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## AN APPEAL FROM THE CHS PRESIDENT

Timothy J. McKenna  
 President, Central High School



This year has been extremely difficult to prepare for because of the extremely reduced level of resources provided to Central High School. We have lost our certified librarian, multiple members of our support staff, four secretaries and 13 teaching positions.

Despite the major budget cuts, we have an incredibly gifted staff who have made it their priority to support the student body. They are preparing high-quality lessons for all classes, and they continue the great tradition of challenging our students each day in the classroom. We are offering 24 Advanced Placement classes and continuing the International Baccalaureate Program. All fall sports have been funded and are operating under the direction of our new athletic director **Rich Drayton (246)**.

The members of the Alumni Association have stepped up and are supporting us as we begin the school year. They are volunteering time in our main office and library, distributing lockers to new students, visiting schools for recruitment, and supporting the coordination of our Open House. We can always use more assistance. If you are able to donate time or resources, please contact me at [tmckenna@philasd.org](mailto:tmckenna@philasd.org).

The common theme this year is that all stakeholders are working together to provide the finest educational experience for our students. In spite of the challenges we face, we will continue the great tradition of Central High School. We will continue to develop the leaders of the future. 🍎

## THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL GAME

Get your tickets to the annual AACHS Thanksgiving Day Victory breakfast, Thursday, November 28.

For the special price of \$25, you get a ticket to the Central-Northeast game and a complete buffet breakfast at Jack's Deli, 8500 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia. Breakfast begins at 9:00 A.M.; the game kicks off at 10:30 A.M. Please make checks payable to AACHS and mail to: **Theodore G. Rothman**, % Rothman Agency, 1111 Street Road, Suite 201, Southampton, PA 18966

Questions? Please contact Ted at (215) 245-2141. Proceeds benefit Central Athletics. 🍎

## HOW TO NAVIGATE THE ON-LINE JOURNAL

Some readers have expressed difficulty and frustration when attempting to read the on-line version of the *Journal*. Here are some tips: You can scroll through the pages as you always have, using either your mouse's scroll wheel or the vertical scroll bar at the right side of the page. For quick navigation, however, you can click on any page number in the "In This Issue" section of page 1 and you'll be taken directly to that page. "Continued on / from page ..." works the same way. Click anywhere on the page you've reached and you'll be taken back to page 1. 🍎

## ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeffrey Muldawer, 225  
President, AACHS



This is my first message as the president of AACHS. I appreciate the confidence shown by my fellow alumni in electing me, and look forward to serving the Association and the students of Central High School. These are not the easiest times for any school in Philadelphia, and Dear Old High needs the assistance of its alumni more now than ever.

While composing this message, I am aware that alumni and parents are already pitching in to fill the gaps created by the imposition of unprecedented budget cuts. Alumni/parent volunteers have been assisting in the office in the absence of the secretarial staff, in the Barnwell Library in the absence of the librarians, and aiding in the everyday functions normally dealt with by a full complement of staff. Central President Tim McKenna will welcome any additional help that comes forward. If you are available to provide some time, please contact Tim at [tmckenna@philasd.org](mailto:tmckenna@philasd.org).

Not long after this edition of *The Alumni Journal* is published, the new website, [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com), should be fully operational, greatly improving communication between AACHS and its thousands of members.

You will be able to stay on top of all current events involving the alumni and the school. Significantly, the process of financially supporting the Association (and, therefore, the school) will be simplified.

To further improve communication, I am requesting that you provide us with your current e-mail address so that we may better publicize special programs that are scheduled between editions of the *Journal*. Please send your e-mail address to [chsalumniphl@aol.com](mailto:chsalumniphl@aol.com) to help us maintain contact. Please note that we do not release e-mail addresses to any outside organizations.

Despite the difficult start to the 2013/14 school year, I am confident that the partnership of administrators, teachers, students, parents and alumni will work to maintain the excellence that is an identifying characteristic of Central High School.

As always, our Association will continue to provide support to CHS and its students in many areas: library, athletics, and robotics to name a few. Any financial help you can provide that enables us to expand our assistance will be much appreciated. Until the website is fully operational, please send checks payable to AACHS to P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580.

Finally, I urge those of you who have not been back to Ogontz and Olney for a while to visit and see how the best high school in Philadelphia (and beyond) operates. Once you do, you will want to get involved. ●

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please enroll me as:

Classes 220 to 267

Classes before 220 and after 267

#### Life

☐ \$500\*

☐ \$350\*

#### Annual

☐ \$50

☐ \$50

\*Plus a nominal sustaining contribution after year one.

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

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Activities                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership   | <input type="checkbox"/> Law and Bylaws            | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Groups       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships, Awards and Prizes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget and Finance        | <input type="checkbox"/> Class Representatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archives Restoration and Management       | <input type="checkbox"/> Program      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentorship                | <input type="checkbox"/> Investment            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publication ( <i>The Alumni Journal</i> ) | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity    | <input type="checkbox"/> School District Relations |  |

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



## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

The Alumni Board of Managers is the governing body of the Associated Alumni of Central High School. In this issue, we profile:

### PETER FORJOHN, 235

Pete Forjohn is a vice president of the Board of Managers, and serves as chairman of the Student Activities (including Athletics) committee of the Board.

He is a graduate of West Chester University with a degree in Health and Physical Education, and holds a Master's in Sports Administration from Temple University. After graduating from West Chester, he was hired as a teacher at the Glen Mills Schools in 1980, and became the athletic director in 1982, a position he continues to hold. Pete and wife Rita make their home in Glen Mills; they have one son and one daughter.



Beyond family (and fishing), Pete takes pride in being involved with professional and charitable organizations. He is president of the District 1 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and a vice president of the Billy Mock Foundation. The latter was founded as a tribute to Billy Mock, a 13-year-old brain cancer victim. Its mission is to encourage the helping of others via educational grants and support of families in need, especially those with a seriously ill child.

At Central, Pete was president of the 235, played varsity football for three years, and participated in track and field for four.

Pete became involved with the Alumni Association at CHS because he wanted to give back to the school that played such an important role in his life. While at Central, he was very involved with the athletic program and was mentored by coaches, especially Coaches Gilbert, Nolan and Cullman. These teachers/coaches were the main reason he chose to attend West Chester, and major in health and physical education. When he left Central he knew that he wanted a future that involved working with and coaching young people. For the past 33 years he has had the opportunity to work with young people through teaching, coaching and leading the athletic department at Glen Mills School.

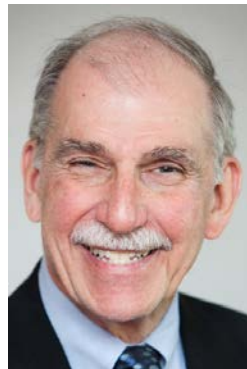
Pete thanks Coaches Gilbert, Nolan and Cullman for teaching him that the most important thing in life is that, when all is said and done, you have made a difference in the life of a child. Pete's wish to his coach/mentors: "I hope I have made you proud."

### NEAL H. KEITZ, 209

Currently in his fifth year serving as Treasurer of AACHS, Neal, along with the other members of the Board of Managers and its Executive Committee, has helped to guide the Association through some difficult times. He feels that whatever assistance he can provide to the school is a small payback for the guidance, direction and confidence provided in his formative years.

Growing up in Oak Lane, he was one among a number of friends who "walked" to all of their public schools, including Pennell Elementary, Wagner Junior High (one year), and then on to Central. He finally had to use other than "ankle express" to get to college—Penn State in University Park.

Neal participated in CHS school and class activities, including athletics and organizing and implementing multiple committees and reunions. College activities involved executive management of the school's daily newspaper and election to and service on the Business Administration student council and the Interfraternity Council. In addition, Neal was awarded membership in the Blue Key Honor Society, and served as president of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.



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### Alumni Board of Managers

#### President

Jeffrey A. Muldawer, Esq., 225

#### Vice-Presidents

Barry W. Rosenberg, Esq., 229

Peter E. Forjohn, Jr., 235

Leigh N. Whitaker, Esq., 251

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#### Treasurer

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#### Secretary

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## EDITORS' MESSAGE

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

**A**s the entire Philadelphia school district is going through tumultuous times, there is comfort to be had in putting together *The Alumni Journal*, and we hope you find the same in reading it. As always, we delight in chronicling the achievements and activities of our alumni. Our graduates continue to lead in their professions, and some take pleasure in announcing their retirement. And there's normalcy in announcing reunions.

Despite all of the issues we read about in newspapers and on-line, we take comfort that the current generation of students will receive the first-rate education and preparation that is a hallmark of Central High School. Led by Tim McKenna, the administration and the faculty, with the help of parents and alumni, will ensure that the tradition of excellence carries on.

The fall issue of the *Journal* is normally provided in printed form, but the additional costs of printing and mailing appear to be an extravagance in today's economy. This issue is delivered by e-mail only (and will be available on the alumni website, [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com)). Those alumni who have not provided e-mail addresses or do not check the website will miss some wonderful features in this edition.

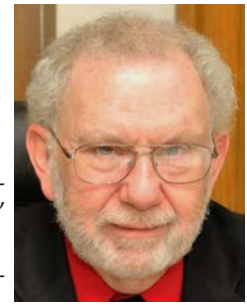
Beyond these features, many will miss announcements regarding the Thanksgiving Day breakfast prior to the Northeast game and Career Day. Word of mouth would go a long way toward making these events successful.

We hope that, by the time the next *Journal* is published, the CHS office will be staffed by secretaries rather than parents and alumni, that there will be a reasonable number of counselors and that the Barnwell Library will be open on its usual basis. Both of us have spent time as library "proctors," and have found it to be difficult and saddening to have to tell students that they may not take books out, and that hours are limited.

We can only hope. ☺



## A TRIBUTE FROM FORMER PRESIDENT SHELDON PAVEL



**E**ditors' Note: The following arrived as a "Letter to the Editor." Rather than publishing it in that section of the *Journal*, we felt it deserved a column of its own.

*To: The Editors*

*As a coda to **Harvey Steinberg's** presidency of the Alumni Association, I wanted to offer some comments about my association with Harvey over the years.*

*It was my honor and pleasure to have been president of Central High School for 28½ years. During that time, I had the pleasure of interacting with Harvey in many ways: as a lawyer, businessman, proud member of the 209, Alumni Association board member and, finally, as president of the Alumni Association. The constant was his love of everything connected with Central. There are some who live in the past, but Harvey took the past and applied it as a guide to the present and the future. He loved our students, and was always physically present to help in any way that he could. The pride that Harvey manifested in his daily interactions with our students was palpable and appreciated by staff.*

*The most significant memory I have of Harvey is his work as project manager for the Barnwell Library. He was, literally, there every day supervising the work, picking out the décor, choosing color schemes, involving others, and seeing the project through to completion. Harvey, along with **Dick Prinz** and **Bernie Spain** made the library come to life in a manner that no one in the School District had ever seen. That we were allowed to take the lead without Philadelphia School District intervention is a tribute to Harvey.*



*Central is special and Harvey Steinberg's love and presence has been crucial to our identity and our quality. I thank him for everything he has done and continues to do, and God bless his wife EllaRose for sharing Harvey with our community of almost 3,000 people.*

Shelly Pavel  
President Emeritus, CHS  
Elkins Park, PA ☺

## CAREER DAY — TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

**C**areer Day, organized by the AACHS Program Committee, is an annual event at Central that takes place on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Alumni will return to discuss their chosen careers with this year's juniors and seniors, the 273<sup>rd</sup> and 274<sup>th</sup> Classes. The enormous success of the program is due to the contributions of alumni who are willing to give back to Central.

Last year, more than 50 presenters from classes ranging from the 174<sup>th</sup> to the 267<sup>th</sup> shared their career experiences with current students. Most presenters return every year. Please plan to attend and share *your* experiences. Contact **Jeff Muldawer** (225) at (215) 922-6073 or at [jeffmuld@comcast.net](mailto:jeffmuld@comcast.net). ☺



## A BASKETBALL LIFE

*Collegiate Officials Hall of Famer John Dabrow (204) recalls his life on the hardwood.*

I was born into a basketball family. My dad, Dave Dabrow, coached the sport at Southern. My older brother **Ira (188)** played basketball at Central.

My twin **Kenny** and I followed Ira to Central. One of our main reasons for going to CHS was the fact that you could play sports in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. I played freshman and JV football, did some gymnastics, and played basketball. Kenny also played football and basketball.

I played varsity basketball for two years. We had a fair team, but we were up against Overbrook with Wilt "the Stilt," West Philly with Ray Scott, Guy Rodgers at Northeast, and other Public League teams with great ball players during that time.

I did not graduate from Central (not enough credits). To make them up, I went to Temple High where I did get to play a great deal of ball. There I had the opportunity to play with some very good players, "T" Parham was a great teammate and we had a great year. After Temple High, I went to Arkansas City Junior College in Kansas where I played for two years.

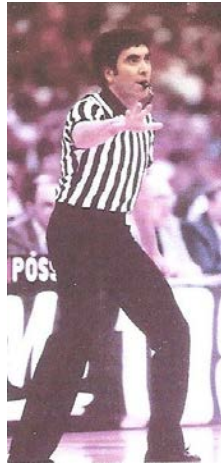
After junior college, I went into the service. My four years in the service translated mostly to working in the gym and playing ball. I did well enough to play on the All Air Force team of 1961–62. It was in the service that I started to officiate. I would referee three inter-squad games a night for \$10 a game. I would do that a couple of nights a week, giving me some extra money to live on.

Wanting to move up, I joined IAABO (International Association of Approved Basketball Officials). I worked high schools in Maine for a couple of years, and then went back to Kansas where I had been offered a basketball scholarship by Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, where I obtained my B.A.

The next stop was Wyoming, where I officiated at high school games and in the Empire Junior College League. I was selected to work the state tournament in all of the four years I was in Wyoming.

Back to Kansas again, where I worked my way up to the Junior College Tourney at Hutchinson, Kansas. My work there was noticed by coaches in the Big Eight Conference who recommended me to Conference officials. I went on to work the Big Eight as well as many other conferences including Missouri Valley, Southwest, Atlantic 10, and the PAC 10.

On the national level, I had the privilege of officiating at five NIT tourneys, and nine for the NCAA including one Final Four—North Carolina vs. Georgetown in 1982.



I retired from college officiating in 1993, but kept my hand in by working some high school games and acting as an observer for the High School State Association. My last game was at American West Arena in 2000.

All in all, I refereed over six decades. Capping my career was induction into the Kansas Collegiate Officials Hall of Fame in 2006.

Looking back, would I have taken the same routes in life? Absolutely! I was, after all, born into a basketball family. 🏀

## A "SURPRIZE" FOR A CHS HALL OF FAME MEMBER

Hall of Fame member **Hon. Lawrence S. Margolis (199)** was surprised by his wife, children and grandchildren upon his retirement from the Federal Bench. They permanently endowed a prize named in his honor—the Lawrence S. Margolis 199 Prize—to be awarded for the first time at graduation ceremonies in June 2014. Judge Margolis shows his delight. 🏆



*The Margolis family: son-in-law, Michael Brodsky; granddaughter, Isabel Margolis Brodsky; daughter-in-law, Jennifer; daughter, Aleta; Larry; son, Paul; granddaughter, Mira Margolis Brodsky; wife, Doris*

## AACHS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The annual dinner meeting of the Associated Alumni occurred on June 30 at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia.

Alumni in attendance unanimously elected nominees for officers of the Board of Managers for the term ending June 30, 2014, and non-officer nominees to the Board for the term ending June 30, 2016.



*Joshua D. Shapiro*



*Timothy J. McKenna*

Joshua D. Shapiro, Chair of the Montgomery County (PA) Board of Commissioners and CHS President Timothy J. McKenna addressed alumni, guests and invited students. Tim warned of the draconian budget that had been presented to school administrators, and noted that alumni and parents had been very forthcoming in offering to help wherever they could. 🏆

## COLUMN A

by Bruce Yasgur, 216

Central prepared me for more of life's opportunities than I can tell in any one column, but here's a story about one such serendipitous experience.



In addition to viewing school as an idiot factory, I found myself a target of anti-Semitic rhetoric and bullying<sup>1</sup> as a student at a diverse junior high school without a diversity plan<sup>2</sup>. After a few fights, which I usually didn't start, and visits to the principal's office where I was lectured about learning to live in a "Christian" country, I knew that school wasn't for me. Had I not transferred to Central in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, school would likely have remained for me an adolescent hell. Central gave me a new perspective. I came to appreciate, rather than abhor, both the academic and cultural elements of education. My story starts tangentially: aside from wanting to escape the tensions of life at Wagner JHS, I went to Central largely to play sports.

I'd seen the movie *Wee Geordie* in which a young Scottish shepherd went from tossing rocks for fun to the Highland Games, and then to the Olympics to throw the hammer—not the tool belt variety, but a 4-foot long, 16-pound ball of death consisting of an iron orb, a chain and a grip. Pretty cool! But no hammer to throw in Oak Lane, especially at Wagner, which had no sports. Given my issues, especially since I wasn't academically challenged, my counselor urged me to apply to Central for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Two questions: Did they have freshman sports? If so, which ones? She made the call. Football? Yes! Hammer throw? Close: shot-put—a hammer without chain or grip. Seemed an OK compromise, so I gave up my pre-delinquent life for that of a scholar-athlete, and never looked back. At Central, I was a middling gridder, but a decent shot-putter. So where's the serendipity? Stay with me. BTW, do you know anyone who's competed in the Highland Games?

Twenty years later, still fascinated by hammers and projectiles in general, I traveled to Tomintoul, the highest town in Scotland, where the Highland Games were held. While watching the athletes and spectators, I was approached by the "committee." As I was "a strappin' lad," and as they were short a competitor or two, they invited me to participate. Talk about a dream come true: I'd get to throw a rock or two and—drum roll—the hammer.

I traded my jeans for a kilt (a whole other story!) and was escorted midfield to meet the jocks—pros with massive muscles and equally massive facial scars (see below in re the splintery caber)—and to check out the projectiles we'd be heaving. I'd be competing in the rock and hammer throws. (NOT the caber, a rough-hewn 150-pound log that you hoist straight up and balance on the side of your head, scraping hair and flesh—OUCH!—as you run forward and heave it high and far enough to spin end over end before it crashes—AARRGH!!)

The shot-put-like rock toss went off well enough. The hammer, let's just say, went off. After a couple of swings just like Wee Geordie and my new pals, I let go the grip. The ball and chain flew in one direction and I, suddenly recalling some laws I'd learned in physics class (was it Dougie Dove or Lizzie Sher?) took off with equal force in the opposite direction. As I landed arse-over-head, I was consoled by the fact that, defying tradition, I'd kept my BVDs on and that they were unsoiled. Was it the cheering, the sun, or something else that caused my face to turn red?

At the pub, after the games, I learned how good single malt whisky was and how, on that game day, my money was not. My thanks to Central, the movies, and being in the right place at the right time for my 15 minutes of fame.

So, tell me, do you know any Central alumni who've competed in Scotland's Highland Games?

Kudos to classmate **Bruce Lighty** on the recent re-launch of his rowing skiff Kit II.

Pleasant surprise to find Pennsylvania neighbors, neurologist **Larry Kerson (214)** and wife Toba, summering just up the road from us in Downeast Maine; even more pleasant over dinner and a couple of bottles of wine.

**Charlie Miller (215)** and wife Gina are, by their own account, all folked up! You'll find them at just about every Philadelphia Folksong Society event.

Actor/director **Barry Brait (218)** encourages those of us who are anywhere near his age to stay sharp with Gillette and on-line brainwork. He recommends, among others, Pew science tests. Was that a hint, young Barry?

Patent attorney and author **Arthur Gershman's (222)** latest publication, *Other Peoples Bodies*, is a provocative analysis of the economic, legal and ethical implications of animal and human genetic experimentation and manipulation. Read all about current efforts to use our DNA for power and profit. Gotta wonder what Mary Shelley would say upon witnessing her fictional Frankenstein fantasy finding factual fulfillment. Freaky!?

Find a wealth of information in **Damon Ridley's (252)** investment strategies on the CHS Facebook page, and in your e-mail if you just ask him. I did. One of these days, I hope to do something with all that great info.

So, ladies, (and the rest of you who haven't written), what are you up to? (No, not your weight!) Share a personal fun fact with us at [byasgur216@gmail.com](mailto:byasgur216@gmail.com). Remember to include your class number. Beat Northeast!

<sup>1</sup> Part of a piece I wrote about this experience was recently published in *Combined Destinies* (accounts by whites who have been on the receiving end of racism), edited by Ann Todd Jealous and Caroline T. Haskell; 2013, Potomac Books.

<sup>2</sup> Kids from different ethnic and racial backgrounds were thrown together—usually for the first time—with no effort to ease the transition, resulting in an atmosphere of mutual mistrust and hostility. 🍌



## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

*continued from page 3*

Neal has been married to his childhood sweetheart Leah (Zucker) for more than 50 years. Their three children (two sons and a daughter) span the USA, Ambler, Pennsylvania to Arizona to California, providing numerous travel opportunities to visit with six grandchildren.

Professionally, Neal is a CPA and has enjoyed his own practice in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. The preparation and advent of a “start-up” business in the electronic commerce field with his sons has led him to associate his tax and accounting firm with Abo and Company, LLC, facilitating his services to his clients.

Neal’s years have been filled with many volunteer community activities including presidencies of local chapters of B’nai B’rith and Kiwanis, and the Beaver Hill Condominium Association. In the professional context, he has served as a seminar lecturer, and has enjoyed membership in and chairmanship of a committee of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Admitting to being academically lazy but physically always up to the challenge, his work career started at age eight in the family grocery store and continues to today. He attributes whatever success he has achieved to a good basic sense of logic, and stamina. Also, being in the right place at the right time has certainly helped.

Making his remembrance of his CHS years even sweeter, Neal recently discovered that his father is a Central alum.

Possessing a sense of humor that ranges from dry to raucous, Neal is convinced that a conversation must yield smiles or laughter. Otherwise, something is wrong with your face.

### **SAMUEL G. WURTZEL, 201**

Entering CHS as a 14-year-old, Sam Wurtzel had two career goals—to be a pro athlete, or a musician, or both! After all, his dad played pro baseball in the Cincinnati Reds farm system, and Tommy Thompson (the Eagles’ quarterback on back-to-back NFL championship teams) lived next door to him! Then, too, his cousin, Joe Plon, was on his way to Juilliard (and would become a world famous pianist and conductor) and Sam had already been playing the trumpet since he was 11.

So, Sam joined the CHS orchestra, which rehearsed on Monday and Wednesday, and the marching band that rehearsed on Tuesday and Thursday and, of course, the jazz band. (You had to be in the jazz band to be cool!) But Sam encountered a problem relative to his other career goal. Rehearsals started at 3:00 P.M. and ran until 5:00 P.M. Of course, the football (and the basketball) team practiced from 3 to 5 as well! The argument between his mom and dad on sports vs. music was won by his mom; music became his life.

Two events in his senior year changed his thoughts on music as a career. One was watching Jimmy DePreist “tune” the drips from the spigots in the boys’ bathroom.

The other was losing out for solo trumpet in the audition for the All City High School Orchestra to Clifford Brown (although he did beat a kid from South Philly named Frankie Avalon).

Sam recalls that his academics were less than stellar; he earned not a single Barnwell honor. He received his comeuppance when entering Penn State Abington and was required to take remedial English and math. A move to the Penn State main campus had to be postponed until his junior year, which meant that he was too late to join the Penn State Blue Band or the football team.

The good news, as told by Sam: “With no music or sports, I actually had the time to study and I managed to graduate in the top ten percent of the business class in 1958. I got a job offer from Provident Mutual Insurance as a salesman, earning \$270 per month. Six months later, I was fired because I failed to sell any insurance. However, Provident agreed to let me keep my desk and they rehired me as a recruiting and training supervisor—for a ‘whopping’ \$100 a month! By 1963, I had the number one Campus Agency in the United States and repeated that accomplishment in 1964. I resigned in 1965 to concentrate my time on sales, and opened my own office.”

By the time Sam retired in 2005, he had earned six degrees in Advanced Financial Planning. He was a member of the Million Dollar Roundtable (insurance sales) for 40 years, a Top 50 member for 25 years, and had served as president of the Provident Mutual Field Force. Besides lecturing to Life Agents and Financial Planners throughout the United States, he lectured at the American College and Temple University’s School of Dentistry.

The death of his wife in 2008 caused Sam to reassess his goals in life, and how best to put his skills to work. This led to pro bono work for the Financial Planning Association helping families of servicemen and women with their financial issues. He also served as Financial Chair of his condominium association, on the ethics committee of the Philadelphia Estate Planning Council, and on the AACHS Board of Managers.

Today, serving on the AACHS Board is Sam’s only outside activity. Why? Because Sam appreciates the “drive, desire and commitment of the very smart men and women who serve on the Board, many for over 20 years (talk about commitment!), and all with the same purpose: to maintain our storied heritage.” He wants to help them do so. 🍷

## **DOES OUR MAILING LIST NEED UPDATING?**

**P**lease correct your name and address as necessary on page 2, clip it out and mail it to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580. 🍷

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## "WE GET LETTERS" (AND E-MAILS)

To: The Editor

I wish to thank my classmate, **Ellis Lesack (196)** for his letter in the Spring issue of The Alumni Journal in which he remembered our 1951 Public High School and City Championship track team and, especially, my now deceased teammate and fellow hurdler, **Harry Gelman**. Ellis mentioned that Harry ran high hurdles, and that he fell during the Public High championship race.

Harry was indeed our number one hurdler and I was never able to catch up, and so was number two. However, the event Ellis was referring to was actually the low hurdle shuttle relay. Harry ran the anchor leg in that event and I ran the third leg. When I finished my leg, we had a several hurdle lead, thanks to the two hurdlers who ran before me. Harry maintained that lead until he tripped and fell over the sixth or seventh hurdle. Gravel (of which the Franklin Field track was made in those days) was imbedded in Harry's arms and legs, but he got up and finished the race in sixth place. We did go on to win the championship! One week later, Harry won the high hurdle event in the city championship meet against West Catholic; I was a close second.

I hope this clarifies what actually happened on that day in May 1951. I often reminded Harry of that relay at class reunions. Again, I thank Ellis for remembering our championship track team, and my classmate, friend and fellow hurdler Harry Gelman.

**Paul B. Solnick (196)**  
North Wales, Pennsylvania

To: The Editor

Greetings:

It has been 61 years since my graduation from CHS, and I can still remember, in great detail, walking in the halls, my classes, teachers and fellow students, as well as singing "Dear High" in the auditorium.

My autobiography was just published. I had an interesting and blessed life, and still appreciate the training I had from CHS. It was my providential good fortune to have been one of the translators of the New King James Bible, doing the New Testament Book of Revelation from the Greek manuscripts. My book also recounts some humorous stories from my years in the Army Reserves, private to colonel.

Cordial regards to those who today walk the hallowed halls of Central High.

**Dr. Gary Cohen (198)**

Editor's Note: Dr. Cohen's autobiography is entitled From Persecution to Service: The Chaplain Gary Cohen Story.

To: Alumni Office

Small World

My wife and I recently moved into the retirement development La Costa Glen in Carlsbad, California. Last night at dinner, the couple at the next table was receiving congratulations on their 77<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We introduced ourselves and added our best wishes.

When we asked about their backgrounds, we found that they were fellow Philadelphians AND that he was Central High

alum. He could not remember his class number. He is 99 years old! His name is **Maury Goosenberg**. He may be the oldest living grad. You may already be tracking him, but I did want you to know of the contact. He, by the way, went on to Penn, and was an economist.

**Bernard M. Kauderer (192)**

Rear Admiral (retired), United States Navy  
Member Central High School Hall of Fame  
Carlsbad, California

Editor's Note: Mr. Goosenberg graduated in January 1931 in the 155<sup>th</sup> Class. He may well be the oldest living alumnus.

Dear Editors:

I've never submitted material to the Journal before, but I'd like to share with my 224 classmates a little of what I've been up to for the past nearly 50 years.

Everyone who knew me at Central knew I was crazy about cars. So, naturally, I became a Transportation Engineer via the Civil Engineering programs at Drexel and Penn. For the last 40 years plus, I've been doing road safety and travel behavior research. The focus of the research has been on human behavior and performance with regard to roadway and vehicle lighting and visibility, pedestrian safety, countermeasures for impaired driving and speeding, and seat belt use.

About 25 years ago, I moved from Philadelphia to the Washington, DC area where I am now a vice president and department director at Westat, managing research on transportation, education, justice and human services.

I still love driving and tinkering with performance cars.

Best regards,

**Mark Freedman (224)**

To: Alumni Office

I am a member of the 198<sup>th</sup> Class. Please find enclosed a \$100 check for use as a general contribution.

I talked with "Uncle Joe" McCloskey in Evanston about two weeks ago. He is alive and well, and was expecting a visit from classmate **Jack Hopper** in August. Jack has recently published a second book of poems.

**Morse R. Jackson (198)** 🍷

## FOR THE LOVE OF CENTRAL

**M**ention has been made throughout this Journal of the volunteers who've kept things moving at our school. It was not surprising that many have stepped up to help, but while the volunteers seek no credit for doing something that simply had to be done, it is interesting to make note of what segments of the Central family are doing their part. Parents, alumni and retired Central teachers have taken turns working in the office, the library and throughout the school. Many have come in for an occasional day, but many have reported daily, as though it was their job.

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## CLASS NOTES

**188**—**Joe Ball**, founder and president of the multi-media marketing firm American Advertising Services, was “knighted” by his staff for his leadership on the occasion of the 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the company.

**192**—**Sheppard B. Kominar’s** new book, *Portal Poems: Perspectives on Aging*, is a collection of poems, written in the eighth and ninth decades of Kominar’s life. It offers a deeper understanding of the experience of aging through the experience of living it. The author has been writing poetry for over 70 years; his poems are steeped in the rich literary tradition of English, American and Continental literature. The book is available through [goodsheppardbooks.com](http://goodsheppardbooks.com) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Website: [portalpoems.com](http://portalpoems.com)

**195**—**Herb Keyser** will be performing “The Life and Music of Rodgers and Hammerstein” and “The Life and Music of Judy Garland” at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. A matinee will be offered at FAU in Jupiter on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**198**—**Arthur E. Helfand, DPM**, has been re-elected treasurer of the board of directors for the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging.

**203**—**Dr. Allan Goldberg**, who practiced medicine and psychiatry in South Jersey for over 40 years, and is now retired in Scottsdale, Arizona, has been inducted as a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

He presently serves as a director on the boards of the alumni association of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Desert Foothills Jewish Community Association of Scottsdale.

**204**—**Van Jacobs** reminds us that his “Phantom of the Opera,” in its third decade, is still touring the world, and that his new musical “Atlantis” will be going to Broadway and around the world.

**204**—**Andrew Newman, MD**, recently joined a free medical clinic in Bensalem, Pennsylvania, which treats the working poor who have no health insurance. A consortium of Bucks County hospitals operates the clinic. Andy is seeing and treating orthopedic patients. He finds the work “very fulfilling, but somewhat sad.”

**204**—**Russell Tomar, MD**, recently published *Don’t Stop Dreaming: Sex, Death, Fear, Bigotry, and Greed – A Physician-Scientist’s Odyssey at the Dawn of AIDS*. CHS is noted in the book as well as several of its past students—**Bill Cosby**, **Ed Weinberger**, **James DePreist**, and **Howard Temin**. The book is available at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and [henschelhausbooks.com](http://henschelhausbooks.com).

**209**—**Howard Eisenberg** was the subject of an article in the October 5<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* noting his retirement after a 48-year career as the top grossing associate at Boyds Clothing in Philadelphia.

**210**—**H. Michael Zal, DO**, announces the October 2013 release of his new book, *Ten Steps to Relieve Anxiety*. The book offers Dr. Zal’s “proven, simple yet effective techniques and treatments to handle anxiety in ten easy-to-follow steps.” The book is available in bookstores and at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com).

**212**—**Stephen Paul, PhD**, has retired from Temple University School of Pharmacy as Professor of Pharmaceutical Economics and Health Care Delivery. He continues to write a monthly column in America’s first running newspaper, *Runner’s Gazette*, where he also serves as product editor.

**212**—**William Toll, Esq.**, adjunct professor of history at the University of Oregon in Eugene, has published an essay, “Acclimatizing Fashion: Jewish Inventiveness on the Other (Pacific) Coast” in *A Perfect Fit, The Garment Industry and American Jewry, 1860-1960*. The book is available on-line.

**212**—**Alan C. Verbit**, who has worked on the Apollo Lunar Landing program, has been engaged as a Special Advisor to the “Lunar Lion” project at the Pennsylvania State University, an endeavor to design, build and place an unmanned spacecraft on the moon. The spacecraft’s objective is to take and send back pictures and video of its surroundings.

**212**—**Robert A. Wachter, Esq.**, has recently completed his 20<sup>th</sup> year as a Commissioner of Abington Township, Pennsylvania. He continues to practice law in center-city Philadelphia, and frequently sees **Steve Rubin, Esq.**, and **Elliot Tolan, Esq.**, whose offices are nearby.

**216**—**Larry Rubin** was the subject of an August 25 article in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* describing his participation in the 1963 March on Washington. He described his days as a civil rights advocate and worker and his meeting practically every leader in the civil rights movement, rooming once with Bayard Rustin and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**222**—**David Barg** was recently named Music Director and Conductor of the Ozarks Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. For 25 years, he has been dedicated to working with young musicians and their conductors in the United States, Australia and Russia. His book for leaders of young ensembles, *Igniting Response (to our conducting)*, will be published this winter.

**222**—**Brian D. Engler**, currently living in Burke, Virginia, was recently elected Chair of the Fairfax Library Foundation board of directors. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that raises funds to supplement programs and services of the Fairfax County Public Library System and serves as an advocate for continued public funding for libraries.

**222**—**Robert Rovinsky** has recently retired after 33 years with the Federal Aviation Administration and federal service. He continues to teach as an adjunct professor at George Washington and Georgetown Universities, perform as a storyteller, and do some consulting.

*continued on page 10*

**223**—**Honorable Richard B. Teitleman**, Judge, Supreme Court of Missouri, has been re-elected to the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society, and will continue as a member of the American Bar Association's House of Delegates as the representative of the AJS.

**224**—**Jay Schnitzer, DPM**, an adjunct associate professor of podiatric medicine and surgery at the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine and president of the School's alumni association, has been awarded a Certificate of Honor as a distinguished alumnus of Temple University. He has also been inducted into Temple's "Gallery of Success." Jay notes that he is also honored to serve on committees of the National Kidney Foundation of Delaware Valley.

**225**—**Elliot P. Miller** has been elected president of the Beth Sholom Men's Club in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. He is one of seven members of the 225 who are Beth Sholom congregants. Others are **Dr. Bruce Berger**, **Mark Blaskey**, **Gerald Segal**, **Dr. Steven Shapiro**, **Warren Vogel**, and **Michael Weingram**.

**226**—**Dr. Edward C. Weber**, Adjunct Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology and Volunteer Clinical Professor of Radiology and Imaging Sciences at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has produced his third medical book. He was lead author of *Practical Radiology: A Symptom-Based Approach*, published by F.A. Davis Company.

Also, within the last year, Ed and his wife Ellen (a Girl's High grad) became owners of Sail Carpe Diem, LLC, which owns a cruising sailboat in the charter fleet of Annapolis Bay Charters/Dream Yacht Charters.

**228**—**Albert M. Blumberg, MD, FACR**, has been elected president of the American College of Radiology. He is vice chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, and a practicing radiation oncologist with Radiation Oncology Healthcare PA in Baltimore.

**228**—**David M. Boonin** is a candidate for the office of County Controller in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

**228**—**Gerson Rosenbloom** has accepted the position of Vice President of Strategic Management with Sweetwater Sound. Sweetwater, based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, is the nation's third-largest musical instrument and pro audio equipment retailer.

**229**—**Marc Brickman**, renowned for his production work with Roger Waters and others, was credited as lighting director and co-director/co-producer of the bio-musical "The Rascals: Once Upon a Dream," which played in Philadelphia in June.

**229**—**Alan D. Budman, Esq.**, past president of the AACHS, has been elected to the International Executive Board of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. The FJMC is the governing body of over 250 Conservative Jewish Men's Clubs in several countries. He previously

served as president of the Temple Sinai Men's Club and the Middle Atlantic Region of FJMC, and is the 2013 Convention Program Chair.

**230**—**Gary Freedman** recently published *Significant Moments*, a book consisting of quotes from already published works, available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Freedman's interest in how fictional literature matches real life situations is evident in the book, where he shows parallels between literature and historical events.

**230**—**Larry Plotkin**, Class Rep, reports that the class project to locate classmates has been completed. Contact has been made with all of the 473 living members. Any classmate who wishes to be involved in class activities may do so by contacting him directly or at [centralhigh230.net](mailto:centralhigh230.net).

**231**—**Howard L. Edelman, DDS**, has been named a member of the 2013 United States Olympic Committee Dental Volunteer Program. He is charged with providing dental care to Team USA athletes and at Team USA events.

**234**—**Scott D. Bluebond** has taken a new position as Director of Communications at Green Tree School in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. The mission of GTS is to discover, develop and deliver opportunities for children with unique challenges and abilities to achieve their full potential. Scott may be reached at [sbluebond@greentreeschool.org](mailto:sbluebond@greentreeschool.org).

**234**—**John Elfrey** is the second recipient of the Richardson Dilworth Award for Distinguished Public Service. He started as an account clerk in the City of Philadelphia Revenue Department in 1985, moved through many posts, and is currently the director of operations for the Mayor's Office of Transportation and Utilities.

**234**—**Donald R. Howe** has joined Long and Foster in Moorestown, New Jersey as a Realtor Associate. Visit his web page: [donalddhowe.lnf.com](http://donalddhowe.lnf.com).

**248**—**Brarailty (Rel) Dowdell's** feature film, "Changing the Game," was screened at the prestigious 2013 Cannes Film Festival. 🍿

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

**AACHS**  
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## A FOOTBALL RUN, BUT NO SCORE

by Lyle Wm. Spielman, 207

I often think back to 1956 and remember when Marv Castle's brilliantly designed senior class pin was distributed. How salacious was the figure of the girl, with bare leg showing and a tight-fitting sweater, perched atop the 207. Now it was our turn to follow the tradition of senior classes before us and engage in the ritual of pinning our girlfriends or other females we deemed worthy of being adorned with our 207 pin. I wonder, now that Central has been co-ed for over 30 years, whether there still are class pins and what they look like.



As an aside, I remember spending many an evening, when I should have been doing homework, carefully inscribing in indelible India ink, on either side of the seated girl on the pin, the names of my classmates and their girlfriends.

Back to pinning: I can recall a pre-season night football game in '56 when we played Abington at their field. As their band came onto the field before the game, accom-

panied by a bevy of majorettes, cheerleaders and flag wavers, a bunch of 207ers were standing at the fence separating the stands from the playing field. I don't recall who was with me, but I do remember one of the Abington girls on the field was very good looking in her tight sweater and short skirt. As testosterone-buoyed teenagers, we began making hormone-induced comments about her. After a goodly number of wolf whistles had been directed toward her, I found myself caught up in the idea that she had to be pinned.

Fifty-seven years later, this CHS varsity low hurdler would like to think he hurdled the chain link fence, but more likely I was boosted over it. I sprinted across the field, 207 pin clutched in hand, to where she was standing and, as gently as possible, affixed the pin to the front of her white sweater. All I remember after that was running back to our side of the field amidst cheering from our crowd, vaulting the fence and taking a crowd-facing, deep bow.

After the game I saw the young lady, who, still wearing the 207 pin, came up to me and asked if she could keep the pin. Naturally, I asked for her phone number, but she replied, instead, that her boyfriend was the large right tackle on their football team.

I wonder whatever became of her. ●

## 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 tax-deductible donation per seat. Please use the form on this page, or donate at [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com). ●

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## 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.

161 — Joseph D. Teller  
 163 — Milton Sommer  
 164 — Edward Gosfield, Jr., MD  
 165 — Milton M. Kitei, MD  
 166 — Bernard Fleishman  
 167 — Albert C. Toll  
 168 — Dr. Edward Korostoff  
 169 — Daniel Ginyard  
 173 — Edward Gilbert  
 174 — Marvin R. Halbert, Esq.  
 175 — Harold Kimmelman  
 176 — Bernard Cross  
 176 — M. Frank Rush  
 178 — Earl Goldberg  
 180 — Maurice W. Black, MD  
 180 — Edgar Thompson Hunter  
 181 — Leonard H. Caplan  
 181 — Michael H. Halbert  
 185 — Sidney Wallace, MD  
 186 — Dr. Sidney Weinstein  
 188 — Arnold D. Foley  
 188 — Martin Goldberg, MD  
 188 — Herbert M. Gurk, PhD  
 188 — Alfred S. Rice

192 — Walter P. Lomax, Jr., MD\*  
 197 — Rube Werner  
 199 — Jerome I. Schwartz  
 202 — Dr. Richard Mortimer  
 204 — David Delguercio  
 204 — George Viksnins, PhD  
 206 — Andrew L. Bender, MD  
 207 — Alan Apter  
 209 — Edward B. Schagrin  
 210 — Joshua Horwitz  
 211 — Burton Spitzer  
 212 — Mitchell F. Bunkin  
 212 — Michael Jay Spoll  
 221 — Barry S. Wilderman, MD  
 230 — Robert Hall  
 230 — Howard G. Oliker  
 235 — Jef Lee Johnson  
 265 — Ali I. Atif  
 265 — Derek S. Ewerth

Faculty — Joseph L. Nolan

Faculty — Dr. Thomas J. Horan, Jr.

\*Member, Alumni Hall of Fame

## GLOBAL YOUTH UNITED

by Dr. Leonard B. Finkelstein, 185

Honorary Life Member, AACHS Board of Managers

**G**lobal Youth United (GYU) is a student-directed 501(c)(3) nonprofit which promotes increased education in the areas of social change, human rights, and the environment, with the objective of broadening students' leadership development, collaborative and problem solving skills.

The organization was started at Central High School some four years ago. **Katherine Mateo (270)** is the co-founder and first president of GYU at Central. She and I discovered a shared passion for providing an avenue for students to work locally while affecting global change, recognizing that many students in high schools were unable to breach the gap between their curriculum and social change. GYU was founded to achieve that aim.

Katherine went on to the University of Pennsylvania. There she has developed a program utilizing 27 U. of P. mentors who work with students at five Philadelphia public high schools. The mentors are Penn students who have demonstrated leadership skills and have an interest in working with Philadelphia youth.

Members of GYU create, implement and operate their own agenda as they attempt to tackle and solve problems in local, national and global arenas. In the five Philadelphia high school GYU chapters, student projects have included disaster relief in Haiti, creating awareness of safe drinking water in South Sudan, and addressing homelessness in Philadelphia.

I am pleased to chair the GYU board of directors which, besides Katherine, includes a number of CHS alumni: **Hon. James R. Roebuck (219)**, **Leigh Whitaker, Esq. (251)**, **Ramon Guzman (271)**, and **Jay Rosen (185)**. Adding to the excellence of the board is CHS president Timothy McKenna.

The next phase of the social networking process is interaction with family and friends (living in about 70 foreign countries) of current CHS students. This amazing work is part of our "investment in the future," joining our students with foreign students to help "make this a better world." This is for my grandchildren and the grandchildren of the world!

If you are interested in helping with the GYU effort, please contact Executive Director Dianna Schwartz for further information at [dianna.schwartz@gmail.com](mailto:dianna.schwartz@gmail.com). 



## OTHER ALMA MATTERS

**B**enjamin White and Gwyneth White (both 260), living in West Philadelphia, are expecting their second child in January. Ben recently became pastor of Circle of Hope Church ([www.circleofhope.net](http://www.circleofhope.net)).

**Jonathan Kine (245)** checks in from Jakarta, Indonesia, along with wife Endah and children David, Sonya and Rafif.

**Jim Harris (179)** and wife Sue, after 31 years in their home, moved—grudgingly, at the insistence of their daughters—to a lovely apartment at Elkins Park House. Much as they miss their old house and garden, Jim reports they are quite happy and enjoying the service, pool, and many friends in the building.

**Almog Veig (254)** has moved to south Florida, where he has accepted a position with Mercedes-Benz as Director of Fixed Operations. Almog and wife Lori are the parents of daughter Maya, 6, and twin boys—Shai and Etai—who will be one year old in October.

**Dick Arkless (202)** has retired from radiology; he and his wife are living in Washington State on the east side of the Hood Canal, looking at the Olympic Mountains only a few miles away.

Dick's not running anymore (spinal stenosis and two knee replacements) but is gardening, working out, swimming, doing serious biking, and snorkeling in the South Pacific. He's always interested in hearing from old classmates at [lionfishes2@yahoo.com](mailto:lionfishes2@yahoo.com).

**Chick Golden and Bob Spivak (both 202)** served as Marshalls at the U.S. Open at Merion Golf Club in June.

**Harvey Jay Zukerman (204)** welcomed a new grandson—Zayden Abraham Zukerman—in December. His granddaughter, Lindsay Kaplan, will be bat mitzvah over Thanksgiving weekend. Over the Christmas/Chanukah holiday, Harvey and wife Rachelle will take her to Israel.

His two oldest grandsons are students at Ohio State University, one a senior, the other a freshman.

The peripatetic Zukermans spent a month in Florence, Italy, in May and June. In addition to visiting "David" and "Venus," they traveled to Rome and the ancient town of Volterra. Now back in Los Angeles, they have joined a two-year program to become docents at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

**Kenyetta Taylor (261)** has married and is now Kenyetta Joseph.

**Ian Field (224)** is an optometrist living in Boca Raton, Florida. He works on Wednesdays (presumably only on Wednesdays), and is occupied the rest of the week collecting "O"-gauge trains and being active in photography. He is looking forward to the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of the 224 in 2015.

**Edward Snitzer (191)** proudly reports that his grandson **Joshua Snitzer** is a member of the freshman (276) class this year. 🍎

## REUNION UPDATE

**177**—Class Rep **Milt Dienes** reports that, although a final date has not yet been locked in, the 177 will hold its 72<sup>nd</sup> reunion in late September or early October 2014.

The reunion luncheon for classmates and their wives will be held at the Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue. Milt requests that classmates contact him at (610) 783-0456 or (610) 805-6375 (cell), or [mdienes@aol.com](mailto:mdienes@aol.com).

**232**—**Gary Schoenberg** sends word that the 232 will hold its 40<sup>th</sup> reunion on November 30 from 6:30 to 10:30 P.M. at the Swan Waterfall Room, 2015 South Water Street, Philadelphia.

Come alone or bring a significant other. The cost is \$47.50 (including gratuity) per person for a full buffet. A cash bar will be available; parking is free. Class members can purchase tickets by contacting **Frank Melfi** at [frank.melfi.iii@gmail.com](mailto:frank.melfi.iii@gmail.com) or (484) 832-0224. Make checks payable to Central High 232 Reunion and send them to Frank at 1012 Lincoln Avenue, Prospect Park, Pennsylvania 19076.

232<sup>nd</sup> Class 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion T-shirts are available for purchase at \$10 each. Send your payment to Frank Melfi with the size of your choice—S, M, L, XL, XXL, or XXXL.

Alumni may also view more information and connect with others at [www.facebook.com/groups/CHSClassof232/events/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CHSClassof232/events/).

Come meet with your classmates and be prepared to offer a snapshot of your life. How did CHS launch you to where you are today? Who are you now versus 40 years ago? Let's share our life experiences, lessons, appreciations, accomplishments, challenges, and our memories from 1969 to 1973. Above all, let's have fun!

**267**—The 267 will hold its class reunion on November 30 at Club Adesso, 1519 Walnut Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Philadelphia. The price is \$65 per person for three hours (9:00 P.M. to midnight) of open bar and buffet. Please contact **Sophia Hines** at [hines.sophia910@gmail.com](mailto:hines.sophia910@gmail.com). 🍎

## FROM OGONTZ AND OLNEY

**C**HS faculty member Dan Ueda has been nominated for Geek of the Year. The award, presented by Geekadelphia and the Academy of Natural Sciences, honors an outstanding geeky individual in Philadelphia, one who has made an impact without which the city would not be the same.

Dan's nomination reflects his "going above and beyond to inspire his students to be just as geeky as he." Dan has taken the Robolancers, the CHS robotics team, to a national competition for the very first time, and he volunteers to do all this robotics work in his free time.

### Lancers Athletics—Spring 2013


Badminton—W-6, L-0

Baseball—W-9, L-5

Softball—W-7, L-1

Tennis—W-5, L-0

Volleyball—W-4, L-3 🍎

**T**he 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 [rudychs@gmail.com](mailto:rudychs@gmail.com). If you cannot reach your class representative, call the Alumni Association office at (215) 927-9550 or e-mail the Association at [chsalumniphl@aol.com](mailto:chsalumniphl@aol.com). 

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## SAVING A LIMB AND A LIFE

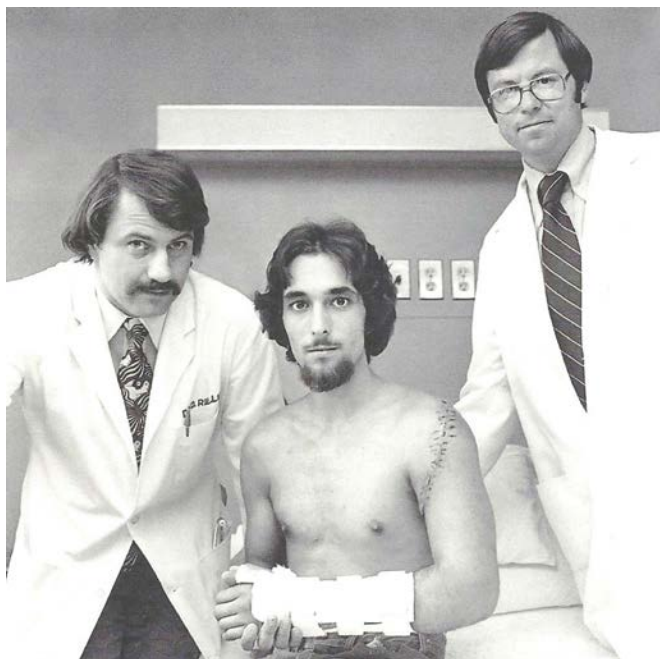
by Steve Chappell, 209

**A**s part of a program celebrating the centennial of Grand View Hospital in Sellersville, Pennsylvania, my classmate, **David C. Rilling, MD (209)**, presented a retrospective on a signature event in the hospital's history in which he was involved—the reattachment of a young man's severed left arm.

On June 9, 1977, one of the first successful arm reattachment surgeries was performed at Grand View by Dr. Rilling, Dr. David C. Rising and Dr. Dennis L. Moyer. The left arm of 19-year-old Jesse Masarjian had accidentally been completely severed at the shoulder by an electric circular saw. What followed was an amazing story of Masarjian's resuscitation, arm re-implantation surgery and heroic recovery.

The injury occurred between 1:30 and 2:00 P.M. at a furniture factory in Green Lane, Pennsylvania, about 20 minutes from the hospital. Paramedics arrived at the factory at 2:11, and had Jesse in the Emergency Room at Grand View by 2:35 P.M. He was in shock and had lost about 10 pints of blood. Rilling and Rising were in the hospital and were called to the ER.

Rilling, a vascular surgeon who joined the Grand View staff in 1975 after service as a MASH surgeon in Vietnam, recalled that he had seen many horrible injuries in Vietnam, but nothing prepared him for what he was about to see.



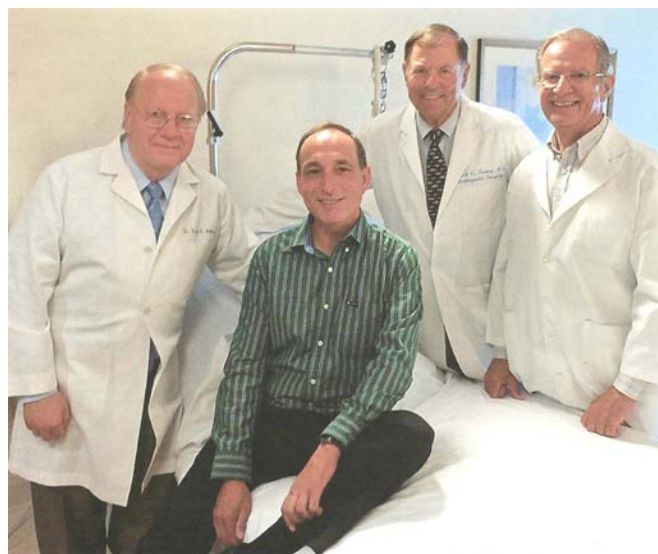
1977: from left, Dr. David C. Rilling, Jesse Masarjian, Dr. David C. Rising

Masarjian's arm, which was hanging by only one inch of flesh, was packed in ice by ER staff to slow the deterioration of tissue. He was in the operating room by 2:45 P.M. Rilling, Rising (an orthopedic surgeon) and Moyer (a general surgeon) worked for seven hours to reattach the bone, veins, nerves, arteries, muscles and skin of the arm in a surgery unheard of not only in a community

hospital, but in larger institutions as well. It would be years before reattaching severed limbs became relatively commonplace with the advent of microsurgical instruments.

Although neither Rising nor Rilling had ever reattached an arm, or had any special training in limb attachment, Rilling, like Rising, 37 at the time, said "We thought if there was ever an ideal situation, this was it. We were ready to tackle it."

Dr. Joseph E. Kutz, a nationally recognized hand surgeon and past president of the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery, commented years later: "From the standpoint that the surgery took place at a relatively small hospital and the surgeons had no special training in re-attachments, it is really quite miraculous."



2013: from left, Rilling, Masarjian, Rising, Dr. Dennis L. Moyer

Jesse Masarjian underwent two years of physical therapy two or three times a week, and knew he had to be patient. It took two years before he had feeling in his left hand. Today he leads a very close to normal life. He holds a job, is a parent, and plays a very mean guitar. He will, of course, be eternally grateful to the physicians who saved his limb, and his life.

Suffice it to say he and they have a lasting attachment. 🍷

## FOR THE LOVE OF CENTRAL

*continued from page 8*

If individuals were to be mentioned, we run the risk of forgetting someone. Volunteers don't always report to the office seeking assignment. Most simply came to school and got down to work where work needed to be done.

As if volunteers needed to be buoyed in their effort, students provided that lift. "Thank you for keeping our library open for us...." "Thank you for finding lockers that work...." "Thank you for all you're doing...."

These students are worth everyone's effort. 🍷