

Oak Leaves

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NEWSLETTER FROM OAKWOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL • CELEBRATING OVER 200 YEARS OF FRIENDS EDUCATION IN THE HUDSON VALLEY

Lecture Series to Honor Caroline "Dash" Davis Gleiter '51



Dash Davis at Oakwood

Classmates of **Caroline "Dash" Davis Gleiter** have initiated a new lecture series at Oakwood as a memorial tribute to her life and work. The theme will be social justice and the inaugural program will be held on April 15th.

Dash was born in 1933 in Charleston, West Virginia, the daughter of pioneers in the areas of civil rights and education. Dinners and social gatherings with political and social leaders such as W.E.B. DuBois and Eleanor Roosevelt sparked her interest in social-action causes that continued to resonate throughout her life. Dash's father, John W. Davis, president of West Virginia State College, worked into his nineties with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. Her mother, Ethel McGhee Davis, had been the Dean of Spellman College and served on its Board of Trustees for 24 years.

After graduating from Oakwood in 1951, Dash attended Oberlin College, then Howard University School of Law, where she received her LL.B. in 1960. She held positions in field research with the President's Commission on Income Maintenance Programs, as a civil rights advisory specialist at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and as a

Loan Operations Officer at the Agency for International Development. She joined the United States Commission on Civil Rights and became a member of the Bar of the Supreme Court. Dash rose to the position of Assistant Staff Director for Federal Civil Rights Evaluation from which she retired in 1986. Together with her husband, Ted Gleiter, Dash worked in a wide range of volunteer activities including such groups as Community Family Life Services and the Annandale Christian Community for Action.

Reminiscing about Dash, friends spoke of her zest for life, her generosity to all, her love of family and friends and her irrepressible sense of humor. At an alumni gathering in Falls Church, Virginia, in 2002, Dash expressed great affection for Oakwood and her fellow alums. Although she had been ill, Dash was full of good spirit and wonderful enthusiasm for the future of the school.

Dash's roommate at Oakwood, **Suzy Palacios Raymond**, spoke about her friend:

"She was black, I was Mexican; she was strong, I was timid; she was funny, I was serious; she was bold, I was scared. She became my "hero" and I idolized her. I am happy to say that our friendship continued our entire life; we were always in touch. What can I say about Dash? She was a strong woman, with a tender heart, the best listener I've ever known. She always found something to laugh about. She once mentioned being African American and I laughed at her and said: 'Dash, you've never even been to Africa!' She answered: 'Well, when you first knew me I was "Negro," then I was "colored," then "black," and now I'm African American. With each name, has that ever made me a different person?' I answered, 'Definitely not!' Dash was Dash. She would be very proud of the

lecture in her honor but would be saying she did not deserve it."

Oakwood Friends School looks forward to welcoming Dr. Andrea C. Kandel as guest speaker on April 15th. Dr. Kandel earned a Doctorate in Education from the University of Massachusetts for her dissertation on the development of ethnic identity. As Executive Director of the National Conference on Community and Justice, Connecticut/Western Massachusetts region, she works to promote awareness and understanding of the divides that exist among people based on race, ethnicity and culture. NCCJ's programs help young people become critical thinkers who are empowered to work towards social justice.

Thank you to the generous friends of Caroline Dash Davis Gleiter for initiating this lecture series. We welcome additional contributions. ☐



Class of 1951 friends Dash Davis Gleiter, Suzy Bell Palacios Raymond & Carol Filardi Bankhead.

Letter from the Head of School



Dear Friends,

Oakwood Friends School's sixty-five acre campus is a treasure. An oasis in the midst of a busy Hudson Valley town, the grounds include rolling hills, wooded rock slopes, a small wetland, vast lawns and athletic fields, and the stately avenue of maple trees flanking the long driveway. Our eclectic buildings are a testament to the school's history and to its loyal alumni: original farm buildings have been retrofitted for academic purposes, and, over the years, generous alumni and friends of the school have built a theater, gymnasium, and library, as well as new dormitories, classroom and laboratory buildings, administrative offices, and faculty residences. The campus provides a wonderful home for our current students and teachers, and it also provides cherished memories of special places for our alumni.

Knowing the great value of the campus, and wanting to plan carefully for its future, the Board of Managers has initiated two important processes over the past year. First, we commissioned a local architect and Oakwood parent to conduct a "facilities audit" - an assessment of the current state and future needs of every indoor space on the campus, nearly 450 spaces in all. This audit is now complete in paper and digital form, and it can be adjusted and updated electronically as repairs or alterations are made to each space. It is an extraordinarily valuable resource for the school.



Peter Bailly visited Emily Lane Taylor '23 who celebrated her 100th birthday on November 21st. Emily is the granddaughter of Aaron Lane and mother of J. Arthur Taylor '50 & Jean Taylor Hartwig '52.

Second, the Board endorsed a full campus "master plan" process, to begin this spring. The Property Committee of the Board was charged with soliciting proposals from architects, reviewing them, and recommending the firm that would be most suited to working with our school. The master plan process will involve a comprehensive look at the entire campus - topography, plantings, traffic flow, pedestrian pathways, athletic fields, views, utilities, and, of course, our buildings. With the participation of all school constituencies, we will be asking our architects to work with us to develop a vision for how our campus can best be utilized and developed over time, to meet the changing needs of our students, teachers, and our educational programs. In undertaking this project, we seek to create greater aesthetic cohesion, friendlier and more usable spaces, and classrooms, laboratories, and arts facilities that will support twenty-first century advances in teaching techniques. In doing this, we will plan for the support, enhancement, and maintenance of all that is best about our campus, while at the same time looking at how we can create campus improvements that will best express Oakwood's educational mission in the years to come. It promises to be an exciting project, and we look forward to keeping you abreast of our progress.

Sincerely,
Peter F. Bailly
Head of School

Oakwood Welcomes new Board Members

Oakwood welcomes the following new members of the Board of Managers:

William F. Bogle, Jr. '76 - is a partner in the Poughkeepsie law firm of Corbally, Gartland and Rappleyea, where he concentrates in real estate, lending, municipal law, guardianships, and estate law. His family has a long history with Oakwood Friends School. His mother **Gloria Garlick Bogle '43**, worked for Oakwood for 16 years in various capacities, including math teacher, and his sisters, **Barbara Feingold '70** and **Julie Kratchmen '73**, also attended Oakwood. Bill and his wife Carol are the parents of two children, including **Emily '07**. A graduate of Colgate University, he received a JD, Magna Cum Laude, from Pace University School of Law, where he was the Editor-in-Chief of the Pace Law Review. Bill is active in the arts community, serving on the board of the Barrett Art Center.

Janet Hough - is the director of the Chappaqua Friends Nursery School and serves as co-clerk of Ministry and Counsel for Chappaqua Monthly Meeting. Janet is a graduate of Sandy Spring Friends School, in Maryland. She has a BA in Anthropology from Cornell University and an MA in Child Development from Sarah Lawrence College. Janet was one of the founding teachers in the SSFS Community House 9th Grade, and later taught in secondary schools in England and Malawi. Janet and her husband John, who is employed by the United Nations, have traveled and worked extensively in Africa. They have two, nearly grown children.

Rachel Kitzinger - is Professor of Classics and Director of Academic Facilities Development at Vassar College. After graduating from Swarthmore College, Rachel received a PhD from Stanford University. Her area of research is Greek tragedy. She and her husband Eamon Grennan, a poet and a retired faculty member of the Vassar English department, are the parents of **Kira Grennan '04**. They spend a fair amount of time in Ireland in the summer.

Jerry Leaphart - is an attorney practicing law in Connecticut and clerk of Purchase Quarterly Meeting. After graduating with a BA from Wayne State University, Jerry received a JD from New York University of Law. He also has a certificate in Foreign and Corporation Law from Columbia. Jerry and his wife Suzanne live in Ridgefield, CT.


Judy Nichols - teaches writing and literature in the English Department at Vassar College. Judy has a BA from Earlham College and an MFA from Pennsylvania State University. Her poems and stories have appeared in POET LORE, PRAIRIE SCHOONER, THE

New Board Members

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FRIENDS JOURNAL, AND THE SEATTLE REVIEW. She and her partner Jannay Morrow are parents of three children, including **Anna Nichols Orians '09**.

Joe Rutledge - After graduating from Swarthmore College, Joe worked on the design and programming of UNIVAC I (the first general purpose electronic computer) and obtained a PhD in mathematics from Cornell. He retired after 45 years at IBM as a research scientist, well known for his work on the design of the pointing device on the keyboard of the IBM ThinkPad. He serves as the treasurer of Purchase Quarterly Meeting and Chappaqua Monthly Meeting and is a former treasurer of Powell House and of the New York Yearly Meeting trustees. Joe and his wife, Barbara, live in Mahopac, NY, and are the parents of four children, including **Andrew '87**, a teacher at Abington Friends School.

Deborah Wood '56 - is rejoining the board after a sabbatical in New Zealand. Deb works for Literacy Volunteers where she oversees the training of volunteers who become mentors for adults learning to read, write, and speak English. She has a BA from Antioch College and is the mother of **Katherine '84** and **David '86**. Deb is a member of Purchase Monthly Meeting and has served as clerk of her monthly meeting and as clerk of several New York Yearly Meeting committees. 

Parents' Night Out


A reception was held for parents at the home of Peter Baily, Head of School, on October 29th. Parents and faculty enjoyed conversation and a reading by author Anjana Appachana from her book, *Incantations and Other Stories*. Born in India and



Anjana Appachana

educated at Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Pennsylvania State University, Anjana is the recipient of an O. Henry Festival Prize and a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing fellowship.

Preceding "Dracula," the fall play, parents and grandparents joined faculty and students for a delicious dinner on campus served by students. The dinner was the third fund raiser for the school's bus fund and raised over \$2500.

Thank you parents, grandparents and student volunteers for supporting these events. 

Writers Series Launched

Oakwood's School Life Committee, with parents Judy Nichols (mother of **Ana Nichols Orians '09**) and Liza Donnelly (mother of **Ella Maslin '07**), launched a Writers Series last fall. As part of this year's school-wide theme of "Using Your Voice," the committee invited nationally known writers to campus for readings and workshops.



Parent Judy Nichols, author Molly O'Neill, student Jamie Stevenson '05 who introduced Molly's reading.


The series debuted on October 29th with a reading for parents and faculty by Anjana Appachana. On November 10th, Fred Bruning conducted a workshop for students. A journalist, Bruning spent most of his career at *NEWSDAY*, the Long Island and New York City daily, where he held a variety of posts including general assignment reporter, national desk rewrite, editorial writer and staff writer.

Molly O'Neill mesmerized the audience on January 27th by reading and discussing her memoir, *We Would Be Heroes: Baseball, apple pie and the excavation of the American dream*. The author of several cookbooks and a former food writer for the *NEW YORK TIMES*, O'Neill made an entertaining evening for parents, faculty, students and members of the local community.

According to O'Neill, writing her memoirs has been a transformational life experience and she is uncertain which path to follow next. It is ironic that all her brothers, including former Yankee star Paul O'Neill, have now become excellent cooks. Molly signed cookbooks at the reception.

On February 8th, Dave Horowitz led workshops for students in the Middle School. Horowitz is the author and illustrator of three picture books for children: *A Monkey Among Us*, *Soon, Baboon*, and *Soon and the Ugly Pumpkin*, illustrated in the medium of construction paper and charcoal. Dave showed

students the secrets behind his work and then assisted them in using their unique voices to create illustrations of their own based on each student's choice of a piece of art. He reminded students, "good artists borrow, great artists steal."

The Writers Series continues throughout the spring. 



Dave Horowitz and Harrison Roberts '11



Student Servers: Min Woo Choi '07, Jillian Guenther '09, Emma Melchior-Schultz '07, Matt Berchtold '05. Not in photo: Tianna Anderson '09.

School News

Middle School: Last fall the 6th grade collected about 60 pieces of winter wear for children and sent them to The Dream program for distribution in rural areas of northern Vermont. The 6th grade also made cookies and decorations and then helped decorate for a holiday party at the Grace Smith House. The 8th grade collected 60 boxes of clothes, toys, linens, food and medical supplies to send to Sri Lanka. Students in the After School Program made bird feeders and hung them near the Middle School butterfly garden. Now everyone enjoys watching the feeders, busy with both birds and squirrels.

In December, Oakwood took 13 students to one of the Harvard "Model United Nations," one of the most prestigious MUNs in the country. Oakwood represented Nauru and Croatia at the 4-day conference. Coming from a small school, Oakwood's delegations made a big impact, with our delegates actively engaged in debate and resolution writing.

Oakwood's "No Sweat (Students for Fair Labor and Justice) Group" sent another delegation of students to the border between Mexico and Texas again this year. The group left February 20th to research sweatshop conditions by meeting with workers and organizers. In preparation for the trip, No Sweat held a fundraiser and presentation on February 9th for parents and members of the local community to share what they've learned from past trips. The silent auction of handmade items raised \$800. That money was sent to Mexico along with \$200 donated by the Middle School as proceeds of their sale of hand-made wooden hearts. Students have raised \$4,000 in total for the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras.



Danny Robbins '05,
Anna Hafner '05



Emily Reim '05, Joon Ho Huang '06, Cbi Hoon Shin '05

The Peace Club participated in the large peace rally on January 20th, where members met with students from numerous other Quaker schools. The Peace Club has focused much of its effort this year on civil liberties questions, running a community meeting on the Patriot Act and engaging with local peace activists around mandatory reporting issues found in the "No Child Left Behind Act."

Continuing a long-standing tradition, seniors sold carnations to faculty, staff and students to give to others for Valentine's Day. This year, over 1250 carnations were distributed at lunch on February 11th. This sale raised almost \$500 for the senior class trip. 📷

Jamie Stevenson '05

has been named a Commended Student in the 2005 National Merit Scholarship Program for exhibiting outstanding academic performance. Commended Students placed among the top 5% of more than one million students who entered the 2005 competition by taking the 2003 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.



Jamie Stevenson '05

Earlier this winter, National Art Honor Society Members, **Emily Bogle '07** and **Anna Hafner '05** were selected to exhibit their photographic work at RiverWinds gallery in Beacon. Emily's photos were also exhibited at Vassar College.

Ella Maslin '07 was selected to represent Oakwood Friends School at the January 20th event, "Dinner and Conversation," hosted by the Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the FDR Presidential Library. The evening was a forum to discuss the ideals of Martin Luther King. 📷

Quaker Youth Leadership Conference

by: Allison Holzer, Co-Clerk of Friends Committee

On February 3-5th, five members of Oakwood's community attended the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference at William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia. **Ian Kratzke '07, Sarah Robbins '07, Ben Shenkman '07, Bonnie Webster '07** and I were part of the 150 students and faculty members from many Friends school. The theme of the conference focused on identity: who we are as individuals, members of Friends schools, Americans and citizens of the world. We explored this theme through query groups, service projects, workshops and Meetings for Worship as well as recreational opportunities, such as visiting Franklin Institute or the Philadelphia art Museum, dinner on South Street or listening to our keynote speaker, the highly entertaining editorial cartoonist Signe Wilkinson. Oakwood students particularly enjoyed the chance to meet students from other Quaker schools and the thought-provoking discussions on issues such as patriotism, reproductive rights or simplicity in Quaker schools. Oakwood hopes to send students to next year's conference in the Baltimore-Washington area. 📷

Letter to Congresswoman

by: Lukas Ross '06

Dear Representative Kelly:

I am a high school student in your congressional district approaching voting age. The reason I am writing this letter is to inform you of my trepidation surrounding legislation that will soon face a vote in Congress.

The Universal National Service Act of 2003 threatens to undermine the health, freedom, and lives of an entire generation of Americans. If the draft is reinstated, as the legislation stipulates, members of your constituency may be plunged, against their will, into a conflict of questionable necessity.

In this matter, I do not speak just for myself. Many people in my age group either object to the war in general or believe themselves simply unable to take the lives of fellow human beings.

Currently, many young people of draftable age in your constituency approve of your agenda. However, if you do anything but vote down the Universal National Service Act please know we will take our eligible or soon-to-be eligible votes and support another candidate.

Sincerely,
Lukas Ross '06

News from the Arts

by: Elaine Lifter, Department Head

Across the spectrum of the arts at Oakwood, there is an abundance of exiting and noteworthy events taking place.

In the Visual Arts program, two new classes were offered this past fall: Fashion Design and Sculpture. In Fashion Design, students learned to sketch croques, create storyboards with illustrations and fashion time periods and also to create swatches. Two new sewing machines were purchased. The term culminated with a fashion show for the entire community hosted by Jeremy Robbins and featuring designs such as pajamas, skirts and elaborate wedding dresses.

In Sculpture class, students created environmental art based on Andy Goldsworthy's work. In painting class, students concentrated on landscapes and focused on contemporary African art and color theory.

In the fall, Introduction to Art students learned about Noguchi, Eames and Philip Stark and created their own designs. Students also designed and created original chairs. This winter, students are creating three-dimensional models of living spaces.

Media Arts students have created compelling scripts dealing with issues that are relevant and important to them. These students are working towards entering their films in the annual Brooklyn Friends Quaker Film Festival.

The fall play, *Dracula*, was a huge success due to some very fine acting, a stunning set design by the Technical Theatre class, and some exciting costumes by **Emily Reim '05** and her crew.

The Fall Poetry Café was a lively event hosted by **Anel Pinelo '05** and **Carly Weiner '06**. **Matthew Berchtold '05** wrote original

songs and performed them with the G Period Jam Band. There were many fabulous readers including John Platt, **Sarah Clark '07**, **Nick Currie '07**, **Stephanie Rossetter '05**, **Jeff Warren '06**, Nathan Wright and **Anya Aliferis '06**.

Last year's drumming workshop with Dana McGuire was so successful that he was invited to return to campus on December 3rd with his collection of over 50 West African drums. Once again, Lane Auditorium reverberated with African beats as students explored the universal language of rhythm. Dana also held a four hour workshop as part of the 9th grade Community Service retreat.

Our Holiday Program combined readings and music with a broad range of expression. Highlights included a rousing rendition of "Jingle Bells" sung in Korean by international students, a Mozart piano duet by the Pitner sister/brother team of **Christine '07** and **Greg '08**, the debut of singer **Julia Cox '06** and the Oakwood Jazz Ensemble. Student artwork adorned the theater.

The lower library is bursting with incredible photographs and artwork from students in the middle and upper school classes. So come on over and take a look. We appreciate your support of the Arts at Oakwood! 📷

Tell Someone About Oakwood

Do you know someone who would like to learn more about Oakwood? Please contact the Admissions Office at: admissions@oakwoodfriends.org or 845/462-4200.



Front: Denzel Hawker '08. **Rear:** Thomas Doggette '08, Anya Aliferis '06, Nick Currie '07. **Other "Dracula" cast members:** Sarah Clark '07, Jesse Doherty-Vinacor '06, Anna Hafner '05, Julia Patten '07, Emily Reim '05, Stephanie Rossetter '05, Deana Stuart '05, Jeff Warren '06.

Oakwood's Pilot Mentoring Project

by: Karen Butt, Academic Support Center

As part of Project Eye-to-Eye, Oakwood Friends School and Vassar College have teamed together for a regionally exclusive mentoring program for students with learning differences or ADHD. The project's goal is to bring learning disabled adults into the lives of learning disabled students as role models and mentors, empowering students to celebrate their differences and showing them that they too can be successful. For this pilot program, five Vassar students are mentoring five 8th grade Oakwood students.

Beginning on January 28th, mentors and students will work together on art projects for five Fridays and spend additional time together. For their initial project, each mentor and student clasped hands together and made papier mâché casts of their hands, symbolic connections of their bond during the program. 📷



Dylan Shad '05, Samantha Bicknell '07, Deana Stuart '05, Candler Cornwall '06, Julia Cox '06, Kara Fink '06.

Emily Reim, a senior, talks about her Advanced Studio Art class with Randi Chalfin:

"In this class, we are allowed to choose a topic and explore it for a year. I chose art therapy. Currently, I am doing intuitive expression combining painting and poetry. My first project was a workshop on Parents' Weekend in which I asked students and parents to paint how they felt about having their parents in their school or being in their child's art class. Afterwards, I analyzed how color was used to express emotion. I have fully enjoyed doing the project and hope to do more art therapy workshops within Oakwood and at Poughkeepsie Day Nursery where I do my community service work." 📷

Sporting News

by: *Charlie Butts, Director of Athletics*

The fall athletic season was once again marked by great student participation. Almost two thirds of the school played on one of our eight interscholastic teams. Heading this list were our four soccer teams with over 65 players.

Both the boys' junior varsity and varsity teams had winning records. At one point, the varsity team rolled off 8 wins in a row, including a victory over perennial New England power Williams School. This soccer-winning streak is one of the longest in recent school history. **Alec Rosa '05**, **Will Lonczak '06** and **Yoon Sik Jung '06** were named as New England all-stars. Yoon Sik (#44), was also named the team's MVP, and throughout the league, word spread that you had to stop #44 to beat Oakwood. For JV, the award winners were **Kane Jessen '06** for defense and **Brendan Gelardi '07** on offense. The team MVP was **Will Callaway '08**.

In other soccer news, the girls' varsity also had a large squad. Many players lacked experience, but with senior captains **Perri Ertlitz**, **Hester Sachse**, and **Jamie Stevenson** providing leadership, the team improved throughout the season. This was especially true on defense where keeper **Josie Trefz '07** captured the award for most improved and tough defender **Amanda Whalen '07** earned the "tenacious defense" award. Jamie and **Tanya Salamanca '06** were also selected as New England all-stars. For



Fall athletic award winners

Middle School soccer, **Jacob Leach '11** was the most improved player and **Morgan Yu '09** won the coach's award. The team MVP was **John Stevenson '09**, Jamie's brother, who was rock solid as the goalie.

In boys' and girls' cross country, senior captains **Irene Yee** and **Danny Robbins** capped their OFS cross country careers with medal performances at the HVAL championships. Irene finished 4th in the girls' race; she has medalled in each of her three years on the team. Danny ran a smart and strategic race to improve his standing in the league and finish 13th. This earned them both all-league honors and they were also the MVP's of their respective teams.

The girls' varsity volleyball season ended on a sour note as bad weather forced the cancellation of a semi-final playoff match with

Wooster School. The team was healthy and primed for the upset, but Wooster ended up advancing as the higher seed. **Heather Hightower '05** and **Rosilla Badami '06** were co-MVP's and both were selected as first team all-stars in the HVAL. **Sul Gi Koo '06** and **Brianne Radtke '05** were honorable mention HVAL all-stars and Brianne received the coach's award. For JV, there were three coach's awards: **Emily Atkin '07**, **Sami Bicknell '07** and **Katie Chandler Cornwell '06**. Emily also made some important contributions to the varsity as she was called up for several matches.

As always, if you're in the area you're encouraged to attend our athletic contests. Schedules are available on the web site, but it's a good idea to check with the athletic office in case there are changes. 📧

4th Annual Gingerbread House Competition

On December 16th, students and faculty once again produced masterpieces of gingerbread in the shapes of Yankee Stadium, a mountain of llamas, log cabin and other fanciful creations. Final products were donated to the Children's Home in Poughkeepsie.



Best in Show - "The Murder House (for sale)" by **Ella Maslin '07**, **Christine Pitner '07**, **Samantha Bicknell '07**, **Julia Patten '07**.



Most Architecturally Challenging - "Dabotap Pagoda" by **Yoo Mi Lee '06**, **Kyung Hwa (Brandy) Jung '06**, **Jin Young Kim '07**. Not shown: **Hong Gee Lee '08**, **Joon-Heon Lee '05**, **Hyo Joo (Lenna) Kim '06**. Advisor: **Pamela Williamson**.

New Faces on Campus

The following new faculty joined the Oakwood community this fall:

Alex Brosowsky - works in the upper school Academic Support Center. Alex earned his BA in English literature from SUNY Albany and his MSED in Special Education from Hunter College. He also studied Neuroscience and Education for one year at Columbia University. Alex has taught in a variety of settings for the last five years. He brings with him experience at both the middle school and college levels. Most recently he taught at The Lowell School, a non-public school for learning disabled and emotionally disturbed students. Alex, his wife Natalia, and dog Simon live on campus. They have recently relocated to the Hudson Valley from Long Island and are very happy to be here.

Chad Cianfrani - teaches physics and algebra and also coaches girls soccer. He lives in Craig Dorm, where he serves as a dorm parent. Chad is a graduate of Perkiomen School, an independent school in Pennsylvania similar to Oakwood. He received his ScB and ScM in engineering from Brown University. The first years of Chad's career were in the world of finance and technology and he now enjoys working with Oakwood students. Chad and his fiancée, Sue, share a big vegetable garden at Stony Kill Environmental Center and feasted on a bumper crop of veggies this past fall.

Richard Dima - teaches middle school history, works in the Academic Support Center, teaches American Sign Language and Character Education for the 7th grade and helps coordinate the after-school program. Rich is a graduate of Rutgers University and is currently studying for his masters degree in education at Manhattanville College. For the past nine years he worked as an environmental and outdoor educator at several non-profit organizations in the Hudson Valley, New Jersey and New England. He hopes to make active use of the low ropes course on the campus as well as bring to the campus his experience working with captive arctic wolves and birds of prey. He and his wife Cathy, a middle school teacher in the Brewster public school system, live in Fishkill. 🍁



*Front: Aaron Lieberman, Alex Brosowsky, Safari Kaberuka, Juana Terrones
Rear: Peter Sanfilippo, Richard Dima, Friedel Muller-Landau, Chad Cianfrani*

Safari Kaberuka - teaches math part time in the upper school and lives in Craig Dorm. She is a graduate of Vassar College and spent the last year teaching at the Anderson School in Hyde Park. Safari is a native of Uganda and has lived in boarding schools since she was thirteen years old. While at Vassar, she completed much of her study with Janet Gray, mother of **Geoffrey Gray-Cornelius '04**. Safari will also be taking classes at Dutchess Community College.

Friedel Muller-Landau - teaches science in the upper school. Friedel studied physics and mathematics at the Technical University in Munich, Germany, and earned his PhD in biochemistry from SUNY Buffalo. His main research interests were in atomic interactions on a molecular level. While at IBM, Friedel was a volunteer tutor in an inner city program. In 1994 he decided to become a high school teacher so that he could pass his knowledge on to younger generations. He worked in public and private schools, both in this country and abroad. He believes that all children are natural learners and that class size, block scheduling, and quality food service contribute to optimal conditions for learning at Oakwood Friends School. Father of two adult children, Friedel lives on campus, enjoys the wilderness and is a hiking leader for the NY-NJ chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

Peter Sanfilippo - teaches health and physical education in the middle school and coaches in the upper school. Pete is a graduate of Spackenkill High School and SUNY Cortland, where he majored in physical education and education. In high school, he played varsity football, basketball, and baseball, and was also the assistant baseball coach. Pete lives in Lower Reagan North.

Cynthia Shelhammer - is the new Director of Health Services. Cynthia grew up in Poughkeepsie, attended Spackenkill High School and now lives in Pleasant Valley. She has served on a number of school committees and has been president of a parents' association, school board and parish council. Cynthia graduated from Bainbridge College in Ireland with an AAS in Computer Science, from Dutchess County BOCES with an LPN in Nursing, and from Dutchess Community College with an AAS in Liberal Arts/Dance History and an AAS in Nursing. She also holds a Dental Assisting License, and is certified in Radiology, Pharmaceutical Technology and CPR/ACLS instructor. Currently she is working towards her BSN. In her spare time, she enjoys taking nature walks and spending time with her husband and daughter.



Juana Terrones - Janie is the new Assistant Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. She was a high school English and Spanish teacher and a residential counselor in a migrant education summer program. She holds a BA in English and secondary education from Stetson University, and a masters degree in educational leadership from Long Island University. She spent the past year as an administrative intern at the Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery Central School District. Janie's husband is an admissions officer at West Point, and they live in Highland Falls. 🍁



Oakwood Community Service Program

Bill and Nancy Nichols, grandparents of **Ana Nichols Orians '09**, visited Oakwood in January and interviewed students and teachers about Oakwood's Community Service Program. Below is an excerpt from Bill's article, "Looking for Answers to *Political Despair, II*," published in FRIENDS JOURNAL.

"Stephen Miller, a soft-spoken teacher of religion and philosophy, said the school's community service program influences other parts of the school. He told us about a club, "No Sweat," that encourages students to raise money for a journey to meet with factory workers in Mexico.

Just as Miller was explaining that the "No Sweat" trip has a large influence on many in the school even though only few could make the trip, a student walked by the door, and Miller snagged him. It was **Jacob Rozenberg '05** who visited workers in Mexican factories along the U.S. border last year with a delegation that took money and medical supplies to them.

Rozenberg comes from a long line of rabbis, and beneath an affable, satirical edge he can't conceal a serious, scholarly spirit. The trip to Mexico changed his life, he said. But he found no simple answers. For example, try to improve the quality of the workers' lives with a boycott, he explained,

and the corporations just take their factories off to India or China.

After Jacob Rozenberg, we met **Luke Ross '06**, **Ian Kratzke '07**, **Sarah Robbins '07**, and **Ella Maslin '07**, students in a math class taught by Nathan Wright. The math was beyond me even though I was a science major, but when they began to talk about their community service, we heard eloquent testimonials to hope from kids who have seen some grim reality.

After awhile **Dan Robbins '05**, who also made the trip to Mexico, joined us along with **Ed Schnurnberger '06**, who will make the trip this spring. "Going down there opened up the immensity of the problem to me," Dan Robbins said, and he talked about the damage recent free trade agreements have done.

But the students wanted to explain, most of all, how they are learning to do things that make a difference. They talked about peace marches where they found themselves among thousands of people who share their thoughts. They explained how some of them studied and interpreted the Patriot Act for others at Oakwood Friends School. And they told of finding great moral courage and hope among poor people who understand they are victims of injustice. ☐

"Using Your Voice"

by: *Nathan Wright*
Assistant Dean of Students

In October, this year's school-wide theme, "Using Your Voice," was kicked off by performer and teacher Jeremiah Burns. Performing his one-man autobiographical play, Jeremiah explored using theatre as a medium for storytelling. Alternately playing different family members in both their youth and adulthood, Jeremiah explored complicated issues related to diversity, bi-racialism, family tensions, and death. Since then, Jeremiah has worked extensively with Elaine Lifter and her drama classes to help students find creative means of telling their own stories.

Many student groups incorporated this theme in organizing successful community meeting presentations. During the fall term, the Peace Club focused on issues surrounding the Patriot Act. Using character sketches, facts, queries, and a question & answer period, students probed both the pros and cons of the Act, the issues surrounding its installment, and opportunities for students to make their voices heard in government, whether in support or not.

In January, the Diversity Club used the theme as a launching point for "Focus Week" on Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy. This included a special meeting for worship during which students intermittently recited quotations from King. During Community Meeting on Culture Day, students, faculty, and administrators shared objects from their "culture," such as traditional Korean and Chinese dress, old family photographs, and musical samplings, presenting a dimension to our community that is often overlooked.

As always, the theme "Using Your Voice" made its presence as part of established Oakwood traditions. The 9th grade Community Service retreat and the 10th grade YSOP trip both provided students with opportunities to explore service, activism, and community outreach programs for advocacy of the disenfranchised. YSOP is the Youth Services Opportunity Program run out of Friends Seminary in New York City. Our 10th grade participates in that program which involves intensive service learning in the 5 boroughs of NYC. In spring, when Juniors go to Washington, DC, the theme will continue to be explored through workshops, community service, and viewing debates in Congress. ☐



Alumni Gathering
Washington DC, November 14, 2004

Front: Art Saltford '52 (host). **Row 1:** Peter Baily (Head of School), Priscilla Dean Painter '40, Judy Nelson '54, Mary Williamson McHenry '50, Montgomery Blair Sibley '74. **Row 2:** Ian Preuss '90, Nancy Saltford (hostess), Walter Dent '57, Andrew Novins '65, Julie Okoniewski, Janet Tenney '67, Louis Simons '56, Chick Nelson.

Hudson Valley Alumni Gathering October 3, 2004



Peter Baily, Head of Schol, with host and hostess Myna & Peter Van Kleeck '52



Charlotte Hubbard Ballinger '39, Dan Gerow '36, Lorraine Jenkins Daley '37, Betty Flinn Kopser Perreault '38



Deborah Satz Scheer '46, Dorothy Mandeville Morosco '47, Irene Nemes Csordas '48



Sally Collins Frias '51, Ana Raquel Frias Hunsinger '85, Richard Collins '55

Dr. Hershel L. Herzog Lecture "Human Accelerated Environmental Change"

Oakwood Friends School looks forward to welcoming Dr. Michael Pace as speaker for the 6th Annual Dr. Hershel L. Herzog Lecture on Friday, April 29th. Assistant Director of the Institute of Ecosystems Studies in Millbrook, NY, Dr. Pace is an aquatic ecologist with a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. His research focuses on food webs and biogeochemical processes in aquatic ecosystems. The topic of his talk will be: "Human Accelerated Environmental Change."

Established in 1999 by **Daniel Herzog '70**, the Dr. Hershel L. Herzog Lecture Series honors Daniel's father, a distinguished chemist and pharmaceutical executive who was instrumental in developing several popular antibiotic and anti-inflammatory drugs.

Join students, parents, alumni, faculty and members of the community for the Dr. Hershel L. Herzog Lecture on April 29th. 



Loren Talbot '91 with Ryan Rodriguez '05 at Winter Reunion, on January 7th. Loren returned to campus as guest speaker to talk about "Life after Oakwood."

Oakwood celebrates 85 years on site

In 2005, Oakwood celebrates the 85th anniversary of its relocation to Poughkeepsie. On January 2, 1917, a fire in the 3rd floor laundry room of the girls' dormitory, supposedly caused by using an electric flat iron, badly damaged the old building which was home to Oakwood Seminary in Union Springs. Rather than make costly repairs and because there had been changes in geographical distribution of students, New York Yearly Meeting decided to relocate the school.

In 1920 the 75 acre Coleman farm, located on high ground overlooking the Hudson River in Poughkeepsie, was purchased for \$60,000. After June graduation in Union Springs, there was so much work to do in so little time that there were concerns that everything would be ready on time for the opening of school on September 28th in Poughkeepsie. Since it was not that long after the end of World War I, building materials were still in short supply and labor was unstable and uncooperative. In addition, schedules had to be arranged and new students had to be recruited.

A 20 foot one-story addition on the east side of the Coleman home was built to provide a kitchen and dining hall with seating for 102. The room under the addition was to be used for domestic science classes.

The large horse barn (now known as Main Building) was remodeled and extended to create six classrooms, library, administrative offices and a combination study hall/assembly room (seating 110). Upstairs, the hay mows and lofts were converted into a girls' dormitory for 31 girls, eight teachers, an infirmary and a girls' parlor.



Two stories of a boys' dormitory were built and an old, abandoned army barracks purchased from the US government were placed one on each end of the central section for living quarters for boys. The first floor of the central building had a large sitting room, bathrooms and lockers. Apartments for married teachers were on the second floor.

The total cost of improvements, water supply and sewage system was \$113,603.

Even though construction was not complete for the opening of school, things were "nearly enough finished" so that school could begin on the 28th. Wooden ramps were used in place of staircases in Main and doors in the girls rooms did not have handles. There were

no walks on the grounds and days of rain created slippery, muddy conditions. During the first two weeks, students studied in the assembly room, attended classes and participated in silent worship while workers noisily built stairways, created partitions in the rooms above and installed the furnace in the space below.

When school opened in Poughkeepsie in 1920, its name was changed to Oakwood School. Initially, all grades were taught the first six were discontinued in 1928.

Sources: *A Venture in Quaker Education at Oakwood school* by William J. Reagan, minutes of the Board of Managers and other Oakwood documents. □

Alumni Weekend - May 13th to 15th

Welcome Reception - Friday, May 13th

Hudson River Dinner Cruise
Saturday, May 14th

John McDonald '57 Speaks to Oakwood Students

Time and distance did not deter him. Once John McDonald '57 of Sebastopol, California, decided to "semi-retire" after a career as a professional salesman, he knew it was time to return to Oakwood. He wanted to exchange information with students and share some of his experiences. So McDonald, wearing his Mongolian vest, spent the day in classes on November 12th, beginning with 6th grade History. **Matt Burstein '08** joined him and the two regaled students with stories of far-away Mongolia. According to teacher Anissa Kapsales, students were

mesmerized and wished that class could have been longer. After a campus tour, McDonald met with 12th grade Anthropology students and ended the day in Critical Thinking Study Skills class.

The day on campus brought back many fond memories for McDonald. He credits Oakwood with his philosophical foundation for life. "I would not be who I am and where I am were it not for Oakwood," he says.

McDonald looks forward to helping organize classmates for his 50th year class reunion in 2007. □



John McDonald '57

Annual Fund 70% to Goal

by: Elaine Miles, Director of Development & Alumni Affairs

In this newsletter, Peter Baily described our beautiful sixty-five acre campus and acknowledged our loyal alumni who have helped to maintain and develop it through the years. On the opposite page, we are reminded that Oakwood is celebrating 85 years on its current site in Poughkeepsie. There have been many changes and enhancements, but the essential qualities of this unique school community have remained the same. Each May, alumni from around the country and around the world return to campus and talk about "coming home."

How do we maintain this special place, home to our current students and faculty and cherished by so many? The Annual Fund plays a crucial role. Like other independent schools, Oakwood's operating budget is greater than its tuition revenue. Throughout Oakwood's history, we have welcomed students from diverse backgrounds and family circumstances and currently provide financial aid to 36 % of our students. This policy is central to our mission and made possible by generous voluntary support from alumni, parents, faculty and friends of the school.

This year, with the enthusiastic leadership of **Myra Koutzen '70**, Annual Fund Chair, we have reached 70% of our goal as of this writing. Thank you to each donor who has contributed so far. Who gives to the Annual Fund? Donors span the decades, from **Maurice Dillingham, Class of 1927**, to **Alex Deffaa** and **Sasha Skulsky**, college students, **Class of 2004**. Donors include parents of current students who can assess the value of an Oakwood education day to

day and parents of alumni who still value the transforming role that Oakwood had in their children's lives long ago. Donors also include members of the larger community who appreciate Oakwood's emphasis on service to others, an enduring hallmark of our curriculum.

Every gift is important. Oakwood is the beneficiary of a broad base of donors, many of modest means. If you haven't yet given a gift to Oakwood, won't you consider a first gift of \$25, \$50, or perhaps \$100? Your gift will help us reach our goal of \$220,000 for 2004-05 and allow us to continue Oakwood's important work. Thank you.

Charitable Gift Annuities to benefit Oakwood Friends School

Are you planning for retirement and looking for sources of guaranteed income? Consider a charitable gift annuity naming Oakwood Friends School as beneficiary.

When you establish a charitable gift annuity, you receive: 1) fixed cash payments for life, a portion of which may be free from federal income tax; 2) an immediate charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes; 3) the opportunity to make a significant difference in Oakwood's future.

Oakwood's charitable gift annuity program is offered in association with Friends Fiduciary Corporation (FFC). Annuity rates increase with age, but the rate is fixed once the gift is made. Rates offered by FFC are those recommended



Annual Fund Chair Myra Koutzen '70 in Egypt last fall

by the American Council on Gift Annuities. You enter a legally binding written contract with FFC when you establish a charitable gift annuity with your irrevocable transfer of cash or appreciated securities. FFC will manage all aspects of your annuity including beneficiary payments, income tax reporting and investment. It is important that you consult with your legal and financial advisors before finalizing your estate plans.

Anyone who desires further information is invited to contact Elaine Miles at (845) 462-4200, x224.

"As time passes and perspective expands, my appreciation for Oakwood grows. The experience was a foundation stone which continues to support me. Lucky me. Lucky us."

- Rob Blackman '61

New School Bus

Girls' volleyball team coached by Anissa Kapsales prepares to board Oakwood's new blue and white bus. Thanks to generous donations from parents and grandparents, nearly \$7,000 has been realized from three fund-raising dinners.

Left to Right: Brianne Radtke '05, Rosilla Badami '06, Heather Hightower '05, Anel Pinello '05, Ariel Price '06, Sadie Parrinello '07 & Sul Gi Koo '06.



Class Notes



1924

John Miller - In May 1910, Glenn H. Curtiss made his famous flight from Albany to New York, and landed to refuel his primitive flying machine in the field now occupied by the IBM plant, across Rt. 9 from Oakwood. I was only 4½ years old then and that was when I lost interest in becoming a steam locomotive engineer and directed my future to be an aviator. So, all of the time I was at Oakwood I knew exactly what I would do in life, and have certainly done it, an eighty year flying career and still going. I turned 99 on December 15th. My birthday last year was the 80th anniversary of my first solo flight in an airplane which was while I was still a student at Oakwood. I really appreciate that Oakwood sent a certificate commemorating my 80th year reunion. I will have it framed and hung next to my graduation certificate in Mechanical Engineering from Pratt Institute of Technology.



John Miller '24 & daughter Patricia Miller Taylor '52 at the Hudson Valley Alumni Gathering on 10/3/2004.

1927

Julia Otis Fiorenzo - The last time I was at Oakwood was for my 50th reunion. Now that I am 93, I don't get around the country quite so easily. I am very proud of my 11 great-grandchildren.

1930

Esther Partington Heafield - I am now living at 4454 Sheffield Place, Bay City, MI 48706. I have wonderful memories of fall hikes and picnics with **Ruth Craig '09** down by the Hudson River.

1934

Emily Gerow Buck - Thank you for the certificate honoring my 70th reunion. I didn't make my usual trip to CT this year but am well and happy with a growing family and two volunteer projects.

Helen Briggs Harper - Age is catching up with us but my husband and I are still enjoying life.

1935

Marshall Sutton - I regret not getting to Alumni Day last year but I'm grateful for continuing to be active. My wife Virginia, who has lost 95% of her sight, needs more of my attention at home, but she still plays scrabble!

1936

Dorothy Badgley Adams - One of my sons took me to Venice for my 86th birthday. I have 9 great-grandchildren. My four sons all are in this area.

"Along with our academic lessons, we learned responsibility for ourselves, respect for others & their ideas & an appreciation of people of other cultures than our own. We grew to be a family, a possibility made by the school, its great faculty and the fact that we were few, not many."

- Priscilla Mellor Briggs '36

1937

Ruth Van Wyck Floyd - My daughter and I still have a small museum and toy display here at our Maine home. Come see us!

1943

Hoke & Grace Wilkie Brissenden - Hoke and I have moved to Kendal at Hanover, NH, a continuing care retirement community. We are very happy here. **David Johnson** visited us in the fall.

1944

Richard Hoffman - It has been a very difficult year for us with my wife's Parkinson's - MSA problems. As a result I have become a caregiver taking over the household duties etc. She is now on Home Health Care. I am sorry to have missed my 60th Reunion last May.

1945

Venice Baker Barry - Greetings to old friends. I am enjoying retirement and gardening although this is not always easy since I am registered blind.

1947

David Kallen - We moved over the summer from the country to a 140 year old house in downtown Grand Ledge, MI, where we can walk to the movies, the grocery store, the ice cream store and local restaurants.

Betty Jo Butterworth Lake - I continue to enjoy living at this retirement village. I traveled to England, Wales and Scotland last summer and plan to travel to Ireland this fall.

1948

Lyova Rosanoff - I'm now in my 27th year as lyricist/pianist for a satirical musical review called Esther's Follies that's popular in this surprisingly liberal city of Austin, TX. It's endlessly challenging. Mr. Reagan would be pleased, I think!

1949

Tedy Hinckley Thompson - Retirement continues to be "golden" albeit with a rusty tinge. Minnesota is living up to its "ice box" reputation this year: lots of sub-zero temperatures and, oh, those heating bills!

"After all these years, as an "inactive" alumna, I look back at my Oakwood days with pride and pleasure. In and beyond the classroom, Oakwood gave me an excellent education as well as happy memories."

- Susanne Abrams London '50

1950

Gladys Carnell Abrams - My part of Florida didn't get hit badly by the 4 hurricanes. I'll try to make it to our 55th in May,

but it is getting harder to travel alone. Could it be age?

Anita Pasternack Finkelstein - Looking forward to our 55th Reunion in May. I hope as many of us as possible can return.

Mary Williamson McHenry - Looking forward to Alumni Weekend in May!

1951

Carol Filardi Bankhead - It's always a good day when I receive a new issue of *Oak Leaves*. I was a runner-up for the Woman of the Year in Fullerton, CA, based on behind-the-scenes involvement in the community. The Oakwood Friends ethic has become a part of who I am.

Eileen (Mickey) Moore Casamo - We lost two beautiful people from 1951 this year, both special in their own ways. They had tremendous spirit and were dear friends of mine. **Elsa Danenberg** & **"Dash" Gleiter** will be missed by all of us.

Tim Wohlforth - I have been spending my retirement happily writing crime fiction. My first novel, *No Time To Mourn*, is a PI novel written in the California Noir style. It has just been published by Quiet Storm Publishing and is available through Amazon. I have also had some 49 short stories accepted for publication.

Attention Classes of 1949-1951

Alan Wilder '50 reminds the Class of 1950 to attend their 55th year reunion in May and invites adjacent classes to join them in their celebrations.

1952

Charles Lane - Marga and I continue to be active in local peace and justice activities, in Lancaster, PA, in spite of our disappointment at the outcome of the November election.

1953

Philip Dobrin - Now that I'm retired, I've moved from Illinois to Englewood, FLA, on the west coast. I'd love to hear from fellow Oakwood alumni: pbdobrin@aol.com or 941/473-0542.

L. Keith Miller - I'm still enjoying teaching & researching at the University of Kansas. I started a student cooperative housing organization in 1968, built on Skinnerian principles and turned it over to a local board that now runs it. The 4th Edition of my textbook *Principles of Everyday Behavior Analysis* comes out 2005. It has sold over 100,000 copies.

Stephen Sniffen - Last July, I moved from Florida to Virginia, from the ocean to a farm.

Class of 1955 Photo Needed

If you have a photo of the Class of 1955 taken in any year while at Oakwood, please contact Kathy Moyer in the Alumni Office.

1955

Robine Andrau - Had a good visit with **Sam Ho** who stopped by on his way to an Oakwood reunion. I'm still working and enjoying life - especially my expanding family (3rd grandchild due in April). I'm looking to do more traveling. Australia anyone?

1956

Lesley Willis Barge - I send my very best to my 1956 classmates. It's hard to believe our 50th reunion is in 2006. Where did the years go?

Susan Deane-Miller - Since social work licensing has gone into effect in NY, I am now Susan Deane-Miller LCSW-R, after completing advanced credential clinical work in 2004. In August I went to Ireland, played music and visited cousins!

1957

Peter Lane - I'm retired as of last June 15th and having a good, full life.

Jonathan Talbot - The new and expanded 5th edition of his book *Collage: A New Approach* seems to be one of the best-selling books on collage on Amazon.com. In it he describes the technique he developed which makes it possible to adhere collage elements while they are dry. In connection with *The Imaginary Voyage* exhibition, he moderated a collage roundtable discussion at the Poughkeepsie Art Museum in June. For additional information, visit his website at www.talbot.com.

1958

Laura Greene Boehlecke - I now have grandchildren: 2 boys, 1 girl. They all live in Las Vegas so I visit 3-4 times a year. I spend 8-10 weeks at my home on Cape Cod each summer where the kids, who love the beach, visit me each June. I enjoy retirement as it allows me to do so many things I couldn't when I was working.

Robert Moore - I have enjoyed reading *Oak Leaves* for many years. My time at Oakwood, as a student and later as an athletic associate, was enjoyable and rewarding. The school changed greatly during the 1950s and even more since then, but I'll always be grateful for my experiences and friendships there. I enjoyed a rewarding corporate career for 25 years, then began a new career as a public administrator in CT. I am now at the Town of Branford and have no plan or desire to retire. There is much to be done. Recently, my wife and I celebrated our 40th anniversary. Our son Dan is a pastor in Iowa and younger son Matt is a consultant in Ottawa. Best wishes to the classes of 1955 to 1961.

1959

Dee Andrews Richardson - So sorry I missed our 45th reunion! My new business, D-R INFO, in which I provide business research services, has taken off this year. Can't begin to think about retirement. I send my best to all my classmates and the Oakwood community. Email me busydeee@comcast.net.

Susan Stein Stephens - I enjoyed our 45th reunion so very much. I especially enjoyed seeing my roommates **Jackie Barkan Stuart**, **Lee Summers Wilson**, **Io Berberelli Ruplinger** & **Linda Streeseman Magee**. It's amazing - none of us has changed!!!

Jim Warson - After retiring from Neurosurgery due to hand arthritis, my wife Joyce and I continued to raise Morgan show horses in Colorado until 2002. We adopted our twin granddaughters in 2000. Having done all we could do in CO, we looked elsewhere and ended up on the big island of Hawaii in 2003, on a ranch in a ghost town on the side of a volcano. We still raise horses, but spend the rest of our time doing things Hawaiian, like paddling outrigger canoes. Hawaii is the dessert in the feast of life.

1960

Ralph Skeels - Retirement life is a great thing. My wife, Judy, has now joined me in travel, theatre, family & friends on a more frequent basis!

1963

Roger Golden - has retired from a distinguished 34-year career in federal service, concluding as project manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' San Francisco District. He received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service in a retirement ceremony in recognition of his outstanding performance. In 2002 he earned the District's Commander's Leadership Award. Golden began his federal service career upon enlisting in the army in 1968 after graduating from Washington University in St. Louis in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in economics and psychology. He was involved throughout the 12 year Humboldt Harbor and Bay Deepening project, being the environmental manager for the San Francisco Fisherman's Wharf breakwater project and being chief of the District's Disaster Field Office following the devastating 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. He will remain in the Bay Area doing some work as a consultant, but mainly will focus on his golf game.

Jesse Rieber - Music is in my soul, and has been quiet for many years. Time is short; it is time to return to those things which gave me pleasure in life. I had been thinking about starting to play guitar and sing again for a long time. At the suggestion of a friend, I bought a new guitar, a steel body guitar,

the type played by the old time blues singers. I have wanted one of these guitars for nearly thirty years. I finally gave myself permission to get one. I decided this time to properly learn many of the things I used to do on the guitar. I was always in too much of a rush to learn what I needed to know properly when I was young. That's the advantage of being old and doing it again, the patience exists to learn it properly, or more accurately the pressure to accomplish the task quickly is no longer there - thus the patience. *Excerpt from Jesse's year-end reflections. Full text in the Alumni Office.*

1964

John Hunter - I thoroughly enjoyed Alumni Reunion Weekend in May. *Godspell* was enjoyable (Linda & I saw it twice!) and the meeting at Nine Partners was a highlight. It was great to catch up with many of my classmates and Arthur Jarvis! We also enjoyed talking with **Hester Sachse '05**, the student subject of the 2004-05 Annual Fund brochure, an engaging young woman!



Alexia Traver Doyle '65 & Peter Muller '66 at the Hudson Valley Alumni Gathering on 10/3/2004.

1966

Elizabeth (Jamie) Jamieson Agnew - After five quick years in Washington, I've returned overseas, this time to my favorite city: Paris. Madam Polgar would be pleased!

1967


"Oakwood continues to be an important school that quietly transforms the world into a better place, one person at a time."

-Joel Erlitz '67 (father of Perri '05)

Emel Hekimoglu Mehlum - I live in Eugene, OR, with my husband Johan, who is from Trondheim, Norway, and is a CEO for a commercial bank. For many years, I have been a volunteer counselor in the mental health field for a non-profit agency, Center for Community Counseling. I

Do You Remember When – Identifications

Thanks to **Robert Moore '58** who replied to our request on page 10 of the last issue of *Oak Leaves* for names of students in the Assembly Room photo of choir rehearsal. According to Moore, the director was Jane Newlin (who taught at Oakwood September 1955 - June 1957) and the accompanist was **Melissa Gatling Kaufmann-Buhler '58**. Front row, left to right: **Brenda Nelligan Murphy '57**, **Holly Clarke-McAlary '58**, **Donna Smith Kuersteiner '57**, **?, Linda Stevenson Davison '58**, **Nancy Rose Wadhams '58**. Rear row: **Stephanie Ross Van Reigersberg '58**, **Jay Halsband '57**, **Glen Bibler '57**, **Bob Moore '58**, **Jim (Les) Wells '58**. Jim also replied and said that he thought it was **Linda Welch '58** not Linda Stevenson Davison '58. If anyone else can help with identification, please contact Kathy Moyer.

As Bob writes about the choir, "we weren't great but we had fun. I seem to recall a piece entitled "Alleluia" by Thompson as our standard. The best performances were Gilbert & Sullivan operettas directed by Barry Morley. He made everyone a star." During Bob's time, the stage at the north end of the original gym (now Lane Auditorium) was used for plays and indoor commencements. 



am a part-time counselor for Lane Community College and work with students on their personal, career, and academic issues. I have a BS in Social and Behavioral Sciences from Lindfield College, and a Masters in Social Work from Portland State University. I have two nephews and a niece, John, Hakan, and Jasemin, whom I adore and love spending time with whenever I can. I enjoy traveling, playing bridge, and cooking. We own an apartment in Istanbul, Turkiye, and love to spend time there with family and friends.



Joban Meblum & wife Emel Meblum '67

Stephen Reynolds - In February, my son Luke will be releasing his debut album on Island records with his band Blue Merle of Nashville, TN. Luke plays guitars that I made from trees blown down in snow and ice storms. Blue Merle recently opened the Farm Aid Concert in Washington state. His band was part of the Farm Aid project with Dave Matthews, Willie Nelson, Neil Young and many others. National interviews with Luke reflect the values imbedded in his upbringing and are reflective of my years at Oakwood. You can read more about Blue Merle (and my guitars) at: www.BlueMerle.net My wife Kathy and daughter Rebecca reside in the geodesic dome that I built in 1970 in Cornwall, VT.

1969

Mark Engelberg - I'm still living in Andover, MA, where I've been since 1980. I've been divorced for 6 years, but am happily in a three-year relationship that is going very well. My kids are 19 and 24 - yikes! Heather graduated from Tufts U. in 2003 and has plans to go to law school next year. My son Jeremy is a happy freshman at Westfield State in western MA. I'm still running my software services company, Compulan, now 20 years old, and developing real estate, restoring 2 family homes and converting them into luxury condominiums. I'm hoping to build my first new construction home this year for resale and move gradually into full time real estate development. I'm in the phone book or email me: markengelberg@hotmail.com.

Charles Schwartz - I am finishing my 26th year at IBM. My daughter is a freshman at Marist - education & Poughkeepsie intersect for me once again. My son is in 8th grade.

1972

Charlene Coleman Mann - My husband Bert, our 12 year old son Ian, and I have relocated to Weston, FL. Bert is teaching Middle School and High School Science at a small private day school, right here in Weston and Ian is in the 7th grade at the same school. I'm a full time mom and homemaker. I spent the past 9 years on the North Shore of L.I. being very involved, on a volunteer basis, in fundraising for our school at the time, The Portledge School. I actually ran into Peter Bailly last year when he was serving on an accreditation committee evaluating the school. I was also busy on the boards of the local Boys & Girls Club, the Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence and serving as an elder at our church. So, I feel like I'm on vacation now because I haven't gotten myself as involved here in Broward County yet.

1974

Jeff Fitts - After our 30th year reunion, I discovered a few more pieces of the Oakwood jigsaw puzzle which I did not know existed. They were more detailed and colorful than those I remembered, although a little smoothed with age. Now I realize that the puzzle will never be finished, like a movie without an ending. I guess this is why I keep coming back to Oakwood. At home, I carry a bittersweet feeling. I see more clearly what I had in my past that's gone. Yet I realize that I have not lost these connections to it at all!

Marcia Van Wagner - I'm now Deputy Comptroller for Budget at the New York City Comptroller's office, still living in Brooklyn with my husband and sons, now ages 6 and 9.

1975

Elizabeth Jackson Corrado - I am currently working for Perkiomen School, a boarding school 90 minutes north of Philadelphia. My husband, Henryk Hoffmann, is a Latin teacher, coach and author. Together we have six children all but one in their 20s and in their professions. It's been a journey. I send greetings to my friends, former teachers and staff.

Beth DiCesare Madison - I have moved up to Portland, OR, where I am a middle school principal in a very poor, diverse neighborhood.

1977

Joseph Katz - Chanina Shan-Le Katz was born December 1998, in Hong Kong and Adam Shan-Da Katz was born February 2001, in Silicon Valley. In-between births we moved back to the States from China, where I was running a company for Apple Computer. Since then our family home has been the "K6ATZ hamshack" in Cupertino, and our spiritual home has been the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, www.csecenter.org. My wife Karen, a former AT&T executive, has lately been focused on the arts, and the art of childrearing. I've been VP, CEO and/or owner of some fun dot-com (and dot-gone) adventures like PocketMail. I often travel to Asia and Europe, but within limits. Adding "Daddy" to my job description has been the best project yet! I can be reached at joe_katz@csi.com.

1978

Jonathan Baratz - Greetings, my Friends. It has been an interesting road since Oakwood. After college, I became a dental ceramist in NYC for a few years (my claim to fame: Al Pacino's smile). Then I owned a 50+ seat restaurant in Pompano Beach, FL, for several years (made the best ice cream anywhere) before traveling through the middle east for two years. Upon returning, I settled in Yorktown Heights, NY, where I am currently a billing manager at MCI. The second time around, I was fortunate to find my soul mate in life and have a wonderful 8 year old daughter, Leah, and the cutest 1 1/2 year old son, Blake. I have spoken to **David Ahmed '79** throughout the years. **Kadia Barenbaum '77**, **Reid Day '78**, **Doren Jacobs '80**, and **Raphael Hines '79** - what's up? If you know their whereabouts, let me know. Feel free to contact me anytime: Jonathan.Baratz@mci.com or CoolJonnyB@aol.com.

1983

Amanda Junquera Downing - September brought a happy event: I married Sam Downing. I am still running, working at L.L. Bean and enjoying life in Maine.

Jennifer Kuntz Kiernan - After many moves around the country, my husband Gerard (whom I met in 1990 on the sloop Clearwater) and I have settled in Keene, NH, with our two wonderful children, Emmett (8) and Maya (5). I have been a full time mom for 8 years but I hope to soon return to my former career as a high school social studies teacher.

1984

Katie Settel Cardenas - Well, it's 21 years after graduation and here I am writing my first class note. I always thought I would write and tell you about my "fabulous" career and how accomplished I was but I kept changing paths! Had I written all those times I would have been known as a photographer, a jewelry designer, then a fashion designer, a hat designer and finally, a graphic artist. It has been quite a journey on many different roads trying to find my true calling. I am happy to write that on October 27th, it all changed and became clear to me. I gave birth to a beautiful 8 lb 22 oz baby boy we named Teagan Settel Cardenas. A month after 9/11, I was hired by my boss Mel Cardenas whom I married a year and a half later. My life today is filled with love and gratitude and I couldn't have asked for more.

At our 20th reunion, I was 4 months pregnant and had such an amazing time. So many of the class of '84 showed up, went out to eat after and then stayed locally. I didn't realize until spending time with everyone that we really haven't changed all that much. It was so great to see. I love my memories of Oakwood and who it helped me to become. I am still in contact with many and 21 years later **Pauline Mosello Mancini** is, as always, my best friend. I want to thank all those I knew, and to all the faculty who helped me. It feels good to be in contact again. Best wishes to you all. Write at: citycat@aol.com.



Katie & Teagan Cardenas

Alaka (Alice) Lindsley - I'm so sorry I missed our 20th reunion since I was hiking in the southwest and the Grand Canyon. It was good to speak to some folks via cell phone from the trail, even if it was sometimes hard to hear! Looking forward to our 25th! Hey, **David Glidden & Danyel Rubin** - where art thou??

1986

Abigail Golden-Vazquez - "Hello" to all my classmates and **Jesse Washington, Renee Williams, Tony Rivera, Jen Adler, Rich Alter**. I'm in D.C. working for international foundation and I regularly attend Quaker meeting in Washington. Hope everyone is well.

1987

Edgard Jaude - I met my wife Kristina in 1991, married in 1996, had a child (Claira, now age 2) and moved to Robbinsville, NJ. On the business side, I have been busy writing and producing music for film and television. On October 7, 2000, I had a #1 hit single on the Dance Billboard Breakout hits chart with "Power" performed by Zelma Davis formerly of "C&C Music Factory". I have written and produced music for shows such as "Soul Plane", 2 seasons of "Punk'd", 5 seasons of "Making The Video", "Gothica" the DVD release, the first season of "My new best friend", "Pilot", and many major networks slots on ABC, CBC, FOX, Bravo. Music is a great gift that everybody has. Life is full of music, all you have to do is stop and listen

to what your heart has to say. Oakwood taught me a lot in my life. Therefore every step I make, every word I say, I owe my gratitude to Oakwood school and all the faculty. "Hi" to all my friends that I grew up with at Oakwood. Drop me an e-mail: edgardjaude@optonline.net.

1988

Jennifer Brunton - We are living in Brattleboro, VT where we've opened a new Bhava Yoga. Ernie is 3 and we are in the process of adopting a daughter from China. I hope to finish my PhD in May. I'd love to hear from anyone: jeb61@columbia.edu.

1990

Michael Erikletian - The city life kind of lost its appeal after some rough patches in the music industry. So my family and I moved to the country and absolutely love it. I'm still working as a kinesiologist and still love it. I have started a video game development company (Tiki Twins) with my best friend and I'm working on a fictional book/story. I seem to be attracted to careers that have worse odds than Vegas. I miss all my Oakwood buds, so I'm sending some positive vibes out to **Glenn Barrack, Peter Plum, Simone Berman-Rossi '91, Faith Sole, Ian Pruess, Tom Evans, Josh Phillips, Matt Jones '92, Rachel Heller** and **Jeremy Bert**. Whatever happened to B. Hubert and L. Durke? Any of you guys book agents? I kid, I kid. I miss you guys! Take Care! Contact me at: Garudaman@sbglobal.net or 1070 San Miguel Canyon Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076.

1991

Carrie Eastman Bridges - In September 2002, I married Jordan Bridges, an actor whom I met at college. We have a wonderful daughter, Lola Ember. I just got my masters degree in Interactive New Media from the Tisch School at NYU and currently am designing toys while making some art on the side. Say "hi" to me at favolaus@yahoo.com.

Soheireh Meier - Hi, everyone! I am thrilled to share that I am engaged to Nicholas Pappas. The wedding is planned for June. I am still in NYC, working as an Associate Designer at Echo Design Group (textile print). Drop me a note at soheray@yahoo.com.

1994

Rebecca Charwat - On January 8, 2005, Rebecca married James Owens in the Bahamas. He is a physician's assistant and she is graduating from nursing school. They live in North Carolina.

1995

Forrest Rohde - Brandi and I are at Charleston AFB until our second child (a daughter) is born in April. There's no telling where I will be after then. Being a dad has been the best experience of my life. Eli is great! My beloved doggy, Isabel, met her maker last spring. Baxter, a little Jack Russell, has just joined us. E-mail care of my parents: adamaustell@yahoo.com.



Brandi & Forrest Robde '95 with Eli (born June 3, 2003)

1997

Annie Willis - I can't be blamed for the quality of this picture, my parents just picked me up at the train station after my 14 hour trip back from Argentina. Anyway, it was nice to drop by and see the campus again and the beloved Bob Suphan. Everything looks the same, although all the boarding students live in Craig dorm now (apparently that's working out well)! Since leaving Oakwood, I graduated from Earlham College in 2001, lived in Colorado for 2 1/2 years, and have been traveling around the world as much as possible. Currently, I'm applying to schools all over the country and moving to San Francisco. I'd love to hear from classmates or anyone who feels like writing: anniewillis79@yahoo.com.



Annie Willis '97 with parents, Judith & Arbur Willis '54. Art taught History at Oakwood, 1964-68.

1998

Rebekah Lancto - Received an MS in Art Therapy & Mental Health Counseling from Springfield College last May and is currently working as an art therapist for Hospice.

2001

Cristy St. John - is interning at the Aims Hospital in Cochin, India, while working there on her senior thesis.

Faculty & Friends

Dennis Friedman (Math & Russian teacher, 1969-78) - has a new wife, Gretchen Effler, (39 years after their 1st date), a 16 year old son and a 24 year old daughter. They live in Chicago.

Lara Holliday (Board Member) - Congratulations, Lara, on the launch of the Mentoring Tree Foundation. The foundation creates expanded educational opportunities for under-served youth with untapped potential.

Arthur Jarvis (Latin & History teacher, 1961-65) - I have great memories of 2004 alumni weekend!

Judy Joffee (Nurse, 1983-88) - Willow May Allen-Joffee, faculty brat from 1983-1988, now 26, is married and happily expecting her first child.

Dan Schlitt (Board member, 1990-99) - I am now a member of the School Committee at Scattergood Friends School.

Theresa Shane (Widow of former Head of School Joseph Shane; mother of Larry Shane '52) - Congratulations to Terry for turning 101 on October 31st! 📧

Attention Class of 1965!

Do you have current addresses for these classmates? Laura Beckvold, Lorna Breiby, Brigit Brine, Peter Coan, Nancy Cushing-Jones, Julie Cpoock Downign, Suzanne Goodman Hogsett, Judith Cohn Hutchison, Anne Clark Isaacs, Henry Karmelik, Nancy Kelly Lavoie, Niki Lawrence. Cynthia Chamberlain Loeb, Randolph Myers, Robin Neal, Hope Buckland Nelson, James Nichols, Mary Elizabeth Perkins, Lloyd Rieber, Deborah Herzberg Rodboy, Steve Root, Susan Sarles, Alexander Schub, Jeffrey Shapiro Jane Silberman, Caroline Taylor, Diane Townes. Contact the Alumni Office. Thank you!

IN MEMORY

Dorothy Otis Goodwin '24
August 27, 2004

Mildred Brackney Minard Schlesinger '26
December 19, 2004

Elmeta Goodwin Miller '31
December 2004

Priscilla Mellor Briggs '36
May 13, 2004

Walter L. Post '37
August 16, 2004

Shirley Podret Bernard '38
December 1, 2004

Herbert B. Post '40
October 16, 2004

Stanley W. Colvin '43
September 15, 2004

Helen Storm Grebe '45
August 8, 2004

Elsa Danenberg '51
November 2004

John A. Meltzer '52
June 20, 2003

Miriam Stone Leavitt '62
November 29, 2004

If you winter in Florida or have an alternate address elsewhere, please contact the Development Office so that we can invite you to alumni gatherings.

The alumni email directory is now on the school's website. Please contact the Development Office (development@oakwoodfriends.org) if you wish to add your email address. Thank you.

Oak Leaves

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Winter Reunion, January 7, 2005



Front: Andrew McMenemy '03, Jennifer Yee '03, Walter Scarborough '03, Elizabeth Hanka '04. **Row 1:** Tracey Carl '00, Allison Loggins '01, Raphael Rios '00, Lauren Talbot '91, Dan Huttner '04, Kbara Gilvey '04, David DeMaria '04. **Row 2:** Sasha Skulsky '04, AnneMarie Shirley '02, Joe Grissett '01, Hannah Guernsey '04, Gillian Jule '01, Carol Green '01, Chris Allen '01, Min Koo Kang '04, Hee Kyung Kim '04, Peter Heptinstall '04, Sarah Wauchope '04. **Row 3 (left):** Melody Ortega '03, Clara Baez '03, Elena Browne '04, Kira Grennan '04, Abram Kaplan '00, Chris Biesele '04, Bela Baez '04, Stephen Gagliardo '03. **Row 3 (right):** Andrew Pacelli '02, Tara Ruben '04, Alex Anderson '04, Alex Menasche '04. **Not in photo:** Geoffrey Gray-Cornelius '04, Megan Krause '04, Courtney Kubbach '04, Frank McGinnis '04, Caitlin Rega '03, Emily Rowland '03, Beom Mo Sung '04.

Oakwood

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2005 School Calendar

Apr 15 Dash Gleiter '51 Lecture
Apr 23 Admissions Session
Apr 29 Herzog Lecture
May 12-14 "Anything Goes" musical
May 13-15 Alumni Weekend
May 21 Admissions Session
June 11 Commencement
June 18 Cape Cod Gathering

Parents of Alumni: Please help us update our database with the current address of your son or daughter. Thank you.