds, but was happy to bop into the town’s tasting rooms for Washington wine. “What can I say, I hate beer, but give me a good wine, and I am a happy lady,” cracks Sharon with a big smile in a selfie taken at one of those tasting rooms. “Ended up spending over $300 on bottles that I tasted and had them shipped back to me in Virginia.” So will it be Sauvignon Blanc or Cabernet Sauvignon tonight, Sharon?

Meanwhile, you can’t say Bob Walter doesn’t have a genial sense of humor. Check the Mickey Mouse ears atop his smiling face, a happy sign of his ongoing work with Disney. “Still involved with the Mouse,” says Bob. “Yup, still working with A.I. for the theme parks, hotels, cruise lines, retail operations and online operations. It’s pretty challenging.”

When Bob, unfortunately, developed disc problems in his neck earlier this year, putting pressure on his spine, he was able to work from his home office, leading into some mid-March surgery to repair the problem. Hope the healing has gone well, Bob. And thanks to both you and Sharon for staying in touch with each other and with the class.

Let’s bop cross country to the Southeast coast and Hilton Head Island, where Roger Burns and MVP spouse, Joanne, welcomed fellow South Carolinian retirees Bill Matlack and wife, Regine, for a visit this winter. Team Matlack zoomed over from their home in Aiken, where they’ve lived since moving last summer from their longtime home in New Jersey.

Zoomed?

“Bill has a beautiful, hot, four-on-the-floor Mustang and he shortens the (two-and-a-half hour) trip a bit,” says Roger. “The highlight of the visit for (the Matlacks) was attending a concert by the Hilton Head Symphony. Bill has become a classical music buff and is impressively knowledgeable. The concert included Beethoven’s Sixth Symphony, which Bill has studied and loves.”

“And one more important thing,” adds Roger, “Less than six months after quadruple bypass surgery, Bill looks as healthy and energized as he did at Peddie.”

Fantastic. Or to paraphrase the late, great Chuck Berry, “Roll over, Beethoven, and tell Tchaikovsky the news. Mustang Bill has rocked that bypass recovery.”

How about another roommate reunion?

“Doug Richardson and I got together in New York City,” writes Andy Harris from his home base in McKinney, Texas, where he is a professor of theater history, play analysis and playwriting at the University of North Texas. “I am slated to direct Noel Coward’s ‘Private Lives’ in the fall. I knew that Doug would have some good ideas about it. (He) has the Noel Coward Collection put out by the BBC and we watched that and discussed the production that was done on Broadway with Alan Rickman, which I had not seen. It was a lot of fun, and I’m always glad to see Doug and his wife, Wai, as we have a lot to talk about and share.”

Last fall, as my wife, Jane, and I were doing some decluttering of our Detroit area home, I was slightly agog to discover several ancient, early 1960s copies of the Amphion, Peddie’s literary magazine. Nope, I never had the teenage courage to try poetry or short stories back on Planet Morong. But I did find lively, ambitious short stories and poems written by several classmates in the early 1960s, including Ken Patchen, and mailed the copies off to them.

“It’s nice to know that more evidence of my early writing attempts is now safely out of circulation,” Ken noted in a typically wry, witty snail mail note of thanks from his home in Antioch, Ill. “I appreciate your efforts to help preserve my reputation.”

As for a fellow former journalist’s efforts at decluttering? “(Wife) Betty Ann just places my childhood treasures in a curbside garbage can with a gift six-pack of artisanal beer for the trash men (no, not the group that recorded ‘Surfin’ Bird’) on the lid as a thank-you gift for hauling it away,” concludes Ken on the usual droll roll.

Finally, thanks so much, Ken, for including with your note a nifty photo card of Jeff Bridges from “The Big Lebowski,” my personal all-time favorite Coen Brothers movie. The Dude abides. Indeed.

In their first year of retirement, New Yorkers Arthur Brown and wife, Jo, have gone into happy relaxation mode while also doing some traveling. And that’s putting it mildly when you mention the couple’s February odyssey exploring the South Pacific. Along with a photo of
themself in the bowsprit aboard the Wind Spirit, the vessel on which they were sailing, Arthur noted, “Last day at sea before going to Bora Bora for five nights. Not quite Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio, but we can assure you this was a romantic adventure.” Well, Arthur, at least you guys weren’t on the Titanic.

Down in Florida, Nils Pearson has seen enough of “the Red Tide” — an algae bloom that periodically appears on shores, “says Nils. “It produces airborne lung irritants and has plagued our SW Florida coastline off and on for the past year. Because our home is on the coast, this has been a challenge.”

Gee, thanks, climate change?!

In other Nils news: “Still involved in construction projects — that includes a seawall replacement here at our 13-acre condo campus. Lesson learned: When retired, never let people know what you did for a living — they now want the service for free! That’s about it from Englewood, Fla.: A quaint little drinking village — with a fishing problem.”

Always a treat to hear from you, Nils.

Speaking of another classmate fun one, Virginian Joe Latchum sent along a photo of himself and granddaughter Catherine during a vacation visit to the idyllic Islamorada village of islands in the Florida Keys. “Rocking the Peddie shirt,” says Joe, referring to his long-sleeved Falcons T-shirt that exhorts shirt,” says Joe, referring to his long-sleeved Falcons T-shirt that exhorts

A pretty woman who met us on the runway.” The pretty woman? She’s also known as Tim’s marital main squeeze and best friend, Franca. “That’s it, Mike. Hope this helps fill your hungry maw!”

That’s Tim putting the smooch on

“Speaking of fun,” says Tim in an email, “I’m involved in the small innovation incubator Launch U. that’s attached to my alma mater, Oberlin. I go there periodically, both in my role as a board member and as a teacher/coach. I was on campus in late January to teach a couple courses at Launch U’s Boot Camp, and was lucky enough to catch a ride back to Fort Myers (where Tim and wife Franca winter) with one of our supporters who lives in Miami and is a flying enthusiast with his own jet.”

That’s Tim putting the smooch on

“What else?”

Peace be with you, Pete. The coolest thing about the Class of ’63? Every single one of us is uniquely him or herself.

Speaking of unique, they broke the mold when Clarence Blyer Kugler IV was created.

So let’s now finish up this batch of notes with a brief, colorful stop at Kugler’s Korner.

With Clarence and wife Ali both fully retired, the Deerfield Beach, Fla. Kuglers have frequently gone globetrotter-a-go-go over the past year. Citing a line from the film “The Madness of King George,” “It takes character to withstand the rigors of indolence.” Clarence said that he and Ali have happily embraced the philosophy that travel is a blissful, educational way to fight “delightful indolence.” In other words, wrote Kugs, “Have Bags Packed, Will Travel.” And over the past year, the Kuglers have visited “the Bahamas, Cuba, Germany, Hungary, Austria, England, Scotland and the British Virgin Islands.” And that didn’t include domestic trips to various destinations, including the Windy City to root on son Kyle and his wife Maria as they competed in the Chicago Marathon. Oh, and let’s not forget the latest trip Down Under to Clarence’s native Australia this past February and March. Joined by Kyle and Maria, they checked out Brisbane on the Gold Coast, among other stops. Bonus treat? The Kuglers saw younger son Colin,
I received a brief note from Fred Doob. Fred is the president/CEO at Pro-Iroda USA Inc. and is living in Pepper Pike, Ohio. It’s good to hear from you, Fred. Keep our 55th Reunion on your calendar for next year.

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From John Schieffelin: “Linda and I are happy to be in Stuart, Fla. in winter and in Middletown, R.I. in summer. We have four grandsons and two more ‘in the works’ — no granddaughters yet. Still love to be in or on the water — in small powerboats and kayaks. Linda decided road biking 20 to 50 miles every week wasn’t enough and has taken up mountain biking at age 70. You run into interesting people at mountain biking festivals!

“We’re trying a river cruise on the Seine this summer plus tromping around tourist sights in Paris. No complaints.”
Patrick Sandman ’07 knew that clerking for Judge Robert Kugler ’68 of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey would be a difficult job to get, so he was sure to mention his Peddie connection in his cover letter.

That, and a call to Director of Alumni Relations Brian Davidson to ask him if he could flag his application got Kugler’s attention.

“Some years I’ve received 800 or 900 applications,” said Kugler of the coveted clerkship at the Camden, N.J. federal courthouse. “He [Patrick] had just outstanding credentials and the Peddie connection,” said Kugler. “I decided, well, I need to talk to this guy to see if we have a fit here.”

Sandman impressed Kugler and began a one-year judicial clerkship with the judge last August.

The Cornell Law School graduate said he handles an “amazing range of things” for Kugler. “I have to research and write on subjects from police brutality to contract cases,” he said.

Kugler was nominated to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey by President George W. Bush in 2002. He also serves on the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which oversees requests for surveillance warrants against foreign spies inside the United States.

One of Kugler’s favorite parts of the job is working with his law clerks.

“I like talking to them about cases, listening to how they analyze and try to figure out where the law will take us,” he said.

Both Kugler and Sandman said that Peddie motivated them to choose a career in public service.

“There was that sense on campus of giving to others, giving back and service,” said Kugler.

Sandman also recalled a culture of service at Peddie. “I remember Annenberg’s quote about striving for the highest quality of citizenship. That emphasis on service broadened my horizons, and that naturally led me to want to be a lawyer.”

Kugler and Sandman reminisce about their days at Peddie

PS: Judge still somehow recalls what was served in the dining hall.
RK: That’s the kind of impression that Peddie has made on me. I’ll tell you what was on the menu on a particular Friday and Saturday and Sunday.
PS: The facilities are incredible. Whatever wasn’t perfect when I was there has been revamped since I left.
RK: You never had the experience of Wilson Hall.
PS: I know we’re both super pumped that the football team is kicking butt. We had a tough football four years when I was there, Judge.
RK: We were OK. My sophomore year baseball team, we were state champs.
PS: Mine too!
Bill Northacker writes: “Andy, you know I still remember you attacking the hurdles. You had an absolute look of intent and focus as you ran them. Good coordination.

“As one ages one has different new interests. Mine is fast cars. Older but fast (unlike me). Although at age 62 I was still jumping with my U.S. and British military parachute teams.

“So no brag, just fact, as Walter Brennan used to say in his character acting. Enjoying my 1999 Porsche 911 Carrera, 2012 Maserati Quattroporte S and the BMW 650i. Can’t fly anymore because of the meds, so my days in gliders, airplanes and helos are all gone. So running with the wind on the highways is fun. The 911 is especially fun in the mountains.

“On a downside my VA service dog, Iris, has been fighting intestinal cancer with chemo since October.

“Lots of Kicks in ’66. Remember the Switlik Parachute Company line in our yearbook? Years later there I was a Special Forces soldier jumping helos and planes of all sorts.”

Thanks, Bill. As for me, I’m still working and enjoying life.

1967

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With the exception of breaking my collarbone in the schoolyard, medical issues for the first 59 years of my life were never more serious than a cut or a scrape. After 2007, however, things changed dramatically when I had my first stroke.

In fact, that first stroke started a pattern that has reset my life with a roller coaster of medical issues, including a total of four strokes. I’d bounce back thanks to therapy and acupuncture only to have something else surface unexpectedly. Sometimes it was another stroke, at other times it was a different situation entirely. A complex GI surgery at one point brought back stroke deficits (that had previously been corrected) because I was under anesthesia for nine hours. I even had brain surgery at another point after I was wheelchair-bound for several months. Fortunately, the shunt they implanted allowed me to regain my ability to walk again. When you see me today, none of this might be apparent, but behind the scenes, ongoing doctors’ visits and therapy are always in the mix.

After Peddie, I went on to graduate in 1971 from the University of Miami with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. I moved to Pasadena, Calif. after I married a California native who also attended the University of Miami. I started working for a chain of Home Centers in Rosemead, Calif. — one of the first “big box” stores that predated Home Depot.

I moved up to the highest volume store in the chain. From there I ran a warehouse that received and priced merchandise for a series of new stores. The next big step was the decision to add arts and crafts supplies to the hardware merchandise to encourage couples’ shopping.

Once the arts and crafts concept was on a great growth curve, I was promoted to the “new store real estate expansion” department at the head office, where I worked on site selection for eight 40,000 square-feet store locations. I also did routine lease management for existing store locations, working with shopping center co-tenants and landlords. Our Home Centers were considered anchor stores within each selected shopping center.

I then left corporate life to buy an existing full-service retail boat store in Pomona, Calif. and a satellite, boat-sales-only second store in Fullerton, Calif. I expanded my boat dealership, adding two stores in Newport Beach, one waterfront and the other a “highway store” like my first two.

After I sold the four-store boat dealership I got a California real estate license and secured a position with a commercial brokerage firm. In my “freshman year” as an agent, I sold two properties, with total sales of $43 million. Unfortunately, the niche in which I was doing so well dried up. I kept at it another 24 months but didn’t sell another thing.

Feeling that I’d lost my magic touch, I decided to embark on an adventure. I had always wanted to travel The Great Circle Route from Miami to New Orleans via the ICW (Intercoastal Waterway). The entire experience was exhilarating — a dream come true. On that adventure, I met my second wife and followed her home to N.Y., so it was truly a successful adventure all around. During my time in N.Y., I also got back into boat sales with a local Cobalt & Four Winns dealership on scenic Lake George in the Adirondacks.

Boating, as you can see, is in my blood. After I sold my ’32 cruiser, I bought a ’28 sport boat and took it across the Atlantic to Bimini on another adventure. That trip may sound straightforward because on the map it isn’t that far offshore but crossing the current in the Atlantic is the challenge. Carefully choosing the right time and weather conditions both outbound and on the return was an exhilarating achievement. Once I was back in the U.S., I made the trip home via the ICW.
Heidi Keller Hutchison has officially “sort of” committed to attend our 50th. She and her husband, Tom, reside in Durham, N.H. She enjoys living close to the beach and spoiling her grandchildren. Heidi considers herself a semi-retired teacher. Guess the apple didn’t fall too far from the Peddie faculty tree.

Bob Dunne, who was always such a party animal, spent New Year’s Eve in the UVA Hospital recovering from the removal of an aneurysm from his liver. It was an eight and one-half hour procedure, but all went well and he is well on his way to a full recovery. I didn’t get any 50th commitment from him.

Gary Niels is still president at The Neighborhood Academy in Pittsburgh. He says he is not too sure if he is totally in love with the gig, but he is there for now. He recently adopted a five-year-old rescue Saint Bernard named Jack. I know Coach Von would be very proud of Gary’s choice in dogs.

I have heard via Facebook from Richard Sachs, John Lord, Walter Tramontin, Richard Von Der Porten, Mark Greenberg, Leslie Knox, David Wormser, and Mark Caster. Everyone seems to be quite busy and doing fine.

I am always available for updates and notes at Almtyrob@aol.com. I await your emails with bated breath.

Your loyal Class of ’71 secretary.
1973

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1974

45TH REUNION

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Joann Coates writes: “I have a children’s book that was launched on January 15, 2019. The book is for toddlers 0-3 years old and is illustrated with photographs of puppies. It’s cute! Check it out at jccoates.com.”

From Albert Masland: “I hope I saw many of your faces at our 45th. As I write, the crack reunion team of Art Ammermuller, Joann Coates, Mike McCrabb and Kevin Marrazzo are busily contacting you, unless you dropped off the face of the earth or don’t want to be contacted (in which case you probably aren’t reading this blurb). To spur your interest in staying in touch, and coming back for our 50th, I offer the following news from three classmates who planned to join us under the tent.

“First, Jon Fox has been in touch regularly, and I’ve shared some harrowing tales of his health to drive home the fact that we may not be around for our 50th. But, Jon has some laughs to share too, such as the Agency Halloween party he and his wife attended dressed as Boris and Natasha from ‘The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle’ tweaking the establishment’s preoccupation with all things Russian Intelligence, the ultimate misnomer. Half the attendees got the joke, our FBI liaison laughing the hardest. The other half thought I came as the old man from “Pawn Stars.”

“Next, Dave Monahan traveled in from Hawaii. Here’s the skinny from Mono: ‘All’s good. Kids graduated from Cornell and USC, putting an end to prep and college tuitions (whew!). Semi-retired at 60, but as busy with fun projects now (facilitating an Atlantis Resort being built on Oahu, developing another hotel project on the Big Island, raising investment capital for other luxury hotel developments in North America), fun stuff. Too many fun memories to rehash for all not to make the effort to get there.’ Well said, Mono.

“Look for the photo of Bill Welychko who attended the Pirates of the Caribbean reunion in lieu of our 45th. Actually, Bill shared that he regularly visits hospitals and attends kids’ events as a part-time pirate.

“Finally, let me share from John Schumacher II, a voice we hear less often. Schu gave a recap of life after Peddie: ‘Marine Corps boot camp … The Citadel … the Navy as a deep sea diver, dive school in the Anacostia River, that in itself is a story … a saturation diver in San Francisco and San Diego on the beach. In 1981, went off to become an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician. As EOD I got to dive,

Bill Welychko ’74 regularly visits hospitals and attends children’s events for his part-time job as a pirate.

Joann Coates ’74 said her beloved Tibetan terrier, Scout, served as the inspiration for her new book, “Puppy Talk.” She met most of the puppies in this book while walking in New York City’s Central Park.
While wrapping up my Chronicle submission, Mary Ford Hodges wrote to me she is planning on making our 45th and sent me and the Class of ’75 joyous greetings from Machu Picchu, Peru. Mary and her husband, Grant, are enjoying retirement around the world. With her children off working in Washington, D.C., and Perth, Australia, they “can disappear for great lengths sometimes,” as she puts it.

A bit of “musical chairs” among our classmates took place. Denise Giacomozzi and her husband headed south from Maryland to warm up for a bit and visited the Dolphin Research Center in Marathon, Fla. that Mary Stella is and has been devotedly connected to for an extended time. Mary (playing hooky from “dolphin work”) was off in Hawaii the same week. Just short of a year and a half after Hurricane Irma, Mary finally completed the various repair projects at her Florida Keys home. She shares being grateful that things are as close to being back to normal as she can make them. Mary also reports that life hasn’t been all stress and due to “logistics” in the process of submitting my Class Notes way past deadline for the last Chronicle, some information and statements resulted reading unclear or awkward as well as some incorrect as published, with other intended references missing entirely. I apologize to all I haven’t alerted in person since its delivery.

With that disclaimer out of the way as well as the detailed core of my life the last six months strategically omitted from this issue, my tortoises, as always, are keeping me amused during my “renaissance era” and the majority of the colder months, while busy, brought some unexpected extra joy my direction overall. For those of you who have lived in or been connected for a substantial amount of time with the western side of California, you all will be familiar with the term, “winter rains.” This is what Peddie campus (and my Cranbury) got plenty of this past season all too often, but nicely in place of being inundated with the normal snow of recent years. With Peddie Lake flourishing, I mainly bring this very positive but boring weather history report up as my cue to entice you all to plan on coming to inviting, stable Central Jersey for our 2020 45th Reunion.

There’s a story between every ellipsis in Schu’s recap, and as of this writing I hope to hear them all under the stars by Peddie Lake, perhaps with an adult beverage and a cigar as promised by Steve Rolleri. If we missed you there, please drop me a line.

1975

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Mary Stella ’75 (left) and Jim Anderson ’75 catch up during lunch at Dollie’s, Anderson’s restaurant on Maui.

Mary Ford Hodges ‘75 poses for a photo during a recent trip to Machu Picchu.

jump and blow things up around the world. But I had to live in Hawaii. Rode a bunch of ships all through the Western Pacific and Mideast prior to our involvement in the region. Was in Baghdad before most knew where it really was and existed. Left Hawaii in November 1985, and landed in a small place called Dahlgren, Va., shooting big guns and blowing things up … there were five of us running the ranges and cleaning up the after the tests. The engineers were not always successful — a lot of range time and demo work. Boom! ... In ’89 went to a joint tour with the Army in Korea ... Key West in ’91 to run the Navy’s East Coast Marine Mammal Program (eight dolphins, four sea lions and occasionally a couple of beluga whales) ... rough life in the Keys, then went to Goose Creek, S.C. to become the executive officer of the Naval Weapons Station ... back to D.C. to the Office of Naval Intelligence and then to the Defense Intelligence Agency where I did stuff. Left the Navy in 2003 and continued to do things for the intelligence community and several of the combatant commands. In 2014 retired and bought a small farm in Front Royal, Va. and now just fish, mow grass, drive a tractor and finishing off my doctorate in ecological engineering.”
drama. Among managing in some fun trips, the most recent involved spending a week on Maui sailing, snorkeling and kayaking during whale season. While on the island, she met Jim Anderson for lunch at one of his two restaurants, locally extremely popular as you all may remember from previous Class Notes of mine. She enjoyed catching up and relays that Jim “sure seems to enjoy his island life.” Back home in the Florida Keys (once again “Denise free”), Mary claims not to have been slowing down with her job at Dolphin Research Center through everything that transpired in her life and the area. Her spare time includes significant involvement in her practice of Taoist Tai Chi, part of which is instructing a class for beginners. As she has also committed to attending Reunion Weekend 2020, perhaps this instruction can be experimented on our class members in attendance as a Saturday night event on campus!

Bart Rogers passes on that he is the proud grandfather of seven — four boys and three girls, all under age six. To quote Bart, “Grandkids are the love of your life, and they keep you busy. You realize how much you missed in your own kids’ lives when you have grandkids. They complete your life in so many ways.” Bart has been working for the Seafarers International Union the last 39 years and seems to think he is approaching retirement. He is the head coach for Leonardtown boys lacrosse at Leonardtown High School (Md.) and has been at it for almost 20 years. Bart claims, “Coaching is my passion and fulfills so many aspects for me.” He further comments, “Each day I am reminded of the coaches (Mr. John Jones, Mr. Von, Mr. McClellan and Mr. Monahan) that mentored me when I was young and at Peddie. I have never forgotten the lessons they taught me and the importance of carrying that forward. I can only hope I have touched the lives of the kids I have coached the way they touched my life.” Bart continues to think of our Peddie years fondly and hopes all our classmates are doing well. He was saddened, as I was, when he heard we lost Doug Salmon. “He was a great guy and a friend. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Embrace life, stay healthy, and live long, friends,” Bart closes.

Well, that’s a wrap. I hope all ’75-ers share my love of the latest “look” (and content!) that the Chronicle has taken. I’m also enjoying appearing in between articles of new class secretaries that I consider “select Peddie cronies,” Scooter Masland ’74 and Ed Wellington ’78. It’s almost like being a face on Mount Rushmore. Well … let’s just say I feel very “at home!”

1977

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Hello, Class of ’77! How are you all doing? Note that my address has changed for anyone that might still be using the USPS. My granddaughter and I moved half a mile right before Christmas. It seemed like the right thing to do, and the timing worked out well with the furlough for government employees (at least for the unpacking-the-house part). We are on one floor now without our neighbor’s less-than-
desirable smells coming up into our living space. More room is always welcome as she becomes a teenager. Pray for me to make it through the next ten years until she is human again. It doesn’t get easier with the next generation, but life goes on, and we will survive. She always looks forward to coming back to Peddie every year for the Reunion Weekend. If anyone is in the area, stop by and hang out for a little while.

1978

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Shortly after the Fall/Winter 2018 issue of the Chronicle arrived in the mail, I received an email from the editor reminding me it was time to get started on this issue! That’s when, once again, I thought of all the time and effort Joe Buda put into the job of class secretary, especially when you consider he had to make it happen four times each year! Thanks again, Joe!

The first person I heard from for this issue of the Chronicle was none other than our recently retired class secretary extraordinaire, Joe Buda. He was checking in from Thailand where he spent three months over the winter. Just before his departure, he hosted Craig Clayton, who was in the Marathon, Fla. area on business, for a visit.

A few days after hearing from Joe, I was standing on the street corner waiting for the light to change in downtown Washington, D.C. and was greeted by Jose Santacana who stopped to say “hello” in the middle of his lunchtime run. During our brief visit, he told me he had run in the Marine Corps marathon last fall and was trying to keep the momentum he gained while training for the big race. Shortly after that chance encounter, he emailed me to say, “It was great to see so many of our classmates at Alumni Day for our 40th Reunion last year. And big kudos to Joe Maressa for his efforts! I didn’t get to Hightstown until Saturday, and it was clear I missed a lot of Class of ’78 camaraderie on Friday night. It was great to catch up, and I was overwhelmed by our remarkable classmates who have raised families, followed their dreams and made a difference, locally and globally. Unfortunately, the afternoon showers cut back on our beer consumption and forced the alumni lacrosse game indoors. It was a blast playing lax at the Von Center indoor turf. I had the opportunity to tell some of the youngsters about the truly special Mr. Von and the tremendous impact he had on so many students’ lives, certainly mine."

Jose went on to say, “April is my 20th anniversary working at the U.S. Department of State. My first diplomatic assignment was El Salvador where I survived an earthquake and spent a week assisting American citizens with getting medical attention and contacting family. From there, I served in Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea engaged in public affairs. After Africa, I worked with the international press at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, before returning to Washington. In Washington, I spent time at the Department’s Foreign Press Center and a year on Capitol Hill working on foreign policy in the office of New Jersey’s Senator Menendez. Back overseas, I was assigned to Colombia and most recently Venezuela, where I met some incredible people struggling to overcome the political and economic chaos that has befallen their beautiful country.

“After so much time on the road, when I got back to the States last year, I took a bit of a ‘breather’ spending six weeks in an RV cruising the national parks out West with my 17-year-old son, Sam. I checked my bucket list in October by finishing the Washington Marine Corps marathon. Running might be too strong of a word, but somehow, I managed to cross the finish line before nightfall — and I have a grimacing photo to prove it.”

Speaking of running in Washington, Craig Clayton and I occasionally get together for a 5K or some tennis, neither of which we do well, but it gives us an excuse to have a few cold ones. I had lunch last fall with Tracie Brennan and her wonderful daughter Sophia, both of whom are doing great working and studying in New York City.

Speaking of Joe Maressa, he wrote: “My son, Joey, just turned 17 and is driving himself to school (most of the time). Something else to worry about! I had a few jobs during college, almost all of which centered around grounds maintenance. My family was in the apartment business and still is today, so there was plenty of grass to cut, sidewalks to edge and bushes to trim. My dad also made me, on occasion, come to his law firm and keep up with the updating of the books in the law library. In those days everything was done manually — no computers back then! I never had any real interest in becoming a lawyer back then. Too much reading for me!

But as fate would have it, along with the unrelenting prodding of my dad, I went, albeit a few years later than my dad would have liked. In retrospect, I’m glad I did. Upon graduating from college, I had no idea what I wanted to do! I also played music during those years and would have loved to have made the big time, but that was
not meant to be, so I went to work in the title insurance business at a small company owned by my father. It seemed pretty cool; learning how to handle real estate closings, doing some marketing and business development while I tried to figure out what I wanted to do with my life. Thirty-six years later and a lot of long hours, that little company now operates in several states and has provided a nice living for my family and me."

I am always happy to hear from Rick Gerweck, who is enjoying life in sunny Florida: “After college in the early 80s, I went to Atlantic City to catch the wave of growth in the casino business. I landed a job as a dice dealer with Resorts International. This was very glamorous and exciting, and I even earned the nickname ‘Jerry Lewis’ from some fellow members of the ‘pit crew.’ I wasn’t sure what that was about at the time, but in hindsight, it seems apropos! My feet are more firmly planted these days, but it was fun while it lasted."

Nina Hovnanian sent an update on the heels of her visit to campus for our reunion: “Started Music Motions in 1983 while in my senior year at Barnard with Tom Hayes, funded by my brother Shant Hovnanian ’77. An early 80s startup, Music Motions distributed 35mm music videos to over 40,000 movie theaters from 1983 until 1988. It was a fabulous learning experience: working with record labels and movie theater companies, rock stars and handlers, and learning all about sound and film editing, PR and sponsorship. We were quasi pioneers in cause-related marketing. The experiences I had were akin to an MBA in the world of communications and entertainment, thanks to working with our bright, tight team: super small, but professional, excellent and FUN! Funny; our main competitor was Robert Kardashian’s company Movie Tunes. Met/spared with him a few times in the 80’s — strange that two Armenians were in the same business!

“After being a staunch New Yorker for 20 plus years, I moved to Yerevan, Armenia in 2001 to start up and run the Armenia Tourism Development Agency at the request of former President of Armenia Robert Kocharian. My family funded the project with USAID. I started my own family here in Armenia, marrying in 2001 and twins in 2003. To bolster the tourism offerings, I opened Treasures of Armenia, showcasing the best of Armenian design and artisan works (including my own Nina Hovnanian Couture and Ninachka Couture for children) under the premise that once tourists discovered Armenia, we would provide them with treasures to spend $$ on! It’s been a mind-bending 18 years watching Armenia grow from a little known post-Soviet country into a hip, forward thinking, tech-savvy and democracy-demanding nation that The Economist named Country of the Year in 2018, while playing a part in all those changes.

“Since my father’s passing in 2015, I’ve been building out and running his lifelong dream: Vahakni, an American-style town, with my brother Shant coaching me. With all his savvy in homebuilding and technology, Shant is Hovnanian International’s MVC (Most Valuable Coach)! Beyond all this, I can say Armenia and the Hovnanians are ready to welcome you with an ‘Ala Viva!’ anytime!”

My roommate of four years, Kurt Bildercall, has been with the same company his entire career: “My first job is my last job. This note catches me before I head out to Joburg, SA and over to Istanbul for a week and a half to meet with clients, partners and my sales teams. I just completed my 38th annual IBM Business Conduct Guideline and my 38th ‘inclusion’ training (albeit it has had many different names over 38 years). My 39th IBM birthday celebration takes place on November 17, 2019. I started as a supplemental hire helping one of our distribution centers prepare prior day orders for ‘pick/pack’ so we could get a shipping container to the West Coast out earlier in the day. My day started at 5:00 a.m. and went till 2:00 p.m. After organizing the day’s orders, I spent the rest of the day on the phone helping our sales and operations teams helping get ‘emergency’ orders out. ADP didn’t like it when they ran out of printer ribbons on the days they were cutting checks! All before the internet and direct deposit. Within nine months, I got a call to go work in the branch office in Princeton, N.J. The team knew of me from the local distribution center in Dayton, N.J. and put me to work supporting the sales teams. After a few years, I became one of the sales team members, and now 38-plus years later ... well, I am off to South Africa!”

Dr. Sean Appleyard’s first job at age 9 or 10 was helping his mom with her paper route on weekends and during summers (she delivered 350 daily newspapers throughout Middlesex County). “My job was to roll the paper, put it into the tube (hanging out the window pre-seatbelt days ... how did we survive?) and bag it in the rain. I also went door to door to collect money from any late-paying deadbeats (and got to keep all the tips I received, which really added up ... I was rich). Lesson learned: Rich or not, you can’t do this forever. My first job as a doctor was in family practice, working for a wheeler-dealer MD who owned many clinics, making $65,000 a year ... now I was rich. Until I subtracted the $2,750 (18% interest) student loan debt from my $4,000 monthly take-home pay. Lesson
FAMILY TIES

TERRY HENNSLE, M.D. '60

Sometimes one person can make all the difference in a student’s life. For Terry Hensle, M.D. '60, that person was Assistant Headmaster Dr. Benjamin Roman. Hensle credited his former teacher with helping him realize his potential. “He was my teacher, mentor and friend — he changed my ethic and my work style,” Hensle said.

An outstanding student-athlete during his time at Peddie, Hensle served as captain of the 1959 football team and co-captain of the baseball team. Following graduation, Hensle attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in economics in 1964. He also served as captain of Penn’s football team and received the Maxwell Club of Philadelphia’s Unsung Hero Award in 1963. In 1968 he graduated from Cornell University Medical College (now Weill Medical College of Cornell University). Hensle completed his post-graduate work at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard University. Now retired, Hensle is an internationally recognized and widely published pediatric urologist.

“Peddie was the launching pad for my career,” emphasized Hensle. “If I hadn’t gone to Peddie, I wouldn’t have gone to Penn, and I wouldn’t have become a surgeon. Peddie certainly gave me the confidence and academic background to attempt all of these things.”

The Peddie experience was so powerful for him that two more generations of Hensles — his daughter, Laura-Lee Hensle Radtke ’92, and his grandson, Jake Radtke ’22 — are part of the Peddie family. Hensle Radtke returned to Peddie in 2014 and currently serves as director of special events. Like his grandfather was, Radtke is a member of the Peddie football team.

“Peddie will always hold a special place in my heart. It is home to me,” Hensle Radtke said. “My dad inspired me to come to Peddie; he knew it was the right place for me, and I am so happy to be able to share this time with my dad and son at a place that means so much to all of us.”

“I certainly am extremely proud of Laura-Lee,” Hensle said.

The Peddie campus is dramatically changed from the one Hensle left in 1960. But he noted, “What hasn’t changed is what happens when you get there: the sudden maturity, becoming someone who quite quickly understands where the boundaries are and what you need to do to succeed.”

Hensle’s busy life as a physician rarely afforded him a lot of free time, but he still made a point to give back and pay it forward through service to Peddie as class reunion chair, member of the Science Advisory Committee, trustee (1990-2010) and advisory trustee (2010-present). In 2000 he received the Peddie Alumnus of the Year award and was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.

A member of the Bell Society since 1999, Hensle directed that his gift be used to name Peddie’s health center in honor of his father, Otto S. Hensle, M.D. “My dad always tried to improve the lives of his family, friends and patients. Naming an upgraded Peddie health center for him made sense to me,” he said.

Recently Hensle visited campus to mentor a group of Peddie students in the Future Doctors of America Club. “Those kids were energized,” Hensle marveled. “They have so much energy, intellect and talent. I know a couple of people in that room are going to be stars.”

Opposite page from left: Jake Radtke ’22, Terry Hensle, M.D. ’60 and Laura-Lee Hensle Radtke ’92
learned: Rich or not, you can’t do this forever. And that’s how I ‘discovered’ (read: was forced into) emergency medicine, where working 100 hours a week meant I could retire my student loans in just ... hmm ... 14 years. Ah, finally, the good life!”

On the eve of the celebration of the life of St. Patrick, I heard from another Irishman, Mike Murphy, who will be retiring September 1. I am not sure how many retirees we now have among our classmates, but I want to know his secret because, in addition to retiring before the age of sixty, he and his wife raised five girls! Murph reports that they are building a house in S.C. and will soon be relocating from their home in N.J. In addition, his daughters are “all making big life moves, and it’s literally been chaos.” Mike has fond memories of his Peddie experience and classmates and sends best wishes to all!

The “first job” theme suggested by Chronicle Editor Carrie Harrington definitely got the ’78 gang engaged, so thanks to all who took the time to reach out this time around. If you didn’t have a chance this time, here is the class’ theme for the next issue as suggested by Joe Buda (I thought he retired!). What are one or two of your favorite songs from your days at Peddie and what memories do they evoke when you hear them? I suggest you get started now because you can be sure I will be after you to write soon after you read this issue! Have a great summer!

1980

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1981

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Hey, classmates! What a great turnout at our mini N.Y. reunion! Looks like everyone had a blast! So nice to see everyone making an effort to stay connected.

Maria Crilley Jernigan chimed in with some great news. As she explained, “We have lived in Dublin, Ohio for almost five years now. This year will also be our 32nd wedding anniversary.” Congrats, Maria! “Our daughter Stephanie received her doctorate in August 2018 from Baylor in clinical child psychology. She is doing her postdoctoral year at Scottish Rite in Dallas. Our son Brian graduated from the University of Michigan last April and is currently working in Chicago. I work at the Columbus Zoo, and it’s lots of fun. I see posts on Facebook and enjoy knowing what classmates are doing. Anything I submit seems pretty mellow next to some of theirs! I wish I had more exciting news, but alas, I do not. I was recently thinking about nicknames and remembered that I had the nickname Ave (for Ave Maria), during Doc’s Latin class! Sue Wallace, Jen Orlick and Suzie Maccagnan gave it to me. It’s hard to get a nickname from ‘Maria.’ Good memories.”

Kim and Danny Adlerman are busy making books, art and music and are doing well. Kim’s recent exhibition was terrific, with 36 new pieces of artwork. Keeping busy and creating! All good for Danny and the gang.

We lost a few classmates recently, Scott Cunningham, Kurt Friese ’83 and Kristin Odmark ’82. Others have illnesses. Truly a loss for words about the sorrow that has touched our lives through our classmates. Thoughts and prayers are with their families.

As for me, Lesley, after being in the hospital and rehab for 120 days, I am happy to report I am doing well through the recovery from my stroke. Thank you to so many who reached out to me during that time. Very grateful!

As of this writing, I’m looking forward to my trip to Peddie for graduation. My niece Nadia will be graduating. I can’t wait to go! Perhaps I’ll run into some of you! Until next time, stay well, keep smiling and all the best!

1982

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Ken Caldwell says “hi” to all. He’s living in Cape Coral, Fla., and is the controller for a property management company. Cliff MacDermid reports that he really had nothing to contribute in the way of Class Notes, but is just feeling grateful and blessed. Gabrielle Schultz says “hi.” She lives in West Hartford, Conn. “My daughter Callie is a sophomore at the University of New Hampshire, and will be transferring to University of Connecticut in the fall.”

Pam (Houlihan) Firestone sent in a full report: “A Montclair, N.J. resident for 20 years with a career in publishing, working for a number of magazines. Sadly, many are gone

1979

40TH REUNION

Becky Keller Smith
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70 PEDDIE CHRONICLE
As you know, our class suffered an unexpected and sudden loss this past December with the passing of Kurt Michael Friese. Having seen Kurt at our 35th Reunion this June, it was such a shock to hear this news only six months later. That day, Kurt was really enjoying being back on campus and said more than once how happy he was to be back at Peddie after all those years. That was evident in his smiling face in the photo with Jodi Gold Stephens.

Personaly, I remember many hours spent together in rehearsals in and around Geiger Reeves — for “Grease,” “Witness for the Prosecution” and more. Thank you to all who reached out with pictures and memories of Kurt. Many shared their sympathy and warm wishes for Kurt’s family on Facebook. In loving memory …

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And lastly, we lost a classmate in December when Kristin Odmark passed away. Please see the classes FB page for details and remembrances.

1983

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David DeSocio
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(917) 446-8241

Dear classmates, our column will be short this month. Please send along any news or updates to Morgan or me at any time.

Noel “Hugby” Gordon spent a week in Cuba with his son, Duarte. “It was a lifelong trip for me and an exciting place for spring break for him. We both had fun. Living in southwest D.C. and working for DuPont. If in D.C., call me: (561) 755-7165.”

Kevin Zlock hopes everyone is doing well. “Lena Zlock, my daughter and a senior at Stanford, received the Ertegun Scholarship to attend Oxford this fall for her master’s degree. My older daughter, who also graduated from Stanford University, was just made a partner at the law firm of Kirkland Ellis. I have been married to Sima, my beautiful wife, (me, not so much) for 23 years. She has worked with me in my very, very, very small law firm in Bucks County, Pa. (I did not realize how small my office actually was until my wife came to work with me). We have two wonderful granddaughters, six and eight years old. They are the best people we have met so far.”

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to pursue such incredible growth successfully. His was a life well lived, and he improved the quality of the lives of all he touched. From cooking to sustainable farming, to writing, to public office, he grew into a wonderful, loving, magnanimous person that I for one know I shall continue to look up to.”

Thank you, classmates, for remembering our friend. Finally, we would like to send our love and support to the Class of ’82 after hearing of the passing of Kristin Odmark ’82. Another frequent star of the choir, Peddie Singers, and Drama Club. Kristin, your angelic voice and spirit will be missed.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy spring and summer.

1984

35TH REUNION

Mark G. Gartner
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As I write these notes from my classroom on the 3rd floor of Annenberg (Memorial) Hall, it is mid-March, and we’ve just returned from spring vacation. By the time you read this, it will be after Reunion Weekend where, I hope, we have a big turnout! I plan to have a big recap of that weekend in the fall edition of the Chronicle. Thus, these notes will be fairly short and include a little information from a couple of classmates who are not expected to attend reunion.

As much as Katie Riley Andrew wishes she could have been with us for our 35th reunion, she and Mark Andrew ’85 had something more important to do that day: attend the college graduation of their daughter, Hailey.

While I’m hoping Sasha (Mitchell) Soheili will have made it to reunion from San Francisco, I’m guessing she won’t be able to make the trip. Sasha is doing well and is excited to have taken up running again. Sasha has two high-school-age sons and, early this year, she did the Kaiser Half Marathon!

If you weren’t able to make it back to Peddie for our 35th Reunion, I hope you put our 40th Reunion on your calendar!

1985

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Hello, Class of ’85! Fran Strauber and I are proud to tell you that the Class of 1985 Scholarship Endowment has been established, having reached the $25,000 goal necessary for the fund to go “live!” At this level, it will benefit a student this fall with a few hundred dollars of scholarship money. The larger we grow the fund, the more the gift will be! So let’s continue our giving, in honor of our class and those in our class who’ve had to leave us way too early, and let that help a current student have the kind of life-changing experience we all had at Peddie! Many thanks and much love to all of you.

Jeff Vitt wrote to say: “In March I was fortunate enough to meet up with Greg Rabinowitz and Vera Farmen (Vujovich). I met Greg’s wife, Dell, and got to spend some time observing his electronic recycling business. It’s very cool, and I would encourage anyone in the area to visit. We grabbed lunch at a cool ramen place in Tampa, Fla. and reminisced about the old times! Although I can say, our memories are not as great as they used to be.

“We will be empty nesters starting this August when our younger one, Amanda, goes to Tulane University. I have shared some conversations with Al Meltzer, and we promise to get together soon as his company is moving towards where I live. Our daughter Nicole will be finishing her junior year at Rollins College. She wants to continue on after senior year to graduate school and pursue a career in music therapy. Both my girls are still rowing crew, in high school and college.”
Jay Huguley said he got to spend some time in Philadelphia in January with Salome Michell and her daughter/goddaughter Emily, who were here from London. “Lucky me!” he says, continuing, “Emily is almost the age we were when we met at Peddie.”

Nick Johnson sent what he called a N.J. update (hal): “Life continues to fly by. Campbell is graduating from Virginia Tech with a degree in computer science. He’ll be starting work full time in McLean, Va. in the spring. Cole is a freshman at Virginia Tech. He and his brother have had a great year together so far. Cole is undeclared at this point, but getting close to making a decision. Caroline is in her sophomore year at Kent Place in Summit, N.J. Many things to celebrate about her, but most notably, she’s been accepted into an exchange program that will send her to Adelaide, Australia with three of her classmates. We have our exchange student for five weeks and had a blast running around the East Coast. Kirsten and I recently adopted a labradoodle. Talk about chaos. Finally, I’ve taken a new role at a family newspaper company where I’m running all of sales.

Certainly a big change from what I’ve done historically, but a super interesting job.”

Jaleh Amouzegar wrote: “We are doing fine. Waiting on college results and getting emotionally prepared for Layla to graduate from high school! Kamran is playing a lot of soccer, so we are traveling with him from time to time.” She and Chris Acito were lucky enough to hang out with Jonathan Ellinghaus and Tony Procaccino at their New York City home recently.

As for me, I’m proud to say that Gabriel was awarded a very nice scholarship and a place in the sound engineering program at Butler University in Indianapolis for the fall. He’s been busy with theater (he was Amos in his high school production of “Chicago”) and will be going down to Butler for auditions for the ensemble choir. Sam changed schools in his freshman year when we pulled him out of his public high school and enrolled him at the Waldorf School. He is so much happier and thus so are we. He’ll be off on a two-week service learning trip with his entire class in May, working on an organic farm with no electronics and no phone. Oh, how I love this school. Haha!

As to the Chronicle editor’s suggestion we write about our first jobs, my first job post-college was with the Princeton Packet, a printer of about 14 local newspapers in the Mercer County, N.J. area. I was using my art degree, literally pasting the headlines and ads and the strips of copy down on the blank sheets after threading them through the “waxer.” I had no idea how to parlay my art studies into a career, and I’m so thankful for that first job. I still am a graphic designer (on a computer now, of course!) and I love it. It’s creative, and I love the combination of art and function.

One last note: please, please update your email address with the Alumni and Development Office, especially if you are reading this in the Chronicle that was mailed to you, and we don’t see you on Facebook. My recent attempt to get news was met with about 20 returned emails that couldn’t be delivered. We love you, and we want to hear from you! Also, note my new Gmail address, above. Contact me whenever, especially if you are in Chicago.

1986
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1987
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Chris Acito ’85 (from left), Jonathan Ellinghaus ’85 and Tony Procaccino ’85 meet up in NYC last winter.
Michael Barcless writes: “One big happy 50th birthday wish to all of us from ’87 hitting the magic milestone this year! I’m going to golf to celebrate mine. I had a chance to catch up with Marty Fajerman when he was passing through Phoenix in January (see photo).”

Risa Sackman writes: “For my big 50 I’m sailing with a few friends in the British Virgin Islands. I’m liking the symbolism of unplugging for this monumental week!”

Arianna Bocco writes: “I’m renting a castle in Italy for two weeks in July to celebrate my 50th! Can’t wait to unplug.”

Eric Boggess writes: “We sent our boys off to Mercersburg Academy this year and they are doing famously! Wills is finishing a PG year with almost straight As and Blake is going to be a prefect next year in his senior year. So far, Wills has been accepted to Virginia Tech, James Madison University, Christopher Newport University, Syracuse and Marquette. We are waiting to hear from University of Virginia. I have joined an indie pop band, ‘The Frontier,’ and I’m spending all my free time working to become a session musician. Please check us out on social media. When I’m not visiting the boys or playing guitar, I’m still training for a triathlon. I have a half-iron tri scheduled in October.”

Chris Rosenberger writes: “The big news over here is that my son, Riley, was accepted to Peddie and will be attending in the fall as a freshman. My wife and I are very excited for him!”

Marisa Procopio writes: “Would you believe I’m writing this from my desk at Peddie? Backstory: Since college graduation I had been a commercial copywriter by day while moonlighting as a stage tech and properties master. In 2015 John Lucas ’90 asked if I’d prop Peddie’s winter musical. I stayed on as a visiting artist until early this year when I spotted an ad on peddie.org for a content creation manager. Now I get to write about campus goings-on, alumni stories and more while listening to the chapel bell outside my window. And I’m still propping shows at Geiger Reeves. How lucky am I? Next time you’re here, visit me in the former library (now Coates-Coleman Alumni House), Ala Viva!”

John Cassidy writes: “Wanted to let you know Allison King and I went down to Raleigh, Va. to celebrate Ted Damutz’s birthday in January. Lotta fun. Strangely, a giant plush gopher attended. It was exactly what the party needed.”

I am still enjoying consulting and being a road warrior. I’m planning several celebrations to mark my milestone birthday this summer.

Michael Barcless ’87 (left) celebrates his birthday with John Cassidy ’87 and Allison King ’87 in Raleigh, Va. in January. Michael Barcless ’87 (left) catches up with Marty Fajerman ’87 in Phoenix in January.
I volunteer on the board of Disability Rights Florida, the federally designated protection and advocacy nonprofit for individuals with disabilities in Florida. As part of our annual legislative visit day in Tallahassee, Fla. I met with Senator Jason Pizzo ’94. We both enjoyed talking about Peddie. In only his first year in the Senate, he supports at least six bills we think will help those with disabilities. This is the kind of hard work I think we can expect from a legislator who used to go to class on Saturdays.

1995

Megan E. McCarthy
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Gwyneth Connell has accepted a new position as the director at the Grauer Family Institute for Excellence and Innovation in Education at the Pomfret School.

Mario Cruz received the 2019 Greater Philadelphia Social Innovations Award in healthcare. Mario is a pediatrician and medical director of FIGHT’s Pediatric and Adolescent Health Center.

Lauren Sellers’ design company, Trust the Vision Decor, was featured in Curve, the most widely circulating LGBTQ women’s magazine. They will also be featured in the July issue of Architectural Digest as an up-and-coming design firm in the Philadelphia Metro Area.

1997

Lauren Schnipper Rausch
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Nada Tomisova Clonz writes: “I still live in Slovakia with my husband, Ryan (been here since 2007). In 2017 we adopted a baby girl, Izabel. She’s 19 months now, and she makes us so happy and proud. I am a freelance screenwriter, currently on the team of a popular daily comedy show about five dads. I must say, I love my job and my life! Greetings to all my classmates!

Mike Talarico shares: “My wife, Mariel, and I welcomed our second child in July, Giuliana Grace Talarico.”

From David Clark: “The only updates are that my wife, Mary, and
I had our first child, Brendan. We will be moving to the Ft. Walton, Fla. area this summer and I will start with American Airlines soon.”

My husband, George, and I welcomed our second baby boy, Ezra Watson Rausch, on September 1, 2018. After four and a half years, I left Facebook and started at Next 10 Ventures as the VP of Creator Partnerships. Very excited about my new gig!

1999

20TH REUNION

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Brett N. Tomson bntomson@alumni.uchicago.edu

From Kevin Shane: “I was fortunate to have done quite a bit of traveling in 2018, which included visiting lots of Peddie friends. Most recently, I was in Seattle (December 2018) where TJ and Ly-Lan McCarthy hosted a flock of Falcons. A few Seattle Falcons that were invited but couldn’t make it were Vic Paz ’96, Johanna Ferraro ’98 and Liz Yoon ’99. Days before this (November 2018), I was with Alfredo Montes ’97 and Vanessa Gubin (Montes) ’97 in Los Angeles. Alfredo and I had just finished a camping/hiking trip in the Channel Islands. A week earlier, I was in London where I was able to get Fernando Perez ’01, Ambika Kapoor ‘00 and Pat Le Paulmier together at a pub for an evening of ol’ gold and blue love.

During an earlier California trip in October, I stopped in Marin County to see Lexie (Kuser) Brooks ’00 and her husband, Rob. I try to see them every time I’m in the Bay Area. A month earlier, I saw Jon Palan (whom I see often) at his engagement party in New York City. Not long before that, I got to see my old roommate Sterling Mudge in Denver, along with his two kids, Arlo and Olive. Sarah (Roberts) Mudge couldn’t make the trip down from Leadville that day. However, the Mudges, Guarracinos and I did team up in Boulder, Colo. back in October 2017.

Here are a few other updates on Peddie friends that I stay

1998

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One location online: PEDDIE CONNECT
peddie.peoplegrove.com

Kenton Kirby ’99 (left) and Tommy Sheridan ’99 catch up at Kirby’s annual ugly sweater party last December.

Alfredo Montes ’97 (from left), Kevin Shane ’99 and Vanessa (Montes) Gubin ’97 meet up in Los Angeles last November.

Damian Levy ’99 and family pose for their holiday card. Damian recently announced the birth of his daughter, Azzurra.

Pat Le Paulmier ’99 (from left), Fernando Perez’01, Ambika Kapoor ’00 and Kevin Shane ’99 meet up in a London pub last November.

Suzanne (Daly) Hart ’99 (right) and Kevin Shane ’99 gather for a 20th Reunion planning meeting.

Kevin Shane ’99 (from left) visits with Lexie (Kuser) Brooks ’00 and her husband, Rob, at their Marin County, Ca. home last October.

Kevin Shane ’99 (left) visits with fellow Falcons Sterling Mudge ’99 (front) and Mike Guarracino ’99 (right) and their families during a trip to Boulder, Colo. in October 2017.

Jon Palan ’99 (center), Kevin Shane ’99 (second from left) and friends celebrate at Palan’s engagement party in NYC last September.

in touch with: Damian Levy recently had his second child, a beautiful little girl named Azzurra. Tommy Sheridan is living out in Morristown, N.J. with his wife, Tia, and two little ones, Mac and Anna. I recently saw Willie Standley, Chavon Sutton, Katie Aiello ’98 and Jackie Colbeth ’98 at the Peddie Holiday Party in New York City. Kenton Kirby hosted his annual ugly sweater party in December 2018. Suzanne (Daly) Hart and I get together weekly for our 20th Reunion planning meetings. Matt Burr launched a nonprofit to teach music to kids in Puerto Rico called San Juan Sound.

I usually see Lucy (Abramson) Rawson, who recently had a little girl named Sophia, each year on an annual trip to Miami. When I’m in LA, I try to get together with Elena Awbrey who’s representing Peddie in the music industry. I see Pete Costanzo and his wife Robyn a couple times each year (in NYC and down the shore), who have a couple of adorable daughters, Josie Kate and Eliza Rae. Every so often, I send ridiculous text messages to Kate (Murray) Catsam, Lauren (Kokotajo, aka Kooks) Grace and Catie (Perez) Dry. Earlier in the year, I saw Amy Solomon out in L.A., whom I hadn’t seen since 2000! Rachael (O’Beirne) Masterson and I met up for drinks one night when she was visiting NYC. I sometimes wake up in the morning to 50-plus text messages, many from Andy Mandelbaum (on a text thread with a few others). He and his wife, Hind, just had their first child, named Jad. I met up for a couple craft beers with Doug Szukics in NYC. Every so often, Tomar Sarvis escapes Long Island to make an appearance. Cezary Pietrzak ’00, Roberto Rhet ’00, Jac Alfano ’09 and I still run our Peddie in NYC happy hours too, which are always a fun time.

Erin Price O’Leary and her husband, Shaun, welcomed their son, Ethan James, last year making them a family of four — big sister Emma is excited to have a baby brother!

As for me, I’m living in Jersey City, N.J. and working in real estate fintech/marketplace lending. I try to get in as much traveling as possible, seeing friends and family along my journeys. I hope that by the time this issue is published, I will have seen many of my fellow ’99ers at reunion. If you’re ever in the NYC area, don’t hesitate to reach out. Ala Viva!”

2000
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Marisa A. Haralson
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2001
Megan R. James
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Peddie Leadership Council member Clarence Ling was recently named the EY Entrepreneur of the Year China 2018 Services Category Winner, one of 12 recipients from China. The EY Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program is one of the world’s most prestigious business accolades for entrepreneurs, honoring entrepreneurs who inspire others with their outstanding vision, leadership and achievement.
2005

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Joe Clark
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Chef Randy Forrester was named a James Beard semifinalist for best chef in the Mid-Atlantic Region in February. Randy and his wife, Ally Forrester ’07, opened Osteria Radici in Allentown, N.J. in 2017. The quaint 24-seat restaurant has garnered rave reviews for its take on modern Italian cuisine.

E.J. Kusnyer was profiled in a New York Times story last October about developing his career as a sports agent.

2006

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Drew Johnson
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Sangu Delle met with Nana Addo ’22 in Ghana last December. Nana’s father, Frank Addo, writes: “This past December we traveled to Ghana for Christmas as a family. Headmaster Quinn introduced me to Mr. Delle via email. Mr. Delle was also going to be in Ghana during Christmas, so we agreed to meet in his office in the capital, Accra. Mr. Delle is indeed a proud Falcon. His Peddie diploma is framed and displayed in his office. He promised to take Nana to Mannino’s when he attended the Board of Trustees meeting at Peddie in January, and indeed he did.”

2007

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Tom Golden
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Ashley Peskoe
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Amy (Jacobi) O’Hara married James in May 2018 with many ’07 classmates in attendance. They live in Fairfax County, Va., and would love to hear from people in the D.C. area and those who are visiting D.C.

January 2019 was a big month for Roxanne Carini. She turned 30, successfully defended her Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering, and hopped coasts from Seattle to Washington, D.C. Roxanne is excited to begin a year-long position combining ocean science and policy at the Marine Mammal Commission as one of Sea Grant’s Knauss Marine Policy fellows. She also can’t wait to catch up with D.C. area Peddie alumni!

2008

Simon Kim (Dae-Oong) and his wife, Mia, and one-year-old daughter, Amelia, visited with former faculty members Roby and Elaine McClellan on Christmas Day 2018 at their home in Laguna Woods, Calif. After graduating from Stanford, Simon now works as an IT engineer for Bitfinder.com in the San Francisco Bay area. Simon hopes that Amelia will become a member of the Peddie Class of 2035.

Anita Sapre
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Congratulations to first-time feature director Tayarisha Poe, who made her Sundance debut in January with “Selah and the Spades.” The movie follows a teenage girl at a prestigious private school. “I went to boarding school in Central Jersey and I loved it. It was a really formative
experience for me," Tayarisha told Deadline.com in January. “There’s that something that’s so particular to being a high schooler who lives away from home ... I just wanted to try to just capture that feeling of living away from home and having that independence.’ Variety named Tayarisha one of their “10 Directors to Watch” earlier this year.

**2009 10TH REUNION**

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Alex Gensemer
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From Olivia Wittman: “I am currently stationed in Monterey, Calif. with my wife while attending the Naval Postgraduate School in pursuit of a master’s degree in operations research/analysis. This is my first Chronicle note, so it is worth mentioning that since graduating Peddie, I earned my Bachelor of Science in applied mathematics from the University of Rochester (UR) and commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer through the UR Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program. I have served on two Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyers, USS Shoup (DDG 86) in Everett, Wash. and USS The Sullivans (DDG 68) in Mayport, Fla. My wife, Katie, a native of Rochester, N.Y., earned her Bachelor of Science in nursing from SUNY Brockport, and has since worked in the Cardiac Care (Step — Down) Unit at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester and in the Gastroenterology Department at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. Katie and I are over the moon with excitement to take on our most important role yet with the birth of our first child in May. I have run into a number of Peddie alumni all over the country in the past ten years, both serving with them and just being in the right place at the right time. While I haven’t been back to the Peddie campus in quite some time, I always think fondly of springtime on center campus around this time of year!”

From Bridget Lang Findlay: “I have been living in New Brunswick, N.J. with my husband, Jacob, for the past four years while attending Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. We are excited to embark on our next adventure in Rochester, Minn. in June 2019 as I prepare to start my residency in urologic surgery at the Mayo Clinic. We welcomed a three-year-old lab mix, Ellie, into our home a year ago, and we look forward to introducing her to the Peddie campus this summer for Reunion Weekend. In February 2019, I was able to connect with Lauren Smedley, Katrina Smedley, Caitlin Felder-Heim, Carolyn Gorajek, and Christine Lee ’08, to celebrate a friend’s wedding. These mini reunions are always a fun time, and by the time this issue is released, I hope I have reconnected with many others from the Class of 2009 at our big 10th Reunion in June!”

because my sister was graduating high school. So excited to see everyone at tenth year. Recently cut my hair and currently avoiding another speeding ticket — really living out my best life.”

Taylor Goode writes that she and Robert Warfield ’07 are engaged and planning a May 2020 wedding! Two Falcons, flying off into the sunset.

2010

Hayley Klein
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2011

Oliver Johnston
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From Sarah Newbury: “I’ve been teaching math at Blair Academy for the past two years, and this September will mark the start of my third year in this role. But don’t worry — I’m not a traitor! I’ve been running sabotage and spying on the enemy all this time (just don’t tell anyone at Blair this; I don’t want to blow my cover.) Ala Viva!”

From Harry Sutherland: “I am engaged as of December to Christine (see photo from our post-engagement trip to Paris), whom I started dating five years ago while I was in college at Johns Hopkins and she was completing her post-bac pre-med program there. I also recently dropped the hyphenated last name and am now just Sutherland. Career-wise, I will graduate from medical school at Rutgers in May and begin residency training in neurology at Yale in July.”

2012

Gabryella Pulsinelli
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Out of sheer luck, I ran into a fellow Falcon down in Winston-Salem, N.C. I was sitting eating lunch when Pallavi Juneja ’11 came up and greeted me. Pallavi is finishing up medical school at Wake Forest. It was great to catch up. It reminded me how busy and active all of us Falcons can be. Some of us are even on TV now! Jenn Creel made an appearance on Good Day PA! to educate viewers on Attollo, a program that helps high school students develop leadership skills and become catalysts for change.

Congratulations to Harlee Leineek on the birth of her daughter, Vera Coralee Guerra.
Emily Herman  
emilycherman26@gmail.com

I was thrilled to see a few more replies than usual to my email asking the Class of 2013 for updates. Perhaps that means I’m getting better at my job; I send emails for a living! In March, I started working at Aisle 518 Strategies, a digital agency in Washington, D.C., where I work on email marketing and fundraising programs for political candidates and advocacy organizations.

I also now share an apartment with Devon Nir, who moved down to D.C. in February. She works at Common Cause, a good government group — and coincidentally, she also does digital advocacy. Our home is full of Peddie spirit and Jonas Brothers music, and we have a picture of us at Junior Prom on our fridge (held up with a Peddie magnet, of course). 2013ers and friends, stop by if you’re in town!

Maakeda Sinclair has started rapping and producing and has a single called “Brownstoned” out on all streaming platforms. She also sent me an announcement about more music to come: “I have a project dropping this year called MIST. Tryna chase some dreams and be an adult and all of that.”

Both Hogobooms have exciting professional news: Sarah Hogoboom will start as a full-time history teacher, dorm faculty member and coach at Tabor Academy this fall. She is currently finishing a one-year collaborative internship and master’s program at Berwick Academy and Lesley University. Sarah wrote, “I am incredibly excited to continue my time in boarding schools, and I hope to see some fellow Falcons who are also teaching along the way!”

Emily Hogoboom just moved back to N.J. after a year and a half living in Indianapolis, and has started a new job in downtown Manhattan as a copywriter with a creative marketing agency.

Vanessa Gao worked and traveled through Latin America for half a year after graduating from Northwestern. She has since moved to Paris for a master’s program in museum studies at Ecole du Louvre. She wrote, “If any fellow Falcon drops by Paris, please do say hi!”

Christian Deger now works in the screen trade in New York City.

Remi Levinson sent me a longer update, so I’ll let him speak for himself — but before I let you go, if you’re in the Class of 2013 and you’re not getting my emails, please let me know at emilycherman26@gmail.com.

Here’s Remi: “I’m sure most of you don’t remember me, as I quickly passed through as a PG your senior year, but I do have fond memories of Peddie and some long-lasting friendships. I’ll try to keep it brief.

“These past six years have been a whirlwind of change, challenge, success and failure. Eric Loreaux, another PG, is still one of my closest friends, even though we only see each other twice a year. I’m happy to report he graduated from Boston University and is now in his second year as a graduate student at Stanford studying biomedical engineering!

“I, on the other hand, found myself in Atlanta after bouncing around quite a bit. College wasn’t so straightforward, as I attended Hamilton my freshman year, transferred to Emory University my sophomore year, took time off traveling to Argentina, Wyoming, Texas and Southeast Asia, and finally graduated from Emory last year with degrees in mathematics and music. Like I said, a whirlwind — but an experience that has granted me opportunities to understand humility, patience and forgiveness.

“I currently work for a small, independent record label in Atlanta where I do what I love, share my passion with people I love, and get paid to do it! I’ve met incredible entrepreneurs who have emphasized that success is not straightforward and hard work labored for passion is rarely recognized once others recognize success. I’m sure some have encountered early success, and many are still paying our dues. The community, friendships and mentors formed in this process make this journey worthwhile.

“Over these past years, addiction and mental health had an overarching impact on my life, and I’ve led several initiatives destigmatizing the disease of addiction, encouraging substance education and recognizing young adults in recovery. If anyone needs to talk to or knows someone who is struggling, please feel free to contact me.

“I wish everyone the best, and if you’re in Atlanta, I’d love to host and hear where life has brought you!”

Sophie Kennedy ’15 uses one of the paper straws made by her company, SeaStraws.
Kristen Silvi '15 is looking forward to working in the securities division at Goldman Sachs in New York City this summer. Her new position comes just weeks after completing a trip around the world.

Silvi graduated early from Lehigh University in December with bachelor’s degrees in finance and industrial engineering and then spent three months traveling to Central America, India, South East Asia and Europe.

Her first stop was Honduras, where she volunteered with her father, Silvio P’12 ’15 ’20, at Amigos de Jesús, a home for abandoned, abused and impoverished children. Though Silvi and her father have supported the organization at fundraising events in the U.S., this was the duo’s first trip to Honduras.

“It is a much different experience and impact volunteering at the Honduras location,” said Silvi. “We were able to see first-hand the unconditional love and happiness the children embodied. I formed close bonds with the children since we were living amongst them the entire time.”

This wasn’t her first service trip. When she was a junior at Peddie, Silvi volunteered in the Dominican Republic for Outreach360, a program that focuses on educating disadvantaged children.

Silvi credits Peddie for her go-getter spirit.

“At Peddie, you are given a lot of freedom and responsibility at a young age. It is because of this that you learn how to make your own decisions, figure out what motivates you and learn to speak up and speak out,” she said.
2014
5TH REUNION

Rebecca Seman
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2015

Nicole Blekhter
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Alyson Hoyt writes: “In May 2019 I will have earned my Bachelor of Arts from Rhodes College with a major in psychology and minor in religious studies. After graduation, I will be attending the University of Memphis in pursuit of my Master of Arts degree in speech-language pathology.”

Rebecca O’Neill: “In May I will have graduated magna cum laude from Colgate University with a degree in history and political science. I have spent my time at Colgate involved with a wide variety of activities, ranging from doing volunteer paralegal work to being active in my Greek letter organization to working as a fundraiser for the university. In June, I will have started working as a litigation legal assistant at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in New York, N.Y. This is a two-year long program for recent graduates who intend on planning law school, so in June 2021 I will be leaving Cravath to begin law school that fall. Eventually, I hope to work in estate law.”

Sophie Kennedy: “Between my last semester’s classes at New York University and running from them to fundraising pitches for SeaStraws, December 2018 was a big month for me. SeaStraws is a paper straw company I co-founded in May 2018. We have sold over two million paper straws to customers like NYU, the United Nations Headquarters, and Starr Restaurants. Early in December, SeaStraws won the N.Y. Jets No-Huddle Challenge, and shortly after I graduated early from NYU with honors. Just as I was finishing up my last exam, SeaStraws received a funding offer of $200K from Quake Capital, and we were invited to participate in their spring accelerator program. I am working full-time at SeaStraws as a co-founder and chief sustainability officer. Quake Capital’s accelerator has been an incredible resource, and we are proud to be the youngest founders ever to participate in their program. I am looking forward to presenting our hard work at Quake Capital’s Demo Day in early May and walking with my class at NYU’s commencement a week later.”

Kristen Silvi: “This past December I graduated early from Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering and finance. Following graduation, I set out on a three-plus month travel journey. I first spent a week volunteering with my father in Honduras at Amigos de Jesús, a home for children. This experience was humbling and eye-opening. ADJ has both short and long-term volunteering options. Mid-January I left for my world travels. I started in India, and then went to Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Singapore. I traveled with Holliann Davis for one month in Southeast Asia! Afterwards, I went to Europe to spend time in cities and mostly Italy. Once back home, I will move to New York City and start work in July doing sales and trading at Goldman Sachs.”

2016

Erin Fago
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Ayami Cho is currently studying strategic design and management at Parsons School of Design. She describes her college experience so far as “a journey of figuring out exactly what [I want] to do, but essentially it always ended up leading me to the business side of fashion.” Last semester, she worked with Moschino and Jeremy Scott doing public relations and press. During her time there, she was given the opportunity to work with stylists, magazines and celebrities through the company and assisted them through fashion week — something her younger self could have only dreamed of doing!

Scout Zabinski has been keeping busy featuring her art in numerous group shows throughout Manhattan and Brooklyn. Scout Zabinski ’16 features her artwork in shows throughout Manhattan and Brooklyn.
feminism and painting along with a minor in studio art. She will be graduating a semester early from the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University to apply for a grant which she will use to complete a multimedia exhibition (sculpture, painting and video) at the end of 2019. In her own words, “the exhibition will focus on the appropriation of ideas and silencing of certain groups of voices in order to amplify individuals.”

At Franklin and Marshall College, Erin Fago explores the relationship between her two majors, computer science and French. Although the two disciplines seem to lack any connection, she finds that “each domain pertains to learning a language and the dependency of how moving parts work together to create this one multifaceted unit. From a linguistic point of view, the formulation of words, their connotations and their emotional impact remind me of the meticulous, nuanced code that comprises software that comes together to create a larger system.” While studying abroad this past fall in Strasbourg, France, Erin was given the opportunity to work as a technical intern for a cyber-security start-up, AR24. Finding this blend of her two passions has brought into reality the opportunities that the future can hold!

2017

Aidan O’Neill
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Andrea Patella
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Cameron Hochberg, a computer science major, is currently busy with internships in France. He has one in software, one in cybersecurity and an upcoming one this summer in artificial intelligence. Cameron has finally decided to go back to sports after finding out that CASE has a rock climbing club and is now back at it full throttle. He is also a part of the Esport club and is on one of the teams that represent the school in tournaments. Finally, he has also helped to create Café Français, a French club on campus.

Currently on the theater docket for Micah Patt is playing the role of #46 in “The Wolves,” starting rehearsals for “Beauty and the Beast” in the ensemble, performing in a comedy opera, “Speed Dating Tonight,” and going back to OBX to work at The Lost Colony as a choir member this summer. She also went to an IUGTE Physical Theatre Conference in Austria over winter break. In classic Micah fashion, she says, “Lots of theatre things happening, but I’m pumped to be this busy — wooohh!”

Johnathan Lutchman and Nicholas Charles Coury recently went on what Johnathan called, “a social extravaganza, if you will,” in search of soulmates, friends and Lancaster townies. They began their journey in Nick’s dormitory where they shared laughs and the sounds of our generation. Johnathan recounts the night as follows: “We then were gathered in a voluptuous space where we chanted the folklores of this current year and performed our ethnic dances. ‘Twas a swell time — however, the night was not over just yet. Fate led us astray once again as we ended up in Hildy’s, the Valhalla to Lancaster residents. There we shared even more laughs with new companions. Was a night we shall remember for our entire lives.”

Oliver Crane met up with Ian Loeb this past January to accompany him to the doctor’s office. Though their reunion was not under the best of circumstances, they still had a joyous time regaling each other with
played Division I lacrosse at Cornell University and played in the NCAA Championship, the biggest lacrosse game in the world. In between diagnoses, he rode his bike from San Francisco to the Mexican border near Tijuana. Most importantly, Brendan expresses that his father was his best friend, the kindest person he knew, and made it out of a life of poverty to give his family a life of opportunity.

2018

Emma Rodgers
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Binglun Shao
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Diana King has been shadowing neurosurgeries at The Johns Hopkins Hospital over breaks and weekends, which has been a life-changing experience. She joined a neuroscience lab and just won the Woodrow Wilson Award, a federal research grant. She and Ryan Hwang are happy together and he’s doing well, too.

At Carnegie Mellon University, Jesse Wallace is soon to declare a double major in mechanical engineering and engineering and public policy. She has joined the school’s Formula 1 SAE team that builds race cars to compete against other colleges. Historically, the team has been one of the best in the nation; they won the event last year. Jesse already has multiple roles on the team: She designed and manufactured 12 of the car’s suspension links and was also a part of the business presentation team, similar to her old engineering and finance subteam roles on the Peddie Robotics team. Along with that, she received a student undergraduate research grant with a fellow alumnus, Pieter de Buck ’15. They received funding

Maggie Hart is still working at the internship position she has held for the past year with University of Chicago’s Arts Engagement, but was offered an additional position as a marketing and graphic design intern with UChicago Arts. This spring she will be independently curating a student art show in a campus gallery space after becoming more involved in curatorial study classes in school, which she’s incredibly excited about. She was recently invited to be a docent at the Art Institute of Chicago’s Jobs at Art Museums event (JAM). For fellow alumni, she would advise you to put yourself out there continuously and introduce yourself to people doing things you are interested in, as it is important to network not only to make professional connections but lasting personal relationships. Maggie is so grateful for all the opportunities she has right now but notes that none of it came easily; it’s all about applying to anything and everything you’re interested in. She ended up finding her home at her current internship through continually reaching out to people in arts departments on campus and making sure they got a chance to know who she was. To those currently in the same process, she urges, “Don’t let rejection scare you. Keep dropping your resume anywhere that’ll take it because you will find incredible people that truly love what they do in a way that makes you love what you’re doing even more.”

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During Sach Iyer’s time studying abroad in London last semester he made a new acquaintance, Chris Oh ’15. They quickly bonded after revelling together over wonderful times spent at steady ol’ Ped. Their friendship carried across Europe as they explored the glorious modern-day watering holes of London, Brussels and Berlin. They said goodbye at the end of the semester, but their journey had not ended. They met once again as Chris showed Sach everything Korea had to offer. Sach looks forward to reconnecting with his brothers in June and hearing of their wonderful adventures.

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Declan Mulligan ’14 (from left), Colin Mulligan ’15, Tim Mulligan P’14 ’15 ’17 and Brendan Mulligan ’17 take a family photo.
Mia Salas' first semester at Princeton University has been wonderful. She has decided to major in English and plans on getting a certificate in creative writing. On campus, she is the events editor and writer for Nassau Weekly, writer for Spoon, cheerleader, and McGraw tutor for Calculus II. She has applied for a creative writing program in Paris and various internships in New York City related to writing, publishing and editing. Over her spring break, she interviewed for an editorial and writing internship at New York Family magazine and an editorial position at Kyle Cavan. She feels so lucky to be a part of such an inspiring community at Princeton, and she has Peddie to thank for where she is now.

Joe Black earned Newcomer of the Year honors at Kenyon College as the NCAC Conference Champion in 100m freestyle, receiving silver in the 100m breaststroke, and anchoring the 400 medley relay with 44.03, taking home gold.

Deja Cunningham is having the best experience at Williams College. Inside the classroom, she is taking a lot of science classes such as biology, geoscience and social psychology. She is looking to major in biology with a possible concentration in public health. Outside of the classroom, Deja is on the women's track and field team and a part of the Black Student Union (BSU) and Students of Caribbean Ancestry (SOCA).

Elizabeth Jones has decided to double major in human health and African-American studies at Emory University. In addition to joining the Black Student Alliance, she is a member of the association of Caribbean educators and students and Vibez, a Caribbean dance team.

For Giulia Marolda, this first year at New York University has been quite the whirlwind — being a part of Tisch’s drama program means she is in studio training from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. three days a week, and tackling the rest of her academic courses on the remaining two weekdays! Nonetheless, however busy her academic schedule would prove to be, she wanted to find time to participate in an a cappella group, which is an aspiration of hers ever since middle school. She was lucky enough to be accepted into the NYU N’Harmonics, Tisch’s premier a cappella group, and bond with some of the most talented people she’s ever met. They competed in the regional ICCA quarterfinals, taking first place, special awards for best vocal percussion, choreography and solo performance, as well as a chance to compete at semifinals at Boston Symphony Hall in March. Regardless of the outcome, she feels so grateful to be a part of this new family, and she looks forward to three more years of making music with them!

Briana Macedo is currently attending Princeton University where she is in the Integrated Science Program and is considering a math major. This summer, she will be interning at Google NYC.

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For Joe Black, this first year at Kenyon College was a success. He earned Newcomer of the Year honors at Kenyon College as the NCAC Conference Champion in 100m freestyle, receiving silver in the 100m breaststroke, and anchoring the 400 medley relay with 44.03, taking home gold.

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Marilyn Anker (Arts) is preparing for “Ride for Runaways,” a seven-day, 500-mile bike ride that begins July 13. The ride supports Anchor House, a Trenton-based charity that provides a haven for at-risk youth and their families throughout New Jersey. “Back in 2001 I bought my first bicycle because I wanted to participate in this charitable event, and it changed my life,” Anker said.

Rutgers University-Camden purchased a painting by Joyce Chen (Arts). Chen’s piece, “Ink Collage,” hangs in the Artis Building, the new home for the school’s childhood stories program. The Hamilton Street Gallery in Bound Brook, N.J. and the Indianapolis Arts Center also featured Chen’s work this spring.

Alex Kocar (English) joined a colleague from the University of Oslo at the Vatican Library in Rome in March to translate the ancient Coptic manuscript, “Acts of Andrew and Paul.” The thousand-years-old text tells the story of the Apostle Paul’s descent into hell and his encounter with Judas. Kocar and his colleague presented their work at the Norwegian Institute of Rome, and have had their text and translation published in two series.

Peddie’s Strategic Marketing & Communications department received two InspriED Brilliance Awards in December. Andrew Marvin, manager of multimedia strategy and production, received a Gold Award for photography. Carrie Harrington, the editor of the Peddie Chronicle, won a Gold Award in the magazine feature article writing category for last year’s Chronicle story about Oliver Crane’s ’17 solo row across the Atlantic Ocean.

Claudio Middleton P’18 ’21 (Language) spent four weeks at Peddie’s sister school, EFZ, in Shangai, China in February and March where he taught a weekly architecture class. “Shanghai is the perfect fit for an architecture teacher,” said Middleton. “The variety of styles and sizes in buildings is fascinating.”

Matt Roach (English) gave a lecture on literature to The Princeton Reading Group last November, at the invitation of Peddie Board of Trustee Anne Seltzer. According to Seltzer, several members considered Roach’s talk “the best of the year.”
Cathy Watkins P’14 ‘17 (Arts) and Paul Watkins P’14 ‘17 (English, History) tackled the Appalachian Trail through Maine with their daughter, Emma Watkins ’14, last summer. The trio set out on a month-long adventure from Grafton State Park. Paul suffered a severely sprained ankle and had to hike out near Rangeley, but Cathy and Emma forged ahead 260-plus miles to Mount Katahdin in Baxter State Park. “Moose and bear sightings, chats with fellow hikers and unbelievable mountaintop views made the legendary ‘roots and rocks’ underfoot and the unrelenting elevation changes, more than worthwhile,” said Cathy. A favorite stretch was the final trek through the 100-Mile Wilderness.

Joyce Chen’s piece, “Ink Collage,” hangs in the Rutgers University-Camden in Artis Building.

The Hamilton Street Gallery in Bound Brook, N.J. featured “Arborescence” by Joyce Chen in their juried exhibition this spring.

Emma Watkins ’14 (left) and Cathy Watkins P’14 ‘17 reach the summit of Avery Peak in the Bigelows in July 2018.

Tristam Wood P’12 ‘15 ‘17 (left) and his son, Duncan Wood ’12, enjoy the view of Mount Yotei during a ski run in Hokkaido, Japan this winter.

Tristam Wood P’12 ‘15 ‘17 (Academic Support) traveled to Hokkaido, Japan this winter to visit his son Duncan ’12. The two skied at the Niseko Resort.
Olivia Wittman ’09
To Katie Hollfelder
March 10, 2018

Amy Jacobi ’07
To James O’Hara
May 19, 2018

Natalie Evans ’07
To Paul Kalish
September 15, 2018

Oliver Wolf ’02
To Lisa Harinstein
October 6, 2018

Amy Jacobi ’07 married James O’Hara on May 19, 2018. Many Peddie alumni were in attendance, including (from left): Peter Park ’07, Katie Lindberg ’07, Annie Fittin ’07, Allison Schaefer, Michelle Wriede, Greg Wriede ’95, Brian Jacobi ’02, James O’Hara, Amy (Jacobi) O’Hara ’07, Steven Jacobi ’10, Ashley Peskoe ’07, Jeff Intravatola ’77, Elizabeth Jacobi ’12, Sophia Siciliano ’12 and Brittany Tarabour ’07.


Olivia Wittman ’09 (right) married Katie Hollfelder in St. Augustine, Florida on March 10, 2018.

David Clark ’97
Brendan
March 14, 2019

Kabir Manchanda ’97
Ranbir
August 1, 2018

Lauren Schnipper Rausch ’97
Ezra Watson
September 1, 2018

Mike Talarico ’97
Giuliana Grace Talarico
July 24, 2018

Allison Davi ’02
Conrad Philip
March 31, 2019

Harlee Leineek ’12
Vera Coralee Guerra
November 16, 2018

Conrad Philip Kuharski
IN MEMORIAM

Robert F. Forshay ’38
John J. Roberts ’41
Jordan R. Silin ’42
R. Robinson Chance ’44
James T. Loughead ’44
William M. Millar ’44
Arthur L. Hill ’45
John W. Moses ’45
Herman E. Muller ’45
Richard L. Chilton Sr ’46
Kenneth S. Seelagy ’46
David M. Lamb ’47
George F. Wright ’47
Donald M. Allardyce Jr. ’49
Andrew A. Ayers ’49
Robert A. Miles ’49
John L. McGuerty ’52
Douglas J. Eisenfelder ’57
Edward Ollick ’57
Mark R. Roadarmel ’57
Jerald N. Friedman ’59
Peter T. Darlington ’60
Richard G. Lefkon ’62
Robert D. Lovett ’66
Gregg R. Lawson ’78
Scott F. Cunningham ’81 P’11
Kristin L. Odmark ’82
Kurt M. Friese ’83
Jenna R. DiBenedetto ’14

Kate Nicholson P’17 ’19

Mrs. Katherine Nicholson — beloved math teacher, swim coach and advisor — died on November 29, 2018, at her home in Hightstown.

“Kate Nicholson was a gifted and patient teacher with a matter-of-fact demeanor, a wry sense of humor and a deep, passionate commitment to the welfare of her students in whatever setting she met them,” said Headmaster Peter Quinn. “Whether in class, on the pool deck or in the many less formal settings in which she did exceptional work as an advisor, Kate was a principled, forthright and tireless advocate for her students. Her contributions to our school have been great, and her passing is a great loss to many students, alumni and colleagues as well as beyond Peddie.”

Members of the Peddie community, including alumni and former colleagues, celebrated Nicholson’s life at a memorial service on April 6, 2019, at Ayer Memorial Chapel.
About two miles south of downtown Princeton, just a few feet back from Route 206, sits a red barn-style shed nestled among a field of purple hues.

Brad Smith ’82 and his wife, Beth, refer to it as their “lav shack.”

The attractive, yet modest structure houses bundles of fresh lavender, as well as a range of handmade lavender-infused gifts. But for Brad and Beth, the building represents a labor of love.

It was built after the Smiths purchased the former horse farm in 2015. With their sights set on growing lavender, the couple spent months clearing overgrowth and removing old farm equipment from the neglected eight-and-a-half-acre property.

“We wanted to create a field of beauty from a hardy perennial that was drought and deer resistant, attracted pollinators and would not spoil if dried,” said Brad. The Smiths formally launched Princeton Lavender in 2016.

The duo considers Princeton Lavender a hobby farm. Brad has been a real estate investor for more than 30 years, and Beth is a psychotherapist with a private practice in Princeton.

“It’s not our full-time occupation ... yet,” Brad declared.
In addition to its burgeoning fragrant field, Princeton Lavender houses a series of beehives. “They were added in year three after we saw a huge number of bees that were naturally attracted to the blooming lavender,” said Brad.

The Smiths couldn’t help but smile as they spoke of offering visitors a delight to the senses.

“It’s gratifying to produce a product that others appreciate, and we like interacting with customers,” said Brad. He added, “It’s nice to share this experience with Beth. We enjoy working together.”