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FROM THE NEW CHS PRESIDENT

*Timothy J. McKenna
President, Central High School*

It does not take very long after you enter the halls of Central High School to come to the conclusion that it is a very special place. In August, during our annual freshmen orientation program, I was impressed with how our current students took the lead, and facilitated sessions for the 275th Class. It was evident that Central not only produces scholars, but also develops leaders. Over 500 members of the Central community participated in this program. Representatives from the Home and School Association, faculty, students and Alumni Association played important roles as the members of the 275 at Central began their journey at the corner of Gontz and Olney Avenues.

I am a lifelong Philadelphian. I was born and raised in the Frankford section of Philadelphia. I attended St. Joseph's Prep, and studied business administration at Fordham University. During my time studying at Jesuit institutions, it became apparent to me that I would dedicate my life to working for the betterment of society. The field of education has afforded me the opportunity to support the children of Philadelphia. My goal is to provide the best educational experience for the students that I serve.



As the 14th president of Central High School, I have made a commitment to all community stakeholders to continue the proud tradition of our school. Dr. Pavel did exemplary work during his tenure at Central, and has guided me throughout my transition as his successor. Students have asked how my administration will be different. At this point, that is a difficult question to answer as I am presently on a fact-finding tour. I am learning daily about the great traditions and history of Central. Members of the Alumni Association have been a great support by providing me with information and insights into the history of our school. One observation I have made thus far is that all members of the Central community are committed to continuing the traditions of academic excellence, and celebrating the diversity of the student body. I am honored to lead this prestigious institution.

I invite all members of the Alumni Association to visit. Central High School is thriving. Your visit will afford you the opportunity to conjure memories from the past, and give you insight into the great achievements that our staff and students are accomplishing each day. ●

The Associated Alumni of the Central High School of Philadelphia

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Editor: Steve Chappell, 209
Editor Emeritus: Jerry Kates, 194
Senior Editor: Yvonne Dennis, 246
Managing Editor: Burton A. Spielman, 218

THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL GAME

Get your tickets to the annual AACHS Thanksgiving Day breakfast, Thursday, November 22. For \$35, you get breakfast at Jack's Deli, 8500 Bustleton Avenue, and a ticket to the Central-Northeast football game. Buffet breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. and the game kicks off at 10:00. Please let Pat Malloy know how many tickets you will need by e-mailing alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com or calling (215) 927-9550, then mail checks payable to AACHS to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580. Proceeds benefit Central Athletics. ●

EDITORS' MESSAGE

Merrill Freedman, 208
Steve Chappell, 209
Editors, The Alumni Journal



It is an exciting new time for Central. For the first time in almost 29 years, there is a new president at the helm of the school. We welcome Tim McKenna, and wish him much success. While we can expect change, we can rest easy with the knowledge that Tim is committed to the continuation of the tradition of excellence that, since 1836, has been the hallmark of Central High School. The Alumni Association is likewise committed to the continuation of its unstinting support of the CHS president, the faculty and, uppermost, the students.

As we note change in the school administration, we also note change in the school's alumni, change which creates some challenges for your editors. We have the twin objectives of producing an interesting, readable and relevant *Journal*, and placing that *Journal* before the eyes of as many alumni as possible. Printing and mailing the *Journal* is terribly expensive, but does reach the largest number of alumni. It by no means reaches all alumni, however, mainly because many of our younger alumni have yet to settle in one place long enough to be reached effectively via mail. Enter the new AACHS website.

For the "non-mailable" alumni, and the many others who prefer a digital edition, *The Journal* will be readily accessible via our new website. We have been meeting with Mark Lipshutz (224) and Rudy Cvetkovic (239) who have been hard at work helping to develop the new website. The site will contain information about current goings on, and present opportunities to support Central. The social media generation dictates brevity; we will not yet be tweeting, but the information on the website will be brief. *The Journal*, on the other hand, will go into more depth about the people and issues that we believe are important to generations of Central alumni.

We hope that these changes will lead our heretofore internet-reluctant alumni to view the website where they will find future on-line *Journal* editions. For those whose patience doesn't extend beyond 40 words or less, you'll find a thumbnail sketch of the most important goings on via the website.

But no matter how the information is delivered, our continuing message will be "Come Back to Central." Observe and meet the latest generation of Central students, and you'll walk away with a renewed pride in our school. ●

Ensure the Future
www.donatechs.com

CAREER DAY

Annually on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, alumni return to Central to discuss their chosen careers with the year's juniors and seniors.

Career Day, organized by the AACHS Program Committee headed by Jeff Muldawer (225), has been a great success due to the contributions of alumni who are willing to give back to Central. Last year, more than 50 presenters from the 174th class up through the 267th class shared their career experiences with current students.

After an early breakfast in the Spain Conference Center, presenters are dispatched to various classrooms where they interact with a room full of enthusiastic students. The students certainly enjoy the presentations; the presenters find speaking to the students enjoyable and energizing. Most presenters return every year.

Registration for Career Day 2012 has passed, but mark your calendars for next year, and look for Jeff's e-mail. If you would like more information, contact Jeff at jeffmuld@comcast.net. ●

HALL OF FAME

The Alumni committee for the Hall of Fame is seeking recommendations of living and deceased alumni, for both the Alumni Hall of Fame and the Faculty Hall of Fame. We are looking for suggestions of alumni who have gained national or international recognition within their chosen fields.

An induction ceremony for living nominees is planned for the spring of 2014. To be inducted, selectees must attend the ceremony and visit Central during their stay in Philadelphia. Induction of deceased nominees will likely take place in 2013; faculty induction is planned for late 2013.

Please send your detailed recommendations to the alumni office at Central. Mail to AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580, or e-mail to alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com. ●

**WHEN SUBMITTING CLASS NOTES, PLEASE
INCLUDE YOUR NAME, GRADUATING CLASS
AND E-MAIL ADDRESS.**

AACHS
P.O. Box 26580
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MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

The Alumni Board of Managers is the governing body of the Associated Alumni of Central High School. In this and future issues of *The Journal* we will be profiling selected members.

BARRY W. ROSENBERG, Esq., 229

Barry, a vice president of the Board, is an attorney in private practice in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, having received his JD from Rutgers University. He is a New Jersey Supreme Court appointee to the Fee Arbitration Committee, and chairman of the Camden County Bar Association's Special Civil Part Committee. Law is a family pursuit—Barry is married to Francine Axelrad who sits on the Appellate Division of the New Jersey Superior Court. The couple has two children.



Barry was a four-year baseball player for Central. His baseball days are far from over; he presently plays in some 50 slow pitch softball games per season, and serves as the vice president of the South Jersey J.A.G. Softball League.

Barry joined the Board 10 years ago, serving as a vice president for the last four years. He views himself as privileged to have served on the Board when the decision was made to fund and build the improvements to the Barnwell Library, a significant achievement in the history of the Alumni Association, and one which Barry feels is among the finest achievements of any high school-related association in the country.

He feels that the best part of serving on the Board has been that it has enabled him to “interact with the jewels in our crown—today’s students.”

ROBERT E. SPIVACK, 202

A graduate of Muhlenberg College, Bob is a Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant, and a principal with the CMS Companies in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.



Long active in community affairs, he was president of Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel from 1981 to 2001, and is the current chairman of the organization. Bob is the honorary co-president of the 19th World Maccabiah Games which will take place in Israel in 2013. He is a recipient of the Maccabi World Union's greatest honor—the Yakir Award—and an inductee in both the International and Philadelphia Jewish Sports Halls of Fame. Additionally, he serves as a board member of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, Tikva Orphanage in Odessa and Boys Town of Jerusalem.

A semi-retired avid golfer, Bob is married to Taylor Hogge. They have three children and four grandchildren. Taylor and Bob divide their time between Philadelphia and Yorktown, Virginia.

Bob notes that his experience as a Central student was exceptional, and he knows firsthand that the education Central students receive gives them the opportunity to reach incredible heights in their chosen fields. He became a member of the Association board to help the school continue to provide the same level of education that he received.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

by David R. Kahn, 220
AACHS Archivist/Historian



Common wisdom suggests that the Archivist/Historian is supposed to have all the answers to an infinite number of questions about dear old high or, in the alternative, to have the ability to find them in our wealth of materials. Both are quite often the case, and it would be nice if I were asked the questions to which I know the answer. For example, I can tell you, if asked about Central and the Civil War, that the first regular commissioned Union Army officer to be killed in action in that war was a Central graduate, **Lieutenant John T. Greble**. He was a member of the 16th Class (as was **James G. Barnwell**).

Truth is that questions, both simple and complex, show up with regularity, and the answers to many of them remain a mystery to me. I'm listing some of the head-scratchers here.

In 1888, the year of Central's semi-centennial celebration, orange and red were adopted by the students and alumni as the school colors. I did not know this until very recently and still do not know when they were changed to crimson and gold, why they were changed, or if any other colors were ever used.

During Central's first 55 years, 13,833 students were admitted, 4,086 graduated from a four-year course, and

over 2,500 more received partial course certificates during the two- to three-year period they were enrolled at the school. We know this as there is a student admission number attached to all entries in the enrollment records prior to the conversion to the card system in 1911. We don't, however, know at this point how many students have enrolled since then. We could count the number of graduates listed in the commencement programs, but some few programs are missing (for example, the 123rd Class). We still would not know how many students actually were admitted to the school.

Whatever happened to Ivy Day? Why was it discontinued? When? I believe it was sometime in the 1950s.

In the main hall of our building, there are "traffic lights" high on the walls. Who knows what the purpose of these devices was? I have been told by a few of our most senior alumni that the lights were used to signal various administrators of their need to return to the office.

Last week, when walking into the left side of the old gym (now the dance studio), I saw a large bronze plaque honoring **William Butler** for his service. I have not yet looked up this gentleman but, when I do, I'll still be clueless as to who chose to honor him, when the plaque was installed or why it was installed in that dim, out-of-the-way spot.

There are many more questions of a similar nature. If you can help with answers to the ones posed above, write to me at dkahn15@comcast.net, and we'll publish your comments in a future *Alumni Journal*. ●

YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF

to be a dues paying member of the Associated Alumni of Central High School of Philadelphia

Read about the exploits of former classmates in the The Alumni Journal. Keep in touch with old friends. Support the efforts of the Alumni in improving the technology available to students and faculty ... maintaining the appearance of the school ... creating scholarships and prizes for graduates and more!

MEMBERSHIP / COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Name _____ Class _____ Occupation _____

Home Address _____ Work Address _____

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Please enroll me as:

All classes before 266

\$500*

Annual

\$50

Classes 266 to 271

\$350*

\$50

*Plus a nominal sustaining contribution after year one.

I would like to serve on the following committee(s):

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Publication (*Alumni Journal*)

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Make check or money order payable to AACHS and mail to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

CENTRAL HIGH: NO GIRLS ALLOWED

Central High: *No Girls Allowed* is a film by Darlene Craviotto that documents what is easily the most important series of events in the history of Central High School, events that changed our school forever. Girls sued for the right to attend the previously all-male Central. They won, and, in 1983, the first six young women entered Central. Their experiences at Central are the focal point of the film.

While it is now impossible to imagine Central without the young women who've helped bring the school to even greater heights, many of the "old guard" males might find the film difficult to watch. However, many who were part of a focus group that saw the film would label it required viewing by all Central alumni. A screening is scheduled in Philadelphia in 2013 to commemorate and acknowledge those women who helped make co-education at Central a reality.

Darlene Craviotto is a Los Angeles-based independent film maker. One of her college professors, a member of the "Central 6," happened to discuss her experiences at Central in a class. Craviotto became curious, and then

intrigued when she researched the issue. She spent seven years interviewing and filming the women who were the pioneers in integrating the school, and then writing and editing *No Girls Allowed*.

The story of the "Central 6" is not a pretty one, and the boys who "greeted" them did their best to make their lives miserable. What began with the "Central 6," however, resulted in a much better Central High School.

Ms. Craviotto does have some kind words for Central alumni:

"If you're an independent film maker, you don't have the thousands of dollars for test screenings, so you rely on other ways to see how audiences will receive your film. That's what I did ... using my blog to reach a specific focus group: the alumni and extended community of Central High.

"I never expected such a huge response. The CHS community is amazing—and large! (They are) intelligent, articulate, passionate and involved."

Check out nogirlsallowedfilm.com, and watch for the 2013 screening. ●

"WE GET LETTERS" (AND E-MAILS)

To: Editor

This is just a note to tell you that I appreciate hearing from you and reading about the school and the accomplishments of both students and graduates ... and that I am still able to look forward to our class reunions. Added to the list of the usual reasons for doing so — I get to return to Philadelphia where I can load up on scrapple.

Marv Rothenberg (189)
Fort Lee, New Jersey

To: The Editor

The 197th Class held a 60th reunion on May 25, 2012. The turnout was remarkable — in excess of 40% of the roughly 140 surviving members. 60 classmates and 35 spouses attended.

*After lunch, member after member rose to discuss our time at Central and their lives since then. A remarkable coincidence came about as one speaker, **Ray Crumley (197)**, recounted the Central–Southern football game that was played when we were sophomores. Heavily favored Southern led at the half 20–0. Something inspired our guys at halftime because they scored four touchdowns in the second half (no extra points) and won the game 24–20. One of the stars of the second half revival was our fullback **Warren (Tiger) Pannell (194)**.*

Now comes the eerie part. A man, walking past the open door to our gathering, recognized Ray Crumley's voice, came in, and sat down at the back of the room. When Ray finished speaking, the stranger approached him and introduced himself as none other than the Warren Pannell we had been talking about. Now 80 years old, "Tiger" looks like he could still go straight through the middle and score again.

We ended our reunion by rising to sing the school song. You could never tell that the singers were all between 77 and 79 years old. Their voices had never been stronger.

Robert M. Cohan (197)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ●

*Let others sing of college days,
Their Alma Mater true.
But when we raise our voices,
'Tis only High for you.
We'll ne'er forget those days gone by,
Those glorious days of old.
When oft we sang the praises of
The Crimson and the Gold.*

*Dear high, dear Central High
Thy mem'ries never die.
Thy honor we'll cherish and
Laud it to the sky.
On ballfield or in life,
In peace or deadly strife,
For thee we all will labor,
For thee, oh, dear old High.*

*But when at last we leave behind
Thy shelt'ring portals wide.
Thy honor still we'll cherish,
Whate'er may us betide.
And when we congregate again
With tuneful voice and strong,
With joyful hearts once more we'll sing
This same old glorious song.*

*Dear high, dear Central High
Thy mem'ries never die.
Thy honor we'll cherish and
Laud it to the sky.
On ballfield or in life,
In peace or deadly strife,
For thee we all will labor,
For thee, oh, dear old High.*

ADVERTISE IN THE ALUMNI JOURNAL

Reach thousands of your classmates and others in the Central High School community.

Ad space is available from full-page to business-card size. Call Pat Malloy at the Alumni Office, (215) 927-9550.

Thank you. ●

COLUMN A

by Bruce Yasgur, 216



Fall has been adorning Downeast Maine in crimson and gold, reminding me that it's time to take a break from enjoying the ocean, the hills, the lakes and the woods to perform this labor of love, with just an occasional reminder from **Merrill Freedman (208)**.

Classmate **Mark Forstater** has collaborated with actor David Suchet and publisher Psychology News to produce a book and audio tape based on the 1946 witness statement of Rudolf Reder, the sole survivor of the Belzec death camp: *I Survived a Nazi Death Camp*. Mark has provided an introduction—"A Perfect Killing Machine"—and a concluding personal memoir—"Discovering Jewish Atlantis"—about how the work came to be produced.

Director **Barry Brait (218)** is about to go into rehearsal of his third play this year—*Marty's Back in Town*—scheduled for November at the Skybox at the Adrienne. Earlier, Barry directed *An Absolute Turkey* for Episcopal Academy, and *Branch: A Baseball Legend* for the Society Hill Playhouse. Barry tells me that classmate **Alan Bronstein** is coordinating a 51st reunion, now that he's retired from his long and distinguished teaching career at CHS, and has some spare time between 1 and 4 a.m.

Having moved around New England and the Midwest in his previous job, Colby College alumni prez and fellow part-time Mainiac **David Fernandez (244)** has settled in the Boston area, where he's an exec at Liberty Mutual, with his wife and three daughters. Dave shares the observation: "Life is great!"

Heard (or had) any good excuses lately? My latest project is collecting original excuses, true or imaginary. Let me share a couple from my CHS days as both a student and a teacher.

Physics was last period and we had a sub. The PA blared that the basketball team was to leave for an away game. Four or five hoopsters got up to go. I joined them. I was, after all, on the football and track teams, a basketball fan, and tired of classes. The only thing was, I wasn't on the b-ball team. As I got halfway down the hall, the sub, who will always be remembered as God's gift to the foam rubber industry for her improbable curvature, called me back. Someone had dropped a dime on me, and it wasn't a jock. What was his excuse?

It wasn't exactly coincidence that four of us, including Forstater (above), who had a car, chose to deliver all four bags that had been collected for the senior class clothing drive on the same day as the Penn Relays. Nor was it coincidence that both destinations were in the direction of Center City. Happily, Vice Principal John D. Christman provided us all with dismissal notes without asking too many questions. Excuses in hand, we enjoyed a day on the town. The icing on the cake was returning briefly to pick up physics teacher Dougie Dove, who had last period free, to catch the Relays.

Jerry Wells and classmate **Pat "Pud" Sillo (251)** turned the tables on me. After I'd warned them not to show up late without a late note, they produced one from the waitress at the local pizzeria. Letter of the law! Not surprisingly, Jerry's now a partner at a Philly area law firm. He was a year ahead of me at Temple Law. Pud, how and where are you?

Got a better one or anything else to share? E-mail me at byasgur216@gmail.com. ●

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF ALUMNI (C.I.A.)

Are there classes you wish you had room to take while at Central, or topics you would like to encounter again? Have you gained expertise in a particular skill or field that you that you'd like to share with others?

The C.I.A. is designed to bring together the CHS community to share ideas, information, and skills in an informal workshop and seminar setting. The Institute welcomes your involvement in these workshops as students or teachers.

The C.I.A. will offer fall, winter, spring and summer sessions, each containing as wide a variety of courses as our collective experience and creativity permit. Sessions generally last 90 minutes, but courses will vary in the number of sessions, from one to four. They will be offered for a small fee, approximately \$10 per session.

In addition to Central High School, other venues are being considered.

We request feedback on a number of C.I.A. issues. Please contribute your thoughts via our survey at <http://bit.ly/CHS-CIA-Survey>. The survey asks about ideas for workshops and seminars, workshop leaders, and volunteers to serve on the C.I.A. board. ●

DOES OUR MAILING LIST NEED UPDATING?

Please correct your name and address as necessary on page 16, clip it out and mail it to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580. ●

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

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KENNETH WONG, 232

Ken is president of CIG Asia, Ltd., a national insurance brokerage firm, president and owner of China Power & Light, Inc., an electrical construction company, and president of Covenant Group of China, a holding company partnered with China-based small and medium enterprises.



He has served as a commissioner on the President's Advisory Commission for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and presently serves as chairman of the National U.S. Hong Kong Business Association board.

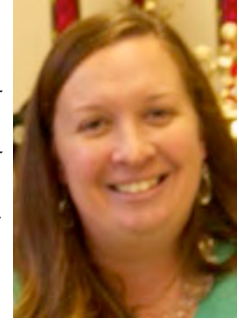
His local civic participation includes service of the boards of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce; Liberty USO—Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey; The Philadelphia Sports Congress; the Multicultural Affairs Congress; the Philadelphia Police Athletic League, and the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

It is with particular pride that Ken wears the mantle of chairman of the Philadelphia Dragon Boat Association which is recognized nationally as the team with the longest winning record in the sport.

Ken is a Philadelphia resident and the father of two daughters. He cites the ability to contribute to helping to provide the same opportunities to today's students that he had as a student as a key factor in his service on the Board.

NICOLE GAUGHAN, 257

Nicole is a member of the CHS faculty. She is a graduate of Ursinus College where she majored in English and minored in Secondary Education. She continued her education at Cheyney University, graduating with a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and a Pennsylvania Principal's certificate.



She taught English at Mastbaum Area Vocational Technical School beginning in 2002. In 2006, Nicole was awarded a position as an English teacher at Central and also as the varsity cheerleading coach. She has worn many hats since: Community Service Coordinator, Disciplinarian, Student Association Coordinator and, currently, Roster Chairwoman. Nicole feels that the various roles she has played at Central have made her a better educator and have led to her being chosen to embark on a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad to China.

Nicole very much values the opportunity to serve on the Board of Managers, feeling that the position offers the opportunity to see Central (her high school and now her place of employment) in yet another light. She encourages all alumni to reach out to the alumni office and offer to help Central's students in any way you can—as a mentor, volunteer, etc. She always looks forward to meeting alumni in the hallways of CHS. ●

CHS NAMED JEFFERSON AWARDS LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

Central High School has been selected as an official Jefferson Awards Leadership School. We are honored to be one of the first leadership high schools in the City of Philadelphia.

In 1972, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft, Jr., and Sam Beard started the Jefferson Awards to create a Nobel Prize for public service in America. Today, their primary purpose is to serve as a "Call to Action for Volunteers" in local communities. The mission of the Jefferson Awards is to honor Americans who have performed outstanding public service and inspire others to follow their example.

Over the past forty years, many extraordinary Americans have received the annual national awards. But the

most outstanding winners have been the thousands of local "Unsung Heroes," ordinary people doing extraordinary things, who are honored for their contributions.

Central High School is among 350 other Jefferson Awards Service Leadership Schools across the country that are serving as role models for other schools to emulate. Each school's faculty leadership, student leaders and student service stars are helping pass the tradition of voluntary service to future generations, while promoting a culture of volunteerism, youth ethics and leadership.

For more information about the Jefferson Awards, visit <http://www.jeffersonawards.org>. ●

ERIC OWENS (247), METROPOLITAN OPERA BASS-BARITONE: "CENTRAL WAS WHERE MY MUSIC CAREER GOT STARTED."

by Burt Spielman, 218
Managing Editor, The Alumni Journal

Eric Owens (247) is a big guy, as imposing in person as he is onstage at The Metropolitan Opera. But his critically-acclaimed portrayal of Alberich, the guardian of the golden Ring in Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, doesn't permit his sunny smile and easygoing personality to come through.

I had the opportunity to interview Eric for *The Alumni Journal* this past August, near the conclusion of his appointment as Artist in Residence at The Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, New York.

We had arranged for him to meet me in front of the Alice Busch Opera Theater after a Sunday afternoon performance. By the time I arrived, Eric was surrounded by fans offering their compliments and comments. "I am willing to wash your socks!" one woman gushed. Far from being the intimidating *Ring* character, he engagingly and winningly spent a half-hour acknowledging the operagoers.

Eric grew up in Mount Airy in a not particularly music-oriented family. "My mother played the piano and my father sang a tiny, tiny bit, but there weren't any professional musicians around."

He became interested in music at the Ada Lewis Middle School. When he was a freshman, he played clarinet in the orchestra for a year in the back of the section. "I didn't see myself getting up to the front of the section anytime soon. But the fellow who played oboe graduated, and he was the only oboist. So, I asked the band director, Eleanore Alter, one of my 'angels,' if I could play oboe. There was only one oboe, and my rationale was, 'I'll be first oboe; hell, I could *be* the oboe section!'"

I asked Eric if he did any "churchly" singing. "No," he replied, "my singing didn't really start until high school."

Which brings us to Central High. "I remember my time at Central so fondly. Central High School was amazing because, in addition to the academics, which were just second-to-none, there was this wonderful music program and wonderful teachers. Stephen Wilensky, who, I think, is still there, was the band and orchestra director. And Italo Taranta was the choir director. He was this amazing guy, and not only did we have choir rehearsal, but he taught *theory!* We learned music theory at Central, and sang these wonderful concerts. Besides singing, I played in the orchestra. Central was where my music career got started."

"Mr. Taranta gave me a solo in one of the Christmas concerts. We did excerpts from Handel's *Messiah* and I sang 'But who may abide the day of His coming.' We did it down at this mall, the Gallery, and," Eric laughed his deep, rumbling laugh, "I can remember my knees shaking. Violently! I was *so* nervous! It was amazing that my voice didn't sound like what my knee was doing."

Reflecting on that for a moment, Eric offered a perspective that he undoubtedly shares with young artists just getting their start: "So I'm thinking that, now, getting up in front of an audience is no big deal. But it takes that first time so there can be a second time and a third time, and so on."

When I asked Eric about his subsequent musical training, he mentioned that he was playing professionally while he was still at Central. "Oboe-wise, I was free-lancing around Philly. I actually skipped class one day to 'go gig.' But I didn't start taking singing lessons until my senior year at the urging of Mr. Taranta, who said, 'You know, you should really think about getting some training.' That was great for me because I had been an opera fan since I was ten years old."

He had become an opera fan as a result of listening to the Met Opera Saturday broadcasts. "My junior high teacher, Ms. Alter, gave me LPs to listen to. She said, 'Oh, you like opera? Let me give you these,' handing me a recording of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. I thought, 'Oh my God, this is wonderful,' not ever imagining I would ever become a professional. But then, all these years later, looking back at the progression of things, I can see how this is what I'm supposed to be doing. It's wonderful to have a career in something that makes you happy; I don't have those Monday morning blues. Which is *great!*"

(Editor's note: Wilensky is currently the chairman of the Central High Music Department. Taranta has retired from the faculty at Settlement Music School in Philadelphia.)

And post-Central High? "I went to Temple University and then the Curtis Institute of Music. So, Philly through and through. After that I spent two years in the apprentice program at the Houston Grand Opera Studio. My first live opera experience was at the Opera Company of Philadelphia; it was Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* with this Romanian woman, Nelly Miracoïou. Years later, I made my debut at The Royal Opera, Covent Garden, in Bellini's *Norma* with ... Nelly Miracoïou!"

This past summer's residency as Glimmerglass Artist in Residence was a busy sojourn for Eric. He appeared as Amonasro, the heroine's father in Verdi's *Aïda*, and as Stephen Kumalo, the lead character in Kurt Weill's *Lost in the Stars*, based upon Alan Paton's novel, *Cry, the Beloved Country*.

Although he has sung the role of Ramfis, a high priest, in numerous productions of *Aïda*, this was his first

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CLASS NOTES

92—The opening of the new location of the world-class art collection of **Albert C. Barnes** on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia took place in May. Articles regarding the opening of the location noted that Barnes was a Central High School graduate as was his friend **William Glackens (90)** who assisted him in starting an art collection.

178—**Edward S. (Ted) Gault** recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry in the United Methodist Church by preaching in St. Hilary's Episcopal Church in Fort Myers, Florida. Last year he had the privilege of marrying a grandson and his partner.

186—**Arnold Roth**, renowned illustrator, was featured in the debut of the Alumni Spotlight Gallery of the University of the Arts.

188—**Matt London**, Class Rep, was kind enough to send us an update with address changes for his classmates. We hope others will follow Matt's lead.

192—**Harry Reeder**, a member of the Herkimer Central School District Board of Education, is the 2012 winner of the New York State School Boards Association's Everett R. Dyer award for distinguished school board service. The award is presented annually to one school board member in the state who has done the most for public education and the children of his or her community.

193—**Charles S. Rhyne**, Professor Emeritus of Art History at Reed College, Portland, Oregon, has been awarded the 2012 Allied Professionals Special Recognition Award from the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. Rhyne has had a career-long interest in the history, theory and practice of art conservation.

198—**Stan Cohen** and the following CHS alumni were honored by the Philadelphia Bar Association for 50 years of distinguished service to the community and to the profession—**Bob Franklin (199)**, **Mel Shralow (199)**, **Milt Abowitz (201)**, **Charles Golden (202)**, and **Lloyd Remick (204)**.

200—**Arnold Bailis** and wife Carole continue their involvement with the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Several years ago, they co-founded a Curtis program wherein sponsors "adopt" Curtis students, inviting them into their homes, dining and shopping with them and the like.

Among the Bailises' adoptees over the years has been Yuja Wang, a young Chinese pianist who has embarked on a wildly successful, twice-Grammy-nominated international career. She credits the Bailises for easing considerably her transition from China to Curtis and the United States.

204—**Elbert (Bert) Marsh**, adjunct professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at the University of Buffalo, has completed teaching a course in engineering statics at the University of Technology of Troyes, France.

While living in Europe for five weeks, Bert stayed with **David Wolfe** (also 204) in North London for a long weekend.

206—**Bernard Dishler, DDS**, was recently installed as president of the Pennsylvania Dental Association.

206—**Rev. Dr. John A. Gilmore** made a second International Day visit to CHS where he addressed five classes on his native Ireland. John reports being thrilled to see the ethnic diversity of CHS 2012, "so different from CHS 1956."

209—**Fred L. Chiarlanza** is executive director of the Employing Bricklayers Association/Delaware Valley Masonry Institute. The Association, through its Industry Advancement Program, has committed to support the work of The Center for the Empowerment of Women and Girls. The Center's mission is to end violence against women and girls, and to stop the silence regarding the issue.

211—**Bill Aron** exhibited his *Forever Young, Forever Old*, featuring panoramic photographs of Israel, at the Milton J. Weill Art Gallery in the 92nd Street Y in New York City.

211—**Dov (Berie) Lederberg** invites all to his website, www.dovlederberg.com, to view his 3-D paintings and video art inspired by Jewish mysticism. A new chapter entitled "Kosher Sex" may be viewed along with other paintings that relate directly to psychological analysis. Dov invites you to visit his 100-year-old studio/home in Jerusalem.

211—**Raymond F. Smith's** book, *The Craft of Political Analysis for Diplomats*, was published by Potomac Press in October 2011.

212—**Otto Mills, PhD, FCP** is a professor of dermatology at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He currently teaches classes and directs the Basic and Applied Dermatology Forum which he founded in 1996. Otto has authored or co-authored over 250 papers focusing on common skin disorders.

212—**Dr. Toby Gelfand**, Hannah Professor of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, has published extensively on the history of medicine in 18th and 19th century France. His recently published *Charcot in Morocco* has won critical acclaim. (Dr. Jean-Martin Charcot is considered the father of Neuropathy.)

215—**Alan S. Bricklin, MD** has retired as one of the directors of pathology at Providence Tarzana Medical Center in Los Angeles, California, but continues to work part-time doing gastrointestinal pathology for a private group. He is also working on his second novel.

215—**Randolph D. Brock**, currently a Vermont state senator, is the Republican nominee for governor of Vermont. He served as Vermont Auditor of Accounts from 2005 to 2007.

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CLASS NOTES

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222—**Ronald R. Cohen** is a professor of civil and environmental engineering at Colorado School of Mines. He has traveled around the world, teaching courses and serving as an international expert in his field.

222—**Ed Kaplan**, poet and artist, has returned to Philadelphia. He read at the original Painted Bride Gallery, and later published poems in over 200 publications. A checklist of his writings may be found at www.edpicasso.blogspot.com. Ed also had an art show at Carmen's in South Philadelphia where his painted photographs became an installation in the arty eatery. His current work involves online collaborations of poetry and visuals. He may be reached at edpicasso@yahoo.com.

226—**Edward C. Weber, DO**, in private practice in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has recently been promoted to adjunct professor of anatomy and cell biology and volunteer clinical professor of radiology and imaging sciences at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

232—**Kenneth Wong**, president of CIG Asia, Ltd., a national property and casualty insurance brokerage, was named vice chairman of the board of the Indochinese-American Council.

233—**Howard Silver** has been promoted to help desk manager at NetData IT.

234—**Glenn F. Hing, Esq.** has been appointed by Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter as a member of the Mayor's Task Force on City Owned and Leased Facilities.

235—**Walter R. Iwaski** has co-authored with Barbara L. Dash "The Mystery of Yakiv Orenshtain's Little Red Riding Hood," an article published in a special issue of *Slavic & East European Information Resources*. The Art Libraries Society of North America has awarded a Certificate of Merit to this issue.

Both authors are librarians at the Library of Congress. Barbara is a niece of the late **Samuel Dash (178)**.

238—**Arthur J. Dangel, Jr.**, who has been in the financial services industry for two decades, has taken the position of Vice President of Wealth Management for First National Bank of Pennsylvania. His new e-mail address is DangelA@FNB-Corp.com.

240—**Thomas Nolan** has been appointed chief of police for the Upper Merion Township Police Department. Tom is currently in his 27th year with the department.

241—**Jeff Katz** was named Best Talk Show Host in Boston by the Associated Press for the second year in a row. In addition, he won the Associated Press Best Public Service Program Award. Additionally, Jeff has been elected to a two-year term as a Swampscott Town Meeting member in Swampscott, Massachusetts.

243—**Henry (Hank) Geiter, RN, CCRN-CMC** was selected as the 2012 state of Florida EMS Nurse of the Year.

244—**Andrew Kurtz**, general and artistic director of the Center City Opera Theater, was interviewed by the

Philadelphia Inquirer on the occasion of the opening of the Opera Theater's production of *Slaying the Dragon*. The opera tells of a grand master of the Nebraska Ku Klux Klan who was abandoned by his followers and, ultimately, not only made friends with the people he once threatened, but converted to Judaism. Kurtz is a nephew of the late CHS faculty member Adolph S. Caplan.

247—**Laurence Kaplan, MEd, CSCS** has opened his second Top This frozen yogurt store, this one in Lafayette Hill, PA. Larry continues his work as a strength and conditioning specialist at his gym, Varsity Fitness. He may be contacted at Larry@varsityfitness.com.

248—**Harmon Zuckerman**, who recently directed the update of the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan, has accepted a scholarship to the law school of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

253—**Jody Greenblatt** has been provided a two-year fellowship by the Stoneleigh Foundation of Philadelphia to develop a school safety and climate strategy for the Philadelphia school district. She is working with the school district; city departments including behavioral health, police, and human services; and students and parents to find ways to improve safety.

Greenblatt has previously worked as a Family Court law clerk and assistant city solicitor, as well as a consultant for the Department of Public Welfare's Office of Children, Welfare and Families.

259—**Harriet Go**, a special education teacher in the Philadelphia school district, has won a scholarship from the National Federation for the Blind (NFB). She is one of only 30 blind students nationwide to win an NFB scholarship.

Go is presently pursuing a Master's in elementary education from Walden University as an online student. She is secretary of both the NFB of Pennsylvania and the National Organization of Blind Educators.

259—**Andy Moroz, MD** is in his final year of psychiatry residency at Mount Sinai hospital in New York City where he is chief resident. Happily partnered to James Lendemer, PhD, Andy will, by the fall, be in psychoanalytic training at New York Psychoanalytic Institute.

259—**Dave Rosenblum**, a photographer and cinematographer now living in Los Angeles, California, was featured in the May 2012 issue of *Los Angeles Magazine*. The article discusses the life and work of a production assistant in Hollywood.

Dave has launched a website, DaveRosenblum.com, where you can view his photographs, video portfolios and projects. Included are his first feature film, entitled *Welcoming Departure*, and *Enter the Beard*, a documentary short about the World Beard and Moustache Championships. Both of these films continue to have a strong film festival run throughout the United States and abroad.

Dave, incidentally, is one of a long line of Centralites—grandfather **Stuart (171)**, dad **Jeffrey (227)** and brother **Daniel (262)**.

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Amonasro. “Especially in the big scene in Act III, when Ramfis was onstage with me, I had to remind myself not to start singing his part,” laughed Eric. “But I think the challenge kept the opera fresh for me. I discovered new things about both parts.” Of the famous Nile scene, he offered a glimpse from a performer’s point of view: “Verdi does such a wonderful thing with father/daughter relationships. Amonasro asks his daughter to betray the feelings of her heart and do her patriotic duty. It’s an intense, complex scene, with a lot of different types of love in play: paternal love, love of country, romantic love.”

In *Lost in the Stars*, the intensity of Eric’s performance left many in the full-house audience in tears. He took his curtain calls, to tumultuous applause, completely in character, that of a tragically broken man who has witnessed his son’s execution, but has accepted the friendship of the father of his son’s victim. When I complimented him on inhabiting his character even after the curtain fell, he commented, “You can find people like this anywhere in the world. Yes, it is a South African story, but it’s a very human story. At core, Stephen is just a man who wants to find his son. Any parent, anywhere, could understand that.” Then, he joked, “It does take a little while to shake that off. If you take it home with you, you’ll be up drinking all night.”

Eric also performed — as if two major opera roles weren’t enough — a concert of songs associated with singer and bandleader, Billy Eckstine. “I am a huge fan of his beautiful voice as well as his beautiful singing. People think both of these are the same, but they aren’t. He had an elegant sense of legato and he really knew how to turn a phrase. I think he could have been an opera singer if he wanted to.”

As Artist in Residence, Eric had the opportunity to conduct classes for members of the Glimmerglass Festival’s Young Artists program. “I get a lot out of it. It reinforces my own artistry to listen to someone and have to verbalize, with a great deal of specificity, what needs to be done or undone.”

Finally, it was time for us to part. When I asked Eric to e-mail me his snail mail address so I could send him a few copies of this edition of *The Journal*, he replied, “Oh, that would be great! My mother will be thrilled!”

Internationally renowned Metropolitan Opera star or not, some things never change. ●

Portions reprinted with permission from
The Glimmerglass Festival 2012 Program Book.

For information about *The Glimmerglass Festival*, visit www.glimmerglass.org.

For more on Eric Owens, visit www.eric-owens.com.

Dick Arkless (202) is living in the tiny town of Seabeck, Washington, on ground about 250 feet above the Hood Canal, across from Olympic National Park and 12 miles from the nearest grocery store. Beyond biking, swimming and working out, he snorkels yearly in the South Pacific and hikes in the Olympic Mountains. Classmates visiting the Seattle area are invited to give him a call.

Gene Ehrich (199) reports that he has been retired for 12 years, and is living in Spring Hill, Florida. Members of the 199 visiting the Tampa Bay area are asked to give Gene a call.

Hank Geitner (243) tells of the time **Bill Cosby (204)** was the headline entertainer for a critical care nurses conference at which Hank was a speaker. During the performance, when Cosby paused to take a drink, Hank shouted “Central High School.” Cosby called back, “What class?” Then Cosby asked, “Can you sing it?” Hank could and did, with Cosby. Singing “Dear High” with Cosby appears to be catching. **Marc Freeman (216)** reported doing so in the preceding issue of *The Journal*.

Malcolm R. Kallman (174), 89 years young, has been retired for 10 years but continues to be active by volunteering at a local hospital. He finds it so rewarding that he recommends it for other seniors. Malcolm has been writing his memoirs for the last four years, and continues to recall many Central people and events.

Though **Michael Kean (218)** and **Saul Eisenstat (207)** didn’t overlap during their time at Central, they connected for the first time six years ago in California. Eisenstat, a surgeon, lives in Los Altos and has a second home in Carmel. Kean, a retired publishing executive, lives in Pebble Beach, virtually next door to Carmel. Their Central High roots brought them together and they have since become good friends.

Steve Lienert (248) and his wife Jess are the proud parents of August (Gus) Steven Lienert, their first son. Gus was born on May 19, and is a contender — 10 lbs., 6 oz.

Carl Segal (198) is in his 40th year of practicing psychiatry full time in Columbia, Maryland. He had to miss his 60th CHS reunion in order to attend the graduation of his oldest grandchild from the University of Wisconsin.

George Thevervelil (261) and **Debbie Valsan (262)** tied the knot on June 16 in Philadelphia.

Les Wurtele (202), who has done an excellent job in organizing Holocaust Remembrance Day at Central, is no longer practicing but is doing part time peer review in his specialty of diagnostic radiology. He and wife Irma have recently welcomed their fourth grandchild into the world. ●

IN MEMORIAM

Editor's note: *The Journal* simply reports the death of alumni without further comment on their passing or their achievements in life.

Some alumni have achieved great fame and recognition, others less so. Many have been memorialized in a highly public manner, others more privately. We choose to note and honor the passing of all by the common tie that binds here—they were graduates of Central High School. We need only their name and class number to tell us so.

145—William Tonkonow, MD
 150—Max Silverstein, PhD
 155—Reverend Canon Thomas W.S. Logan
 156—Victor R. Nagelberg
 168—John J. Martucci, MD
 170—Rocco P. Imperatrice, Jr.
 171—Morris M. Levinson
 174—Albert S. Fein, Esq.
 175—Irwin Shapiro
 176—Leonard I. Kownurko
 178—Myron Freudberg
 178—Nelson C. Godett
 178—Leonard Kunkin
 179—Louis A. "Bud" Doull
 179—Alvin Rosen, DO
 179—Joseph F. Spinelli, DDS
 180—Franklyn A. Martin
 180—Nelson H. Wollman, Esq.
 181—Daniel A. Greenberg
 181—Ivan Herman
 181—Bruce Livers
 181—Burton J. Malschick
 181—David N. Pincus
 181—Martin Oren
 182—Anthony P. Coppa
 182—Dr. Hymen Kanoff
 183—Jack W. Blumenfeld
 183—Ralph Sanders, PhD*
 183—Jerome J. Wean
 184—Edward A. Flood
 185—Joseph Smukler, Esq.*
 186—Arthur Eugene Oaks
 187—Alan S. Franklin, DPM
 187—Julius Levin, DDS
 187—Stanley Rosen

188—Edward Goldman
 188—A. James Morgan, MD
 189—Edward Whittle
 190—Sam (Salvatore) Aiena
 190—Albert D. Friedenberg
 190—Myles Tannenbaum
 191—Marvin Sussman, MD
 194—George M. Eberhardt, Jr.
 194—William T. Morrison, Jr.
 194—Louis Weinstein
 196—Harry Gelman
 196—Julian Mayro, MD
 196—Neil B. Straus, MD
 202—Burton W. Beifeld
 202—Robert M. Brasler
 202—James W. Stratton
 203—Simon A. Levit, MD
 205—Neil Litten, DO
 206—Philip Theodore Weinberg
 208—Michael Golden
 208—Michael Lerner, EdD
 209—Salvatore Colabrese
 210—Stuart Wurtman
 211—Cleon Yohe, Jr., PhD
 212—Charles L. Bassman, PhD
 215—Paul Rapaport
 219—Jeffrey Rush
 221—Robert Ross
 231—Keith Buxton
 231—Peter N. Letenauchyn
 231—Arthur R. Matera
 235—Walter M. Iwaski
 251—Lerondya Williams
 266—Sarah Dekker

* Member, Alumni Hall of Fame

THE SARAH DEKKER MEMORIAL ART AWARD

Sarah Dekker (266) died in April after a four month battle with brain cancer. She was 23.

Sarah produced remarkable works of art at Central which provided an environment that supported and celebrated Sarah's passion for the visual arts and the creative process.

In appreciation, The Sarah Dekker Memorial Art Award has been established to recognize and support the work of an emerging artist at Central High School.

Contributions may be made to The Associated Alumni of Central High School, % Katherine Morse, PO Box 30592, Philadelphia, PA 19103

BOWLING FOR "UNCLE JOE"

by Steve Chappell, 209

Many alumni will remember Joseph W. ("Uncle Joe") McCloskey, a much revered CHS English teacher in the '40s and '50s, and a member of the Faculty Hall of Fame. Earlier this year, I googled "Uncle Joe"; I wanted to contact him to request that he write an article for *The Alumni Journal*.

The first "hit" that came up was titled "Wesbury a pioneer in high school bowling." Did I do something wrong? Had Google gone gaga? Who was/is "Wesbury"? What did he have to do with "Uncle Joe"? I read on.

"Wesbury" is **Stuart A. Wesbury, Jr., PhD (195)**.

He was the subject of a 2010 article in the Lancaster, Pennsylvania *Sunday News* which discussed his return to bowling after a hiatus of nearly 50 years. The article notes that he "started bowling in junior high in 1946, then moved on to the bowling program at Central High School where his high school coach, 'Uncle Joe McCloskey' encouraged him to earn a varsity letter in the sport."

The article quotes Wesbury on his high school bowling days: "[The experience] was much different than today's leagues. I was in the Philadelphia Public High School league which had 10 or 12 teams, and we bowled in dual competitions weekly. I remember two bowling centers, one at Broad and Glenwood Streets and the other in Olney, close to Broad Street and Olney Avenue."

I was intrigued. I contacted Stu Wesbury and asked if he would spend some time talking with me regarding his thoughts about bowling for "Uncle Joe," his days at Central and his days in the wide, wide world. He graciously agreed, and I traveled to his home in the Willow Valley retirement community in Amish country for a morning of conversation. A delightful conversation it was. Stu is a very warm, engaging, and remarkable individual.

We spoke about Central, which he found a very comfortable place to be, one that offered opportunities for students to achieve academically. He also recalled the many extracurricular options—sports, clubs and service organizations. He cast "Uncle Joe" as one of the persons in his life who taught him the most, not only in English, but in dealing with life in general. (McCloskey was also a fine bowling coach, even though, Stu says, "I never saw him roll a ball.")

After Central, Stu embarked on a path which led to six—yes, six—careers, multiple academic degrees, authorship of a book or three, and 11 different residences.

He has practiced pharmacy with the U.S. Public Health Service and served as a hospital administrator. He has been a university professor, a president/CEO of an international professional society, a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives and a health care consultant. His academic degrees include a BS in pharmacy (Temple), a Master's in hospital administration (Michigan) and a PhD in economics/management (Florida).



A 1951 photo of the CHS bowling team, signed by "Uncle Joe" McCloskey

Stu's accomplishments have been honored in a number of ways. He is a member of the Modern Healthcare Health Care Hall of Fame. Temple University has awarded him a Certificate of Honor. The Stuart A. Wesbury, Jr. Postgraduate Fellowship to further postgraduate education in healthcare and professional society management was named in honor of his service as president of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Stu claims to have retired in 2003, but his definition of "retirement" is more than a little unusual. He was recently named by Governor Corbett to the Pennsylvania Council on Aging. He serves on the Board of Visitors of Temple's School of Pharmacy and is a West Lampeter Township (Pennsylvania) Republican committeeman. He has helped to start a cold weather shelter for men at his family's church. And, he's back to bowling.

Staying busy is apparently a family thing. Stu's charming wife June, a Girls High grad, is a volunteer county director of an AARP tax-aid program.

Lunch with Stu and June at a delightful local restaurant brought forth some other commitments from Stu. Besides treating me to lunch, he volunteered to participate in Career Day at Central and to make a donation to AACHS.

All in all, a remarkable alumnus. ●


REUNION UPDATE

199—The 60th reunion of the 199th Class will be held on Thursday, November 8 at the Rittenhouse Hotel, 210 West Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia. Contact **Bob Rosenstein** at 215-947-2159 or 199thClass@comcast.net

206—The 56th "mini" reunion of the 206th class will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2013. Contact **Bob Stern** at rstern@locallawpub.com.

209—**Steve Chappell** reports that the 55th reunion will be held on May 12 and 13, 2013. A visit to Central is scheduled for the 12th; a reception and dinner at the Palomar Hotel in Philadelphia will be held on the 13th.

256—**Dan Taraborrelli** announces that the 15th reunion of the 256 will take place on Saturday, November 24 at 5:30 p.m. Reservation and additional information may be found at <http://www.reunioncentral.com/central256>. ●

The Alumni Association's Class Representatives Committee strives to maintain contact with every class through its designated representative. In order to ease our administrative burden, we ask each class to designate just one person to serve as the official liaison between the class and the Association. If no one is listed for your class and you are willing to serve, please contact **Pete Forjohn (235)** at (610) 558-1559 or **Rudy Cvetkovic (239)** at rudyc69@msn.com. If you cannot reach your class representative, call the Alumni Association office at (215) 927-9550 or e-mail the Association at chsalmniph1@aol.com. 

CLASS REPS

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
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| 163 — Albert Dukow | | 222 — Mike Radel | mail@chs222.com |
| 168 — Herb Clofine | | 223 — David Forstein | mrkyll@hotmail.com |
| 170 — James Siciliano | | 224 — Saul Langsam | lawmaster9@aol.com |
| 171 — Albert Finestone | afinestone@comcast.net | 225 — Paul Roseman | proseman225@comcast.net |
| 172 — Harold Diamond | haldiamondlaw@verizon.net | 226 — Zachary Rubin | zrubin2@verizon.net |
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| 181 — Jules Silk | lafite45@hotmail.com | 233 — William Lundy | williamlun@msn.com |
| 182 — Hy Kanoff | hykudo@aol.com | 234 — Kevin Stepanuk | kevin.stepanuk@exeloncorp.com |
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| 188 — Matt London | londonm@philau.edu | 240 — James Green | jigreen2@msn.com |
| 189 — Saul Carroll | saulmcarroll@verizon.net | 241 — Sebastiano Gionfriddo | smlgphila@yahoo.com |
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| 194 — Jerry Kates | advpr1920@aol.com | 246 — Julie Stevens | julie@juliestevens.com |
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| 196 — Herb London | | 248 — Keeya Branson Davis | kbranson-davis@delawareriverwaterfrontcorp.com |
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NEW WEBSITE COMING FOR THE AACHS

by Mark Lipshutz, 224

The main mission of the AACHS is to support and promote the students, staff and programs of Central High School and to provide a platform to carry that support into the future.

In partnership with DLG Communications and Fugama Creative Studio, the Associated Alumni is creating a dynamic new website, *centralhighalumni.com*, with delivery targeted for the end of 2012. The website, a portal for all alumni matters, is designed to facilitate Central's mission by providing opportunities to donate and volunteer. It will stimulate overall Association awareness, cover news for alumni, and provide an events calendar.

Keeping Central at the top of its game requires significant funding. In recent rankings of Philadelphia area high schools, Central was near the top in educational quality but near the bottom in taxpayer spending per student.

A lack of effective means of communicating with some 20,000 graduates and boosters has hampered efforts to stimulate support for and interest in the school. A strategic aim is to have the new website ensure that we "nourish-to-flourish" Central over the long run. The core of this initiative is a capital campaign.

Underpinning the website is software to initiate and monitor campaigns, manage contributions and process payments, and create and maintain a comprehensive alumni database (with appropriate privacy controls). We will be able to accommodate donations to specific funds (Capital Campaign for Music Wing Renovation), solicit alumni with particular interests (athletics programs), accept tribute donations, and facilitate giving at regular intervals. We will provide the ability to tailor, track, and tune our outreach.

Features and functions? Many!

Reunion date? *Events Calendar* will tell you.

Second verse of *Dear High*? Go to the *About AACHS* section. Other reference links will show the members of the AACHS Board of Managers, Alumni and Faculty Hall of Fame inductees, the Association's mission, history of the school, full contact information and more.

Interaction paths with social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube will be included along with links to the school website and the Home and School Association. Current news in the form of blog posts will be featured. You can join in the dialogue. The site is also being designed for interaction on mobile platforms—smartphones and tablets—as well as on traditional web browsers.

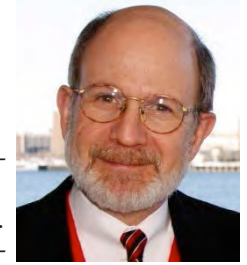
Want to wear crimson and gold? Click on the link to B&T Sportswear. (Actually, you can do that now.)

Whither the new website versus *The Alumni Journal*? The website is designed to be an interactive medium, with up-to-the-minute content, providing current news, mul-

iple channels in which to carry on dialogues, opportunities for immediate feedback, and the means for collecting financial contributions. *The Journal* will contain essays, columns, historical notes, and analysis in longer format, allowing depth and insight. It will also be available on the website.

The website project is a team effort. My thanks go to **Rudy Cvetkovic (239)**, **Dick Prinz (212)**, **Merrill Freedman (208)** and **Steve Chappell (209)** for their contributions and guidance.

When the website is up and running, please look at the ways in which you can support Central financially and by directly participating in the life of the school. ●



CLASS NOTES

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260—**Lauren Stokes Keene** and her husband Jason are residing in Chicago, IL where she is an account executive at Burrell Communications.

262—**Thomas Dixon** will be starting work on his MED in educational psychology this fall at Temple University.

263—**Michael Dugas**, after graduating from Drexel University's dual BS/MBA program in 2009, has started atomni, a web technology and online marketing consulting firm located in Philadelphia. Michael was a presenter at Philly Tech Week where he discussed the effective use of Quick Response Codes in marketing initiatives.

267—**Russell Charles Finegan** graduated from Wheaton College with a BA in History on May 6 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army the same day. He has reported for active duty at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. ●

CENTRAL ALUMNI FAMILIES GROUP

A group of Central graduates has organized the Central Alumni Families Group. The objective of the group is to provide the opportunity for at-home parents in the Central community to meet with other similarly situated alumni and their families. Goals of this family "meet-up" group include the building of community among Central alumni, the sharing of ideas on schooling and parenting, and mutual support.

Meeting events will be planned to accommodate families working in, and outside of the home. Members are encouraged to share ideas and to facilitate or host meetings of the group. Those interested in the concept should view the group's Facebook page at <http://on.fb.me/Ses6E0>. ●

The Associated Alumni of the
Central High School of Philadelphia
P.O. Box 26580
Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TAKE YOUR SEATS, PLEASE!

The restoration of the fire-damaged school auditorium is complete, and many alumni have availed themselves of the opportunity to dedicate the new, upholstered seats. Opportunities remain to dedicate a seat "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" family or individuals you wish to honor. Classes can organize and purchase entire rows. A brass plate will memorialize each dedication. Seats are available for a \$300 donation (tax deductible) per seat. Please use the form on this page, or donate at www.centralhighalumni.com.

AUDITORIUM SEAT DEDICATION APPLICATION

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Inscription (up to 3 lines; 30 characters per line including spaces):

Single seats or rows, in groups of 9 to 23 seats, are available at \$300 per seat.

Make check or money order payable to AACHS and mail to:
AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580