



IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Alumni Midwinter Meeting..... | 1 |
| Alumni Networking Event..... | 1 |
| Editors' Message | 2 |
| Association President's Message..... | 2 |
| From the CHS President..... | 3 |
| 2015 AACHS Hall of Fame Induction . | 4 |
| A Hall of Fame Member Reflects | 4 |
| Writers' Corner | 5 |
| Column B | 6 |
| Wine History: | |
| Demystifying the Grape..... | 7 |
| Take Your Seats, Please!..... | 7 |
| Honoring Dr. Pavel | 8 |
| We Get Letters | 9 |
| Inspiring a Love of Reading | 10 |
| Reunion Updates..... | 10 |
| AACHS Calender of Events | 11 |
| Alma Matters..... | 12 |
| Albert Ewell..... | 13 |
| Class Reps | 14 |
| In Memoriam..... | 14 |
| Artist's Corner | 15 |
| Committee Help Wanted | 15 |
| Incoming Police Commissioner | |
| Richard Ross (241) Sworn In | |
| At Central | 16 |
| You Owe It to Yourself..... | 16 |

The Associated Alumni of the Central High School of Philadelphia

P.O. Box 26580 • Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580
(215) 927-9550 • Fax: (215) 276-5823

alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com
alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com
www.centralhighalumni.com

Editor: Stephen Chappell, 209
Editor: Merrill Freedman, 208
Editor Emeritus: Gerald S. Kates, 194
Editor Emerita: Yvonne Dennis, 246
Layout Editor: Robin Siddall, 275

ALUMNI MIDWINTER MEETING

**Wednesday, March 2, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
At Central High School**

All Central Alumni are invited to the AACHS Midwinter Meeting where the Guest Speaker will be Dr. William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent of the School District of Philadelphia

THE PROGRAM

5:00-6:00 P.M.

Tour the school, including the school store, while enjoying light fare of filet mignon, chicken or veggie paninis, bacon-wrapped scallops, mini egg rolls, pigs in a blanket, pepperoni and cheese, fruit and beverages.

6:00-7:00 P.M.

Remarks by Dr. Hite and questions from the audience to be followed by the State of the School report by Mr. Timothy McKenna, president of Central High School.

7:00-8:00 P.M.

Meet with the AACHS Board of Managers and learn about volunteer opportunities with the school and with the Associated Alumni.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COST

\$25 per person. Each attendee will receive a Central Alumni T-shirt

PARKING

Free parking is available in Central's upper lot (aka "the blacktop"). Enter from Olney Avenue and go up the ramp on the right. Please enter the school building via the north door (facing Olney Ave). A check-in table will be immediately inside the door in the main hallway.

REGISTRATION

You may register for the event on the alumni website — www.centralhighalumni.com — or by check payable to AACHS and mailed to AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

SEE YOU THERE!

Save The Date!

**Alumni Networking Event
Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

5:30 Pm To 7:30 Pm

At City Tap House

2 Logan Square

Philadelphia, Pa 19103

Central Alumni, come reconnect with your classmates, meet other alumni, and have a relaxing time after work at the City Tap House in Logan Square.

Open to alumni 21 years of age and older, appetizers provided - cash bar.

Cost to attend is \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

You may register on the alumni website — www.centralhighalumni.com — or by check made payable to AACHS and mailed to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580.

EDITORS' MESSAGE

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



You would think that being part of a school so steeped in tradition, that while people and things age, they would remain recognizable. This edition of the Alumni Journal will look much the same as it has for some years, but only because of time constraints. We've thrown down the challenge to CHS Faculty Member Mr. Kelsey and his art class to make us look a bit different. Hopefully, that will bear fruit in the spring edition.



More than a few of you have commented on our Artists' Corner, and our Writers Corner. We've heard from some of our contributors that displaying their work has reconnected them to classmates. Some of you have told us directly how much you've enjoyed it. We encourage you to submit your work

to us so we can continue to populate our Journal with the product of Central High Alumni talent.

It was wonderful to see Milt Dienes be recognized for his outstanding photojournalism in the press. When we ran his photos and read his words in *The Alumni Journal*, Winter 2015, we were mesmerized by his capture of some of the most important events of WWII. In case you missed it, go back to the alumni website and check it out. There are still a number of alumni who are members of *the greatest generation*. We would appreciate hearing from you.

When you return to visit your school, and you'll be missing a lot if you don't, take some time to walk the halls and observe the students. If you can't break free from your weekday obligations, make certain that you arrive early to the winter meeting. Please believe us — it will be worth your time.

This issue of *The Journal* is filled with wonderful submissions by our alumni. Generations of talented people have walked our halls, and there is a uniqueness to each generation. We have so much to say to the alumni that came before us, and those who later followed in our footsteps. Let's not reach out only to our own generation; rather, let's communicate with everyone who combine to make being an alumnus of Central great. ●

Ensure the Future

www.centralhighalumni.com/support

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeffrey Muldawer, 225
President, AACHS



I speak for the entire Board of Managers when I say that we do not serve the association and Central for recognition. However, it is nice to be appreciated for our efforts and such recognition will be afforded AACHS on May 5, 2016, at Philmont Country Club. B'nai B'rith Educators Unit is honoring AACHS for Service to the Profession. Sheldon Pavel,

immediate past President of CHS is a prior honoree of that organization. At the same event, **Daniel Kurtz (253)**, Principal of Kearney Elementary School, will be honored for Service to the Jewish Community.

Local alumni can become involved in Board activities, either by joining the Board or volunteering on committees and/or special events. Alumni anywhere in the world can always provide financial support, availing themselves of our website www.centralhighalumni.com.

Two successful association events were held within the past few months. The well attended dinner in October featured the induction of eight noted alumni into our Hall of Fame. One member of the incoming class had been inducted in April due to a conflict with his schedule. The hard work of **Steve Burnstein (222)** and his committee resulted in a very enjoyable evening.

Just before Thanksgiving, more than eighty alums came back to Ogontz and Olney for the biggest and perhaps best Career Day ever held at Central. This program enables interaction with a substantial portion the student body. Those who do return find this to be a great way to give back to CHS. It is never too early to look forward to the next Career Day which will take place on November 22, 2016.

The next major event is not run by AACHS, but is open to interested alumni. International Day is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2016. Attendees are welcome to sample the culture and food of many countries. Central has become quite a melting pot, further enriching the experiences of its students, faculty and alumni.

Your next opportunity to attend an Alumni Association program will be on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 5:00 pm. The Mid-Winter Meeting, one of the two annual meetings mandated by Association Bylaws, is open to all alumni and will be at the school this year. Additional information is available elsewhere in this *Journal*. School District of Philadelphia Superintendent William R. Hite, Jr. will be the featured speaker. Please make an effort to attend to see what is happening at Central.

If you have any issues or concerns with regard to AACHS, please feel free to contact me at president@centralhighalumni.com. ●

Timothy J. McKenna
President, Central High School



The total number of applicants wanting to be a part of the Central High School community continues to grow each year. We continue to receive more applications than any other school in our city. This year 4,600 students from hundreds of Philadelphia schools have applied to join the 279th graduating class. Our admissions team spends countless hours reviewing all student applications. I have been thoroughly impressed with the crop of candidates. Our tradition of excellence carries on because of the incredible support we receive from our parents, faculty, and the Associated Alumni of Central High School.

During the fall months over six hundred students visited Central High School and spent a full day shadowing a current ninth grader. Our students are our best ambassadors. When we ask the 8th graders who visit to describe their day the overall responses were focused on the outstanding program we offer. The students describe the positive energy and commitment to the academic program our current students have made. They are also impressed with the number of clubs and athletic teams that we offer. Central High School is a unique school and our guests walk away wanting to be a part of our tradition.

Central High School has been recognized as the most diverse school in the nation according to niche.com. The matrix used to measure our diversity was based on student ethnicities and socio-economic criteria. We competed with 24,000 high schools across the country for this recognition. Our diversity is strength, in that we prepare our students to become leaders in a heterogeneous society.

On January 7, 2016, Dr. William Hite, School District of Philadelphia Superintendent, announced that Central High School was the "City Leader" according to the School Performance Report. We scored the highest of the 84 high schools rated. This is another acknowledgment of our commitment to excellence. Our faculty, parents, alumni association and students all played an important role in receiving this great accolade.

During the 275 Honors Convocation, I shared with our senior class the fact that their work in our classrooms ensured we are again ranked the number one school in Philadelphia. I told them that we are more than a ranking. We are the school that produces future leaders that are committed to making our world a better place. Their legacy will be cemented when they become productive, successful members of society. I thank the members of the Associated Alumni of Central High School for their continued support of our program of study. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming school events.

Go Lancers! 🍎

"Our tradition of excellence carries on because of the incredible support we receive from our parents, faculty, and the Associated Alumni of Central High School."

ALUMNI BOARD OF MANAGERS

President

Jeffrey A. Muldawer, Esq., 225

Vice Presidents

Barry W. Rosenberg, Esq., 229
Peter E. Forjohn, Jr., 235
Robert Del Femine, 235
Stephen C. Chappell, Esq., 209

Treasurer

Bruce S. Marks, C.P.A., 226

Recording Secretary

Mark Lipshutz, 224

Corresponding Secretary

Yvonne Dennis, 246

Archivist/Historian

David R. Kahn, 220

Term Expiring June 30, 2016

Karima I.A. Bouchenafa, 249
Stephen L. Burnstein, D.O., 222
Hon. Mark B. Cohen, 225
Robert L. Glenn, Jr., 242
Dr. A. Richard Polis, 204
Samuel G. Wurtzel, 201
Hon. John M. Younge, 232

Term Expiring June 30, 2017

David W. Birnbaum, Esq., 265
Marisa Block, 265
Kristina Chang, 254
Rudy A. Cvetkovic, 239
Stephen J. Klein, 229
Benjamin G. Lipman, Esq., 224
Kenneth Wong, 232
Lester H. Wurtele, M.D., 202

Term Expiring June 30, 2018

Edward Bell, 226
Hon. Denis P. Cohen, 228
Merrill Freedman, 208
Nicole Gaughan VanBuskirk, 257
Michael Horwits, 251
Audrey M. Huntington, 266
Cynthia S. Lee, 263
George D. Mosee, Jr., Esq., 232

Honorary Life Members

Stephen I. Kasloff, Esq., 228
Eugene N. Cipriani, Esq., 229
Dr. Leonard B. Finkelstein, 185
Gerald S. Kates, 194
Allan L. Marmon, Esq., 204
Hon. Gene D. Cohen, 214
Solomon Kal Rudman, 188

Hon. Ronald R. Donatucci, 224
Arnold H. Shiffrin, 205
Hon. Charles E. Rainey, Jr., 223
Hon. Arnold L. New, 225
Bernard Spain, 198
Robert E. Spivak, 202

Past Presidents

Hyman Lovitz, Esq., 187
Charles Steinberg, 221
Alan D. Budman, Esq., 229
Dr. H. Michael Zal, 210
Jay S. Gottlieb, Esq., 205
Hon. James R. Roebuck, 219
Theodore G. Rothman, 205
Stephen H. Green, Esq., 214
Richard E. Prinz, 212
David R. Kahn, 220
Harvey Steinberg, Esq., 209

2015 AACHS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Held on October 29, 2015 at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel, the 2015 AACHS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was witnessed by some 250 people including CHS alumni, faculty, and students, and guests of the inductees. Nine distinguished honorees were recognized, each of whom took the opportunity to address the attendees, and each of whom acknowledged the influence that Central High has had on their lives and their careers.

Displayed at the dinner accompanying the Ceremony were plaques to which were affixed the honoree's picture, class number, and a brief summary of his career, these plaques subsequently to be added to the Hall of Fame Court at the school. In addition, Master

of Ceremonies, ABC News Correspondent **Ryan Smith (247)**, and Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson **Dr. Steve Burnstein (222)** presented each with a gift plaque adorned with a serigraph of the school in the early 19th century, the name and profession of the inductee, and his class number.

The Hall of Fame was established by the AACHS Board of Managers in 1973 to honor a select group of alumni who satisfy the demanding standards for admission to the Hall — to have “at the minimum, a worldwide or national reputation and be recognized by their peers that they have achieved the highest success in their chosen field of endeavor.” Thus far, 114 exceptional individuals have been inducted. ●

A HALL OF FAME MEMBER REFLECTS

*Editors' Note: **Dr. Arnold Eisen (228)** is Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and a recent inductee into the Central High School Alumni Hall of Fame. The following is excerpted, with permission, from Dr. Eisen's blog On My Mind.*

Dear High, Dear Central High
November 5th, 2015

I walked the halls of my high school last week for the first time since I graduated 46 years ago. It was, no pun intended, a real high: not only for reasons of sentiment and the pleasures of nostalgia — the cafeteria exactly as I remembered it; the corridors and lockers the same except for fresh coats of paint; the English class with the blackboard where I knew it would be and the desks scattered in proper disorder — but because the students of today were every bit as motivated, talented, and happy in their learning as I remembered my classmates were way back when. The Central High Alumni Association presented me with an award and will place a plaque including my picture on the alumni “Wall of Fame” along with seven other new inductees. But the greatest satisfaction of my visit was not in memory but observation. At a time of dwindling support for liberal arts and public schools alike, Central remains a model of what a public high school should be. There is a lot to be learned from its example — including lessons for JTS.

The mythology of the place has always given a mighty assist to its character. Founded in 1836, opened in 1838, entitled by its charter to award a B.A in addition to a diploma, enrolling academically talented young men (and, since the late 1980s, young women), and providing them entrée to the civic and professional elites of Philadelphia, Central — to students and city alike — is more than just a school. It is a symbol: proof of what a diverse student body, elevated by first-rate teaching and facilities, and raised on the expectation of high achievement, can do in the world. All the new hall-of-famers in my cohort spoke in one way or another about those themes at the event last week: how we had come from neighborhood schools of middling quality and

somewhat provincial family backgrounds, had not had direct and sustained encounter before Central with great books, ideas, and possibilities and owed much of our subsequent achievement to the experience at our alma mater. We received these gifts through the demands of wonderful teachers in classes filled with students from every neighborhood of the city, representing several religions and multiple ethnic backgrounds.

In my day, Central was a mix of Jews, Italians, and African-Americans, with a smattering of other White Protestants and Catholics. Many grew up in immigrant households. You know in principle before you get to a place like Central that intelligence and virtue are not limited to people of your own persuasion, but it is something else to experience that reality in science or history class, or on the ball field. Respect for others changes from something one should have because it is right to something that comes naturally when one is surrounded by people who elicit respect by virtue of who they are and what they accomplish. What is more, you experience with them the special kind of bond that comes from learning together. Sometimes the learning takes place side by side, with the added glue that results from shared trials (that physics exam no one could pass) and collective elation (we did it!). Sometimes it comes from what other members of the class teach you. That kid you barely knew but always kind of wanted to offers an insight into a poem or painting that stuns you with how true it is to your experience of the world. You can't believe anyone else saw it that way too, least of all this person so different from you. One is grateful for that: grateful to the teacher whose assignment made it possible, to the artist who got it right, to that new friend you will be happy to see, if you get the chance, at an alumni event 46 years later. You are connected. You are not only wiser because of this school, but less alone in the world, more at home.

I spoke at the event about one teacher in particular: John

continued on page 5

A HALL OF FAME MEMBER REFLECTS

continued from page 4

J. Mulloy, who was not satisfied with existing textbooks on the intellectual history of the West and so spent many hours, day after day, typing up the texts he wanted us to read (I remember Coleridge and Burckhardt, Eliot and Nietzsche, and a Catholic historian named Christopher Dawson) onto a stencil and then running off multiple copies on a mimeograph machine. The smell of the ink is still vivid in my mind — and so is the sense of growth of my mind and heart in Mr. Mulloy's class, as palpable as the inches added in those same years to my height. It mattered to me even then that my favorite teacher was a practicing Catholic and a cultural Conservative — not ways of being with which I was familiar.

Twice a week after Central (and again on Sundays), I walked up Olney Avenue to Broad Street and then down Tabor Road to the Hebrew High School program at Gratz College, where I studied with faculty that included my other favorite teacher, Rabbi Sam Lachs. The great books of two traditions encountered one another in me and complemented one another far more than they collided. The walk from Central to Gratz gave life and substance to the hyphen in my identity as American Jew. You are larger than your individual self, both teachers taught. (Last week, in the archives, I found a column written by Mr. Mulloy in an edition of the Central newspaper for which I wrote as a senior deploring the fact that most Americans had not

followed JFK's urging, and still worked only for their own welfare rather than for that of their country.) We are citizens of a country and a world that include far more than our own particular group. There are higher powers — or One Higher Power — at work. Neither Mulloy nor Lachs ever preached in class, and neither seemed to me to represent a simple faith, and perhaps because of that both stood for versions of Truth and Right to which I could give credence, in teenage years when credence does not come easily.

You can matter, this education taught me and everyone else, in the way that mattering really counts: doing good. I transmitted to the students at the dinner and those I met at lunch the next day a message about leadership that has been expressed to me by political and religious leaders over the years. The most important requisite of being a leader is not managerial ability, technical knowledge, smarts, or people skills, though all of those are required. More important still is personal integrity. How can people work with you, or follow you, if they do not know who you are and what you stand for? How can they walk ahead of you, as you want them to do if you are a true leader, and grow stronger by your side, unless they know that in so doing they advance along the path that you, too, walk and on which you want them to walk. ●

WRITERS' CORNER

Jeffrey Roth, Ph.D., NCSP (222), a Nationally Certified School Psychologist, announces the publication of his *School Crisis Response: Reflections of a Team Leader*, a unique blend of personal narrative and "how to" text based upon his many years of experience leading a school district crisis response team. The book is identified as a resource for university students in training, and for school-based crisis response practitioners and teams. A recipient of very positive peer reviews, the book is available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble and soon on e-book.

Robert Solomon (227) reports the third edition of his long-running book, *The Art of Client Service*, will be published in spring, 2016 by John Wiley & Sons. The newest edition is revised and updated with a substantial amount of new material that anyone involved in client service — especially those in marketing and advertising — will find useful.

Brothers **Dawud Anyabwile (242)** (formerly Dave Sims) and Guy A. Sims, leaders in the contemporary graphic novel community, will launch their new graphic novel, *Brotherman: Revelation* during MLK Weekend, 2016. According to the brothers, *Brotherman* "exploded onto the comic book scene in 1990 at the NYC Black Expo and has since been documented internationally as a catalyst

for the contemporary Black Comic Book movement, recognized by artists as an important and influential piece of literature with its unique style of storytelling.

Rath, by **Herbert J. Shiroff (215)** has been recognized as a Best Book of 2015 by Kirkus Reviews. The title refers to Cambodian children orphaned by the Pol Pot regime of the Khmer Rouge. The book is semi-autobiographical, describing how Cambodian refugees were welcomed into a suburban Philadelphia home, the problems that arose, how they were dealt with, and how a family had to adjust to their new circumstances.

Joseph Badal (218), who turned to writing after service in the U.S. Army and a 40 year career in finance, reports the release of his 9th suspense novel, *Death Ship*, the 5th in his Danforth Saga. His previous books have been ranked in the Amazon Top-100 in Crime and Espionage Categories, and have won Best Mystery / Thriller from a variety of organizations, including the Military Writers Society of America. His *The Lone Wolf Agenda* received the Hillerman Prize for Best Fiction in 2014. Joe may be reached at josephbadalbooks@aol.com. His website is www.josephbadalbooks.com.

Rabbi Samuel E. Karff (192), for 24 years the Senior Rabbi of Beth Israel, the oldest Jewish congregation in

continued on page 6

by Bruce Yasgur, 216



Sweet '16, everyone! When I first sat down to write, it was mid-December and I was still in Maine. In 28 years, I'd never stayed past early November. Winter comes fast, the cabin gets snowed in and pipes freeze if they're not drained. But this November and December were balmy: 40s and 50s; Philly felt tropical. It's now January, I'm back in Philly, and we finally got a touch of winter. Thanks, likely, to climate change, I got to stay in Maine for an extra six weeks to appreciate the rugged land and seascapes, marvel at the brilliant night skies, and play at golf.

"Play at golf?" Sure. I used to wonder why anyone would hit a ball around and chase it. Well, after my knees and back gave up jogging and I got bored just walking, I figured it'd be more fun walking with a purpose. A little background: Our endless prodding got David off the couch and onto his high school golf team. Hoping for some father-son bonding, I bought a set of garage sale clubs. Other than a couple of driving range visits, we never did play together. Now he's in college and retired. Best laid plans! But I started hitting the ball around for fun. Doesn't matter where it goes — I chase it, hit it, chase, hit, etc. I get a workout and a sense of achievement when I find the ball; frustrated when I don't, but I often find other people's lost balls, so I keep hitting and fetching. I don't ride, keep score, or play with anyone who does. Question answered? BTW, the course in Winter Harbor is on rolling wooded hills bordered on both sides by Frenchman Bay. I usually have lunch on the rocky beach by the 3rd or 4th tee. What could be prettier? A foursome of NFL cheerleaders and me? Not for them, I guess. Enough about my adventures, though, real or otherwise.

Scott Speed (256) has been on his own adventure, turning a family tragedy into a useful tool to help bring friends and family closer together. After losing a child and learning firsthand of the power of personal contact

in times of need, Scott, along with a colleague, created an app called "5 For Friends," that allows people to place free 5-minute phone calls from anywhere in the world: a step toward mini-reunions and other communications breakthroughs. It's currently available for iPhone platforms. I hope to install it on my Android soon. We share with Scott our heartfelt condolences on his loss and our congratulations on his achievement.

Did you know that **Larry Stone (224)**, a mild-mannered dentist by day, is the Leader of the Pack when he mounts his motorcycle? Neither did I until he wrote me about some of his interests beyond teeth, including a raft of civic and charitable organizations, trips to Maine, and his hobby involving dragon's breath, molten glass and a fiery furnace! Is life an adventure or what? If that sounds like a hint, folks, feel free to take it.

What a nice surprise to receive in the mail an ancient photo of me taken when my hair and beard were dark. It was sent by **Richard Fels (237)**, who squandered many an hour in Central's dark room. Although such efforts have been largely replaced by extremely talented cell phones, Richard long ago saw the writing on the wall and traded the odor of developing solution for the sweeter smell of Wall St. investing. Richard, too, has been to Maine with his wife and kids. Thanks, Richard. See you in Bar Harbor.

A final mini-adventure/reunion to share: midway between center city and my "burb", near 42nd and Walnut, is a compact Asian emporium where I stock up on curry, turmeric and other goodies to experiment with in the kitchen. When I do, I schmooze with my former student **Pramjit "Paul" Singh (248)**, who's been plying the family trade since he graduated from Drexel in 1998. Hopefully, my family will be glad I stopped and shopped. Now, where to put it all?

Congrats to **Richard Ross (241)**, Philadelphia's new Police Commissioner.

Got an ax to grind or a story to share? Email me at byasgur216@gmail.com. 📧

WRITERS' CORNER *continued from page 5*

Texas, delves into the nuanced reasons he decided to become a rabbi, and candidly shares his experiences of personal struggle and regret in his recently published book — *For This You Were Created*. Beginning as a convergence of skills, interest and values, his life's work led to the understanding that there are certain moments when your work makes you feel that "for this you were created."

Karff became a leader in the Reform movement and an influential voice in interfaith conversations, locally and nationally. After retiring after 40 years

as a congregational rabbi, he joined the faculty at the University of Texas Medical School, has also taught at Rice University, and is a past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He currently partners with Houston Reverend William Lawson and Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston/Houston Joseph A. Fiorenza on issues of criminal justice reform.

Arthur S. Keyser's (185) transition from lawyer to successful playwright was noted in the last edition of *The Alumni Journal*. Twelve of his original short plays have been published in his new book, *Short Plays by the Dozen*, available from ArtAge Publications at 800-858-4998 or by emailing bonniev@seniortheatre.com. 📧

WINE HISTORY: DEMYSTIFYING THE GRAPE

by Steve Burnstein, 222, *The "Wine Doc"*

The popularity of wine is undeniable. In ancient times, water was so often contaminated that wine was the safe drink of choice. Now, we drink wine because we love the taste and the way it makes us feel. The study of the history of wine helps us to understand its popularity and to evaluate wine's diversity and quality. Wine education should, in my opinion, start with a study of the wines of France and, in particular the fine wines of the Bordeaux region.

Bordeaux consists of five principal districts and several lesser ones. The former are Graves, Medoc, Pomerol, St. Emilion and Sauternes.

It was at the World Exposition, held in Paris in 1855, that the wines of Bordeaux were officially classified. Brokers from the wine industry ranked the wines according to a château's (French vineyard estate) reputation and trading price, both related to quality. The wines were ranked in importance from first to fifth growths (crus). The wine brokers of France had been using an unofficial classification of their own for many years. The reason for a new and official classification at that time was that even then, while the wines of Bordeaux had already been in production for hundreds of years, and were of excellent quality, the wine merchants wanted the classifications to maintain high prices. Actually, only the wines of the Medoc and Sauternes regions were classified then and, for the most part, remain as they were.

The finest (red) wines of the Medoc were recognized as "1st growths (crus)." In 1855 they included Chateau Lafite-Rothschild, Chateau Latour, Chateau Haut Brion (really in the Graves region) and Chateau Margaux. Chateau Mouton-Rothschild was added in 1973. The wines produced by other châteaux were and continue to be listed as 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th growths. The classification of 1855 has withstood the test of time - all five of the 1st growths are still excellent in almost every vintage.

There were many superb vintages in the 1980's and some are still available today. These include 1982, 1985, 1986, 1988 and 1989. There were several excellent vintages in the '90s; 1990 and 1995 come to mind.

Since the millennium, vintages such as 2000, 2003, 2005, 2009 and 2010 have been notable. I do not recommend buying the 1st growths in a superb vintage as they will be very expensive; rather, you should seek out lesser growths and even those beneath the 5th growths, often called "cru bourgeois."

I like to buy 1st growths in an off vintage such as 2007 as they will generally be much less costly. Another strategy is to purchase 1st growths or other fine Bordeaux "en primeur." You will pay for your wine about 2 years before it is delivered, but at a lower price than if you waited to make the purchase.

The study of French wines will help you to understand the wines of other countries. For example, American cabernet sauvignons are easy to recognize because the name of the grape is usually on the wine label, so you can be sure that it is mostly a cabernet. In Bordeaux, you need to delve a bit deeper in order to determine the grape varieties used in the blend. The so-called "cepage" often includes cabernet sauvignon as its main ingredient. However, other grapes may be used in the blend and these include merlot, petit verdot, and cabernet franc (a cousin of sauvignon). The percentages of the grapes blended depends on the location of the chateau and in particular whether it is on the right or left bank of the Gironde, a large river running through the Bordeaux region. Chateau on the left bank use a predominance of cabernet sauvignon while those on the right bank use merlot. Many of these grapes are used in many other wine producing countries either alone or in a blend.

When it comes to the study of wine, the facts are best digested in the tasting. So, get out there and study. Cheers! 🍷

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. 🍷

AUDITORIUM SEAT DEDICATION APPLICATION

| | |
|--|-------|
| Name | Class |
| Address | |
| City, State, Zip | |
| Telephone | Email |
| 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 | |

HONORING DR. PAVEL

By Yvonne Dennis, 246

Corresponding Secretary, AACHS

For the thousands of students who attended Central High School from the mid-1980s through to the spring of 2013, Dr. Sheldon Pavel is an unforgettable figure.

His famous pipe or cup of coffee almost always in hand, Central's longest-serving president (28½ years) steered the magnet school through the integration of female students, Philadelphia's charter-school explosion and the challenges that came with state oversight of the district via the School Reform Commission.

His incredible memory for names and back stories continue to endear him to alumni as he attends 10th, 15th, 20th and other reunions. Soon a portrait of Dr. Pavel, by Manayunk artist Irene Nunn, will join those of his 12 predecessors in the computer room in Central's Barnwell Library. We spoke with Dr. Pavel about what he has been up to in retirement, and what the honor of the portrait means to him.

Q: WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE RETIRING IN JULY OF 2013?

A: As I say to people, what I have been doing is nothing. We (Dr. Pavel and wife, Paula) have two grandchildren so it has been a priority to try and get out to Kentucky, which is where they live, and to see them as often as we can. We've been able to take them on a Disney cruise this past spring for our 35th wedding anniversary.

What retirement has done has been to enable us to do that at a time other than July or August. And the other thing is the hours between 6 and 9 in the morning are spent sleeping as opposed to working and dealing with the angst of being on call with everybody.

Q: DO YOU KEEP UP MUCH WITH SCHOOL-DISTRICT ACTIVITIES?

A: I talk to a couple of people who are still principals. Whenever Mr. (Central President Tim) McKenna wants to give me a call, I'll listen and do whatever he asks, but I found that he is very competent and probably



At home, Dr. Pavel stands next to part of his collection of Central yearbooks. He has one from every year of his presidency.

doesn't need any help. I read both papers every day — one of the old people who likes printed material rather than digital — so I enjoy doing that. Between the people that do talk to me and the papers I stay, I guess, somewhat involved. I'm very glad that I have not had to suffer through the budget gorge.

Q: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS YOU ARE MOST PROUD OF FROM YOUR TENURE AT CENTRAL?

A: When I started at Central, which was January of '84, the school's enrollment was under 1,000. Young women had just started that previous September and there was lots of work that needed to be done. So I think what I'm most proud of is the role that I played in creating a totally, fully multicultural environment where everybody was welcomed and everybody was valued.

I was particularly proud that I started the ESL program at Central, because there was a lot of population that was not being served at all. There were other things — we did a lot of work on curriculum. I made it a priority to the extent that I could to bring graduates on to staff. That was something that I did deliberately and I was very proud of. There were some obvious things that helped the school that I played a role in — the major construction projects that occurred during the time I was there, the gym. The art rooms were refurbished at the same exact time and the science labs, and then the library of course, which was later on.

Q: WHAT KIND OF CENTRAL EVENTS DO YOU LIKE TO GET BACK TO?

A: Reunions, International Day. International Day — it's a celebration of culture. It's an opportunity for people to learn outside of the classroom and inside of the classroom. As the years went on, different pieces were added — whether it was the hallways, whether it was the food, whether it was speakers in the classrooms.

There was a lesson that my wife taught me a very long time ago that I used as a way of looking at the world and that was too often adults in situations say "no", whether they don't want to take the time to figure it out or whatever. So what I did was the converse. I looked for a way to say "yes." So if there was an idea that made sense, let's try it. If it didn't make sense, let's amend it so that it did make sense.

When I started at Central, people weren't allowed to wear shorts, and the young man who was president of the senior class came to me one day and said, "We would like to wear shorts." And I said, "OK." And I think I shocked the hell out of him.

I just didn't think that clothes, other than wearing them, were that important to what you did. When the school district went into uniforms I figured out a way to stay out of uniforms. Luckily nobody bothered me on it. They looked at the achievements of the school and said don't bother him.

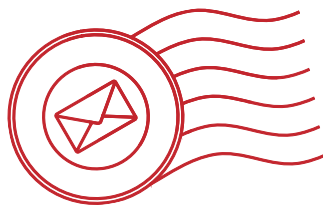
Q: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE FUTURE CENTRAL STUDENTS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU WHEN THEY LOOK AT THAT PICTURE OF YOU?



An unfinished portrait of Dr. Pavel by the artist Irene Nunn

A: That I cared. And that hard work matters.

The Alumni Association and Central will announce when they will host a dedication ceremony for Dr. Pavel's portrait. ●



TO THE EDITORS:

Shalom!

Jes' an ol' Central grad named Ira Andrew Bergman, (225) who came on a one year visit to Israel in 1970, shortly after the Six Day War. Joined a group of national religious youngsters my age (22) in re-establishing Rosh Tzurim, one of the four Gush Etzion settlements razed, and whose settlers were massacred in Israel's 1948 War of Independence. Returned to Kibbutz Rosh Tzurim in 1972, following release from service as an Israeli Defense Force paratrooper, to marry Avital, my lovely kibbutz born-and-raised wife of 42 years and mother of our seven children. The Yom Kippur War broke out three months later (1973) with an ensuing six months of combat service as a reservist in Egypt.

My NYU diploma in Electrical Engineering (1970) was used to best advantage in raising turkeys and running the kibbutz communal kitchen and dining room until we left the kibbutz in 1975.

Having to make a living, I passed myself off as a computer programmer, something I worked at as a college student. Being energetic, enamored of programming and, most importantly, able to read English, I succeeded in the software area going from mainframes to the first mini-computers in Israel.

In 1978 we became settlers in Shavei Shomron, one of the first (grossly inaccurately termed "illegal") settlements in Samaria. I established a real-time programming consultancy business which, amongst other projects, was involved in development of the Lavi, Israel's native fighter plane. Subsequent decades brought exciting challenges in the form

of continued struggles as a settler in periods of turmoil, as an army reservist, as a software engineer climbing out of the debt of my collapsed business, and raising a family.

We've been living in Beit El, a flourishing town in the Binyamin region north of Yerushalayim for the past 30 years. Our lives center around our offspring succeeding in their endeavors, their growing families, my Torah study and programming, and the crowning jewel of Avital's lifetime work — her renowned junior university for 2 ½ to 3 year olds.

As a run-of-the-mill Jewish kid from Philadelphia, I never dreamed of finding myself in the midst of the ingathering-of-the-exiles prophesy coming to life, from 15% of the world's Jews living in Israel when I arrived to nearly 50% today and growing strong.

Cute story: A while back I participated in an Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel regional gathering of former Philadelphians. Hundreds of people I didn't know. Being handed the microphone as one of the first to introduce himself, I mentioned Central High and drew wild cheers from dozens of the participants. I guess I'm not alone in this part of the woods.

I've got enough stories to fill several books. Would love to be in touch with all you generations of Central grads.

Warmest regards.

Yitzhak Bar Geva

Contact: yitzhakbargeva@gmail.com, levpoem.co.il

HELLO CENTRALITES:

It is with honor that I share the following news with you, further proof that Central cuts across artificial barriers between ourselves. So much of how I have pushed back against those barriers in my own life must be as a result of my experiences there. It is with pride that I note that our alma mater is now ranked as the "most diverse public high school in the country" out of 23,861 public high schools.

1. <http://www.phillyvoice.com/phillys-central-high-school-ranked-most-diverse-america/>

It was this link which I first came across, sharing the great news overall, and providing access to the subsequent links which have further details on just how Central came out on top.

2. <https://k12.niche.com/rankings/public-high-schools/most-diverse/>

This link may be clicked through for a number of details such as the "most represented ethnicity" at Central makes up just 30% of the student body. Also, Central ranks at 4.2 out of 5 regarding "Parent and student opinions about the culture and diversity at the school they currently or recently attend(ed)." The same basic link with an added "/methodology/" provides an explanation of the metrics used in the rankings and the weights assigned to each factor.

These links illustrate clearly how Central stands tall as an exemplar of inclusivity. I am proud to be a Centralite; I believe you, too, may be proud of your connection to Central. Join me now, won't you?

"Dear High, dear Central High"

Cheers!

Thomas Dixon, 262

By Michael Stein, 239

Central students spend a lot of time learning to read and write goodly, er, well. So, it's no surprise that some alumni have been drawn to the task of improving childhood literacy. **David Brown (239)** recently finished up a stint as Executive Director of the West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WePAC).

WePAC provides several literacy programs for underserved elementary students, but perhaps its most important mission is to reopen closed school libraries, stock them with books, and staff them with volunteers. Fact: Pennsylvania requires its prisons to have librarians — but not its schools.

David spent a great deal of time in the Central library during his four years; he credits that with helping foster a lifelong love of reading. And, since Central also emphasized the value of community service to David, it's not a stretch to draw a line between CHS and his work with WePAC's 13 libraries and 5,000 kids served.

Across the bridges into New Jersey, **Merrill Freedman (208)** has, with pure joy, been devoting time and energy

to an organization known as BookMates, an interfaith literacy program that provides services to elementary schools throughout southern New Jersey.

With the generous sponsorship of Townsend Press, approximately 300 volunteers spend one to four hours each week during the school year, reading one on one, to children K through 3, many of whom were never exposed to reading at home, nor had books of their own. There is a stability to reading to the same 2, 3 or 4 children each week, which is critical to the children, who anxiously await their BookMates' arrival each week.

In more recent years, BookMates began bringing busloads of middle school children to an elementary school, where they sit for a couple of hours with the younger children to read, write stories or create art. A bond is quickly created, and both the older and younger children gain insight and experience.

David and Merrill turned their CHS start into a force-multiplier that has positively affected thousands of children! 🍌

REUNION UPDATES

198 — The 7th Annual Florida Class Reunion will be held on February 14, 2016.

205 — Class Rep **Theodore G. Rothman** reports that the 60th reunion of the 205 is scheduled for Friday, March 25th, 2016. The reunion will be held at: Maggio's Ballroom at Hampton Square, 400 2nd Street Pike, P.O. Box 1518, Southampton, PA 18966, starting at 6:00 PM.

206 — Class rep **Robert J. Stern** advises that the 60th reunion will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at Maggiano's Little Italy Philadelphia, 12th & Filbert Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Starting at 5:00 PM in the private dining room, appetizers and a full dinner will be provided. **Dr. Bob Solomon** will show a new DVD. An afternoon cruise on the Delaware on **Mel Miller's** houseboat will precede the evening event. Check the 206 site — www.206thclass.net — for more details.

211 — The 211 will celebrate the 75th birthday of class members (its 57th reunion) on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue, 4200 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131. For details, contact **Bob Simon** at simonsez156@gmail.com or **Bill Labkoff** at wmlesq@verizon.net.

212 — A Spring Brunch will be held by the 212 on Sunday, May 22, 2016 at the Bala Golf Club, 2200 Belmont Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131. Take the

opportunity to meet with former classmates and renew old friendships. For further information please contact **Otto Mills** at otto@ohmills.com.

215 — The 55th reunion of the 215 will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the Union League of Philadelphia (140 S. Broad St.). Class rep **Gerald Keane** may be reached at gerrykean215@aol.com.

225 — The 50th reunion of the 225 will take place at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market St. (formerly the PSFS building) on Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29, 2016. Dinner on Friday evening will be followed by a brunch on Saturday morning; there are plans for a golf outing. Details will follow.

Organizers would like to hear from you whether or not you plan to attend. Please send a note to **Paul Roseman** at proseman225@comcast.net or call **Jerry Rosenfeld** at 610-306-2500. Hope to see you in 2016 and, to those who remember the Five's unique catchphrase: Yamo!

226 — The 226 is currently planning its 50th reunion to take place in the spring of 2017. Please contact **Zachary Rubin** to update your contact information at zrrubin2@verizon.net or at 215-321-6905.

230 — The 45th reunion will be held on March 5, 2016 at the Swan Waterfall Room, 2015 South Water St., Philadelphia, PA 19148. Cocktails (cash bar) at 6:30 PM, dinner at 7:30 PM. Cost details will follow. 🍌

MARCH 2

AACHS Midwinter Meeting — 5:00 To 8:00 p.m. at Central High School (See Page 1)

MARCH 9

Alumni Networking Event — 5:30 To 7:30 p.m. At City Tap House

APRIL 7 – 10

Central High School Proudly Presents “Seussical The Musical”

April 7 @ 3:30 p.m., April 8 And 9 @ 7:00 p.m., April 10 @ 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: Reserved: \$20, General Admission: \$10, Senior Citizens, Students and Military Personnel: \$5

Central’s musical theater productions provide the opportunity to involve a large cross-section of the students and staff through a wide array of disciplines including acting, singing, instrumental performance, set design, stage crew and marketing just to name a few. All proceeds benefit the musical theater program. Through a generous grant from the **Ellis A. Gimbel (79)** Charitable Trust, all Central students may attend the performances without charge. For more information, please contact Music Department Chair Benjamin Blazer at bblazer@philasd.org.

APRIL 25

Holocaust Remembrance Event

The 2016 Holocaust Remembrance Event will be held at CHS in the Spain Conference Center, starting at 8:35 a.m. The group of speakers will share their experiences as survivors of the Holocaust. For further information, please contact **Les Wurtele (202)** at punnims@comcast.net.

MAY 13

Central Night At The Phillies

The 13th Annual Central Night at the Phillies will see the Phillies in action against the Cincinnati Reds at 7:05 p.m. For this special night, Police Commissioner **Richard Ross (241)** will throw out the ceremonial first ball.

Tickets are \$25 for students, parents and alumni. You may order on-line by creating an account at <http://bit.do/phillies>. To purchase by check (made payable to Central High School), please contact **Michael Horwits (251)** at mhorwits@philasd.org.

MAY 23

Golf For Lancers Pride

Come join members of the Central football team, staff, alumni and friends for the annual Golf for Lancers Pride at LuLu Country Club, 1600 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA.

The individual fee is \$125, \$400 for a foursome. Shotgun start is at 8:00 am. More a duffer than a golfer? Come and attend the lunch and awards ceremony for \$30. Proceeds will benefit the CHS Football Team.

The day also offers many sponsorship opportunities for your business or organization, and a chance to reconnect with Central and the Associated Alumni of CHS To reserve your spot, send your check made payable to Central High Football to: Richard Drayton, Central High School, 1700 West Olney Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19141. Further information on sponsorship opportunities and Booster memberships will soon be available on the alumni website www.centralhighalumni.com.

MAY 26

Spring Concert At CHS Auditorium

MAY 27 (TENTATIVE)

Earth Day At CHS

The Day will include speakers in science classes, an outdoor festival with student action projects, a vegetarian potluck, and service projects. Please email CHS alumna and science faculty member **Galeet Cohen (256)** at gmcohen@philasd.org with questions, comments, or offers to help.

JUNE 1

Annual Alumni Dinner Meeting

The annual meeting will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill, 1 Dock Street, Philadelphia, PA beginning at 5:30 p.m. The evening will include Mayor Kenny as our guest speaker as well as the election of officers and the slate of nominees for the Board of Managers for the term ending June 30, 2019.

JUNE 4

AACHS At The Independence Dragon Boat Regatta

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Kelly Drive near the St. Joseph’s boathouse, cheer on the CHS “Aqua Lancers” and, possibly, the “Aqua Lancer Alumni.” Enjoy a great day to BBQ and socialize with students and alumni. For more information on the regatta, visit www.independencedbr.com. Have questions? Contact **Ken Wong (232)** at kenwong.cig@gmail.com.

JUNE 6

AACHS 5K Run/1M Walk And Family Fun Day

Come out for a day of fun with family, friends, classmates and other alumni for this event, the proceeds of which benefit all CHS Clubs and CHS Interscholastic Athletics. Registration will open at 8:00 am; 5K run will start at 9:00 am, one mile walk at 9:15 am. Further information will soon be available on the alumni website www.centralhighalumni.com.

JUNE 21

275 Graduation

Graduation exercises will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Kimmel Center, 300 South Broad Street.

NOVEMBER 22

Career Day

177 — **Milt Dienes** reports that the 177 held their 73rd reunion (probably the oldest and longest stretch of reunions in CHS history) on October 5, 2015 at the City Line Hilton in Philadelphia. Nine classmates, accompanied by family and friends, were in attendance including **Seymour (Spence) Toll**, **Herman (Obe) Obermayer**, **Fred Lehman**, **Marty Friedland**, **Paul Isakoff**, **Mort Kaufler**, **Len Goldman**, **Jules (Bud) Kaplan**, and **Milt**. **Len Driefus** and **Len Madres** were scheduled to attend, but unexpected illness hit both. David Kahn addressed the group, bringing everyone up to date on the “happenings” at CHS. The group’s 74th reunion will be held in October, 2016.

More not from, but about Milt. He was the subject of an article posted on the 12/8/2015 issue of the *Norristown Times Herald*, discussing the opening at the Upper Merion, PA Township building of an exhibit of his photographs of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atom bomb drops. An article by Milt detailing his experiences in the Air Force during WWII, and how he came to be involved in the taking of these historic photographs, was featured in the Winter, 2015 edition of *The Alumni Journal*.

192 — **Rev. William Ennis** reports that a mini-reunion of the 192 was held the past summer at his Kittatinny Mountain home in Lake Wynonah, PA. In attendance were **Larry (Giggles) Gigliotti** from Colorado Springs, CO, and **William T. Lampe II, MD** from York, PA. Lots of CHS memories and a tour of the Lakes were enjoyed over the three day visit. Plans were made to reunite at the 70th in 2019.

195 — **Howard Asher, CPA** sends his greetings. Howard took over his father’s one man accounting practice in 1958 and grew it to a 100 plus employee firm, establishing it as the largest accounting firm headquartered in Philadelphia. The firm was merged into BDO, an international accountancy corporation in 2012. Howard remains a shareholder in BDO.

199 — **M. Melvin Shralow, Esq.**, of Shralow ADR, LLC has been appointed a mediator by the Pennsylvania Association of Realtors and the Suburban West Realtors Association and as an arbitrator by FINRA, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

203 — **William S. Comanor, Ph.D.**, a professor of economics at UC Santa Barbara, and a professor of health policy and management at UCLA, was honored recently at the William S. Comanor Commemorative Conference on Pharmaceutical Economics at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. He was celebrated for his 50 years of contributions to the field of pharmaceutical economics. In addition, the *International Journal of the Economics of Business* published a special issue “Honoring William S. Comanor and 50 Years of Pharmaceutical Economics.”

Comanor’s landmark paper “Research and Competitive Product Differentiation in the Pharmaceutical Industry in the United States” (Economica, 1964) is considered by some as the genesis of pharmaceutical economics.

Charles Weiss retired in 2014 after 17 years as Distinguished Professor of Science, Technology and International Affairs (STIA) at the School of Foreign Service of Georgetown University. The medal awarded annually to the top STIA graduate was renamed in his honor on that occasion. Weiss was the first Science and Technology Adviser to the World Bank, and served in that position from 1971 to 1985. Now a Visiting Scholar at the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he recently published *Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors* (Oxford University Press, 2015), co-authored with William Bonvillian.

204 — Class President **Art Magilner** notes that the 204 had a very successful reunion Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd. The group toured CHS on the morning of the 1st in conjunction with Holocaust Remembrance Day; classmates **George Marcus** and **Ernie Blumenthal** participated in the program. A classmates only affair at the Union League on Friday evening was followed by a Saturday dinner at the Union League with spouses and significant others. Of the 70 204 members in attendance, in addition to the usual group from the mid-Atlantic area, classmates came from California, Washington state, Florida, New England and St. Thomas.

211 — **Richard N. Friedman, Esq.**, “The Singing Attorney” released his third music album, *Red Carpet, Best Academy Award Winning Songs* through the UsaAllStarMusic label, with distribution by **TheOrchard.com**. Twelve pages of liner notes provide the history of the award for the best song, its background and composers, and artists who most famously recorded the song. Previously released albums by Richard include *For Love of Country* and *All My Love*. All may be downloaded on all websites selling recorded music — Amazon.com, iTunes, Spotify.

222 — **Bill Falik, Esq.**, a longtime resident of Berkeley, CA who practiced law in the San Francisco Bay area for 40 years, is teaching interdisciplinary real estate courses at UC Berkeley’s School of Law, Haas School of Business, and its College of Environmental Design. He also developed a championship golf course with Johnny Miller, as well as several large master-planned communities in the greater Sacramento area. He notes that he is blessed with three wonderful children, two grandchildren, and Candy, his wife of 44 years.

235 — **Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD (235)** is a recipient of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, the nation’s highest honor for technological achievement bestowed by the president of the United States. The NMTI medal has been awarded annually to recognize those who have made lasting contributions to America’s competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation, and who have made substantial contributions to strengthening the nation’s technological workforce. This will mark the third time he has received White House honors. He is a recipient of the Presidential Faculty Fellow Award

continued on page 13

ALMA MATTERS *continued from page 12*

(awarded by President Clinton) for his work bridging engineering and medicine, and the Presidential Award for Excellence, Math, and Engineering Mentoring from President Obama.

Dr. Laurencin is professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering; professor of materials science and engineering; and professor of biomedical engineering at the University of Connecticut. An elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Engineering, he is also chief executive officer of the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science.

249 — Frank Pfefferkorn has received an ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) Foundation Swanson Fellowship. The Swanson Fellowship is designed to provide a unique opportunity for an experienced engineer to serve as a Federal Fellow at the Office of Science and Technology in the Executive Office of the White House, where his/her background may be applied toward solutions to technical issues. Frank is currently serving as the Assistant Director for Research Partnerships in the Advanced Manufacturing National Program Office (AMNPO). AMNPO is hosted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

252 — Susanna Schmitt Williams was recently appointed Fire Chief of Carrboro Fire-Rescue in North Carolina. She has the distinction of being the first female fire chief of a municipality in the state, and joins only a handful of women across the country currently serving in that position. A proponent of increasing diversity within the fire service, Susanna attributes her advocacy

of the issue to her experiences at Central, and the diversity of people and thinking she encountered there. She invites you to visit if you're in NC — swilliams@townofcarrboro.org.

The 252's **Matthew Skolnik** was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Bella Vista Neighbors Association, a Philadelphia registered community organization which focuses on the quality of life of the approximately 7,000 residents which it represents.

256 — Scott Speed is the founder and CEO of "5 For Friends", a mobile app that makes it easy and convenient to "verbally" keep in touch with family and friends...5 minutes at a time. The app was created to eliminate guesswork (phone tag and emails) while helping people efficiently connect to a broader network of contacts for authentic verbal communication without taking too much of their time. The app is now available on iPhone. For more information, please visit www.5ForFriends.com.

259 — Hannah Tran is the Volunteer Director for the Philadelphia 2016 Host Committee for the Democratic National Convention. In this role, she recruits, coordinates and mobilizes thousands of volunteers for July's convention-related needs. If you'd like to volunteer, either individually or as a group, in what promises to be an historic civic experience with the opportunity to showcase the best of Philadelphia, please submit your information at www.phldnc.com/help-make-history. Hannah may be contacted at volunteer@phldnc.com. ●

ALBERT EWELL

By Yvonne Dennis, 246
Corresponding Secretary, AACHS



Albert Hunt Ewell Jr.'s genius was apparent early on.

His 179 classmates at Central noted in his yearbook entry: "One of our most profound and inquiring students, Ewell aspires to attain the pinnacle of all that is fine and noble in life; ah yes, to become a Latin Professor."

Hunt, as he preferred to be called, earned a Bachelor's degree from Central, a Bachelor's from

Haverford College and then his Ph.D. in psychology from New York University. He would go on to become a professor, but of psychology. And the genius only blossomed.

"Hunt was unquestionably extremely intelligent, possibly even brilliant," said Ann Pellegrino, a student of Hunt's in the fall of 1959 when she was a freshman at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont. Hunt joined the staff at Middlebury in 1952 as an assistant

professor, rising to full professor and later department chair, finally retiring in 1992.

"After I graduated in 1963 and began graduate work at McGill University in Montreal, we made the transition from professor and student to friends," said Mrs. Pellegrino. "I met my husband, Lou, at McGill, and Lou also became his friend.

Hunt never married and he was an only child so the friendship with the Pellegrinos meant a lot to him. As did education. "He clearly put a very high value on his education at Central High School," said Mrs. Pellegrino.

So important was his Central experience to him that when Hunt died in late 2014 he left an estate worth approximately \$2 million to the Associated Alumni of Central High School to support programs in music, English, languages and math at the school.

The estate, largely from Dr. Ewell's pension and the sale of his stamp collection, was recently settled and the gift's impact should soon be felt at his beloved Central High.

If you are interested in including Central High School in your estate plans, please contact AACHS board member Dick Prinz at 609-605-2943 or reprinz@aol.com. ●

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.

The Association has launched an effort to confirm the suitability and dedication of every rep, new and existing. As a result, several changes and vacancies have occurred. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your class rep, or if you would like to apply for or recommend someone for a vacant rep position, please email the Alumni Association at alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com. If email is not an option, please call (215) 927-9550. If you would like to contact your class rep, please email the Alumni office in care of her or his name. (Email addresses are not shown here in order to avoid their being harvested by spammers.) Note that the current class reps list begins with the 181st Class; for reps for prior classes, please contact us. 📧

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 181 – Jules Silk | 205 – Ted Rothman | 229 – Frank Piliero | 253 – Mike Ambrosius |
| 182 – Len Garrett | 206 – Robert J. Stern | 230 – Larry Plotkin | 254 – Lisbeth C. Lopez-Little |
| 183 – John Senior | 207 – Arthur Hausman | 231 – Fred Ratner | 255 – Broderick Jones |
| 184 – Edward Itzenzon | 208 – Marshall Greenblatt | 232 – John Younge | 256 – Dan Taraborrelli |
| 185 – Jay Rosen | 209 – Harvey Steinberg | 233 – Irv Levy | 257 – Angela Reale-Povia |
| 186 – S. Gerry King | 210 – Paul Hirschman | 234 – Kevin Stepanuk | 258 – David R. Hildebrand |
| 187 – Hy Lovitz | 211 – Bill Labkoff | 235 – Pete Forjohn | 259 – Jeff Goldberg |
| 188 – Matt London | 212 – Otto Mills | 236 – Mark Lomax | 260 – Angelina Banks |
| 189 – Saul Carroll | 213 – Jeff A. Weiner | 237 – Andy Heller | 261 – Chantay Thompson |
| 190 – Ed Magliocco | 214 – Steve Green | 238 – James Jackson | 262 – Canh Trinh |
| 191 – Phil Alterman | 215 – Gerry Kean | 239 – Rudy A. Cvetkovic | 263 – Justin Simmons |
| 192 – Sam Hoffman | 216 – Larry Arnoff | 240 – vacant | 264 – Michael Segal |
| 193 – Stan Fischman | 217 – Bill Carlitz | 241 – Nick Taweel | 265 – Gina Bryan |
| 194 – Jerry Kates | 218 – Barry Brait | 242 – David C. Mack | 266 – Agin Thomas |
| 195 – Ed Benoff | 219 – Mike Love | 243 – John Loesch | 267 – Sophia Hines |
| 196 – Richard Oski | 220 – David Kahn | 244 – R. Seth Williams | 268 – Chansophea Ten |
| 197 – Robert M. Cohan | 221 – Chuck Steinberg | 245 – Jonathan Kine | 269 – Alexis Jenkins |
| 198 – Stanley H. Cohen | 222 – Mike Radel | 246 – Julie Stevens | 270 – Nikita Shah |
| 199 – Bob Rosenstein | 223 – Lenny Seidman | 247 – Denise Tully | 271 – Ramon Guzman |
| 200 – Mark Kay | 224 – Saul Langsam | 248 – Keeya Branson Davis | 272 – Natalie Fox |
| 201 – Sam Wurtzel | 225 – Paul Roseman | 249 – Maria Carpenter | 273 – Cam-Tu Vuong |
| 202 – Bob E. Spivak | 226 – Zachary Rubin | 250 – Audra King | 274 – Anh Cao |
| 203 – Philip Remstein | 227 – Gary Koupf | 251 – Leigh Whitaker | |
| 204 – Arthur D. Magilner | 228 – Bob Barthelmeh | 252 – Gina Meissler | |

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.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 160 – Max J. Reiser | 188 – Thomas A. Kenny | DO | 222 – Robert Griffin |
| 167 – Israel E. Press, OD | 188 – Samuel W. Weinstock | 199 – Charles Louis Rojer, | 227 – Neil S. Glass |
| 171 – Albert J. Finestone, MD | 189 – Martin Musicant | MD | 227 – Jeffrey S. Rosenblum, |
| 171 – Samuel D. Pearlman | 190 – Harvey Krevolin | 200 – Paul Reed | Esq. |
| 174 – Robert Coles | 191 – Norman Olson, PhD | 203 – Joel B. Portnoff | 230 – Norbert G. Bain |
| 176 – Conrad M. Brahlin, MD | 192 – John Tori | 205 – Milton Frieman | 230 – Andrew Johnson |
| 179 – Norman L. Levin | 192 – Frank Toub | 206 – Bruce William Albert | 251 – Latisha Alston |
| 179 – John J. Sammartino | 193 – Antonio F. Lagera | 206 – Alan B. Willig | 256 – John W. Murray |
| 181 – Herbert W. Selman | 193 – Howard Levin, DO | 207 – William B. Garfinkle, | 264 – Michael T. Peterman, Jr. |
| 182 – Malcolm Kushner, PhD | 193 – Marc Savrin | MD | |
| 183 – Bernard Blumberg, MD | 194 – Fred S. Breslow | 207 – Nolan Horowitz | |
| 183 – Myles A. Horwitz | 194 – Arnold D. Glassman | 209 – David B. Wasson, Jr. | Faculty |
| 184 – Robert E. Robinson | 194 – Frederick S. Patti | 212 – William Toll | Robert A. Jackson, Jr. |
| 184 – Jerome Wolk | 195 – Howard J. Bleznak | 213 – Stephen A. Hass | Thomas J. McCauley |
| 186 – Stanley Louis Silverman | 195 – Joel D. Lipmanson | 214 – Louis Elliott Natkin | |
| | 196 – Bertram Greenspun, | 221 – Michael Adams | |

ARTIST'S CORNER

15

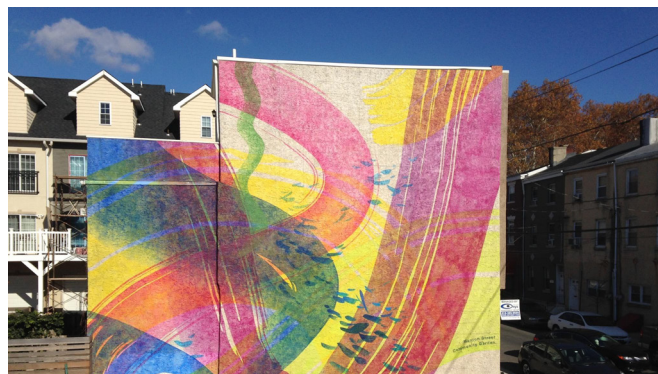
Muralist **David Guinn (249)** was kind enough to brighten up our pages with two more of his murals. 🎨

"Summer Rendezvous" is the title of the following, done in 2015 at 20th & Sansom Streets.



Summer Rendezvous

Entitled "Growth and Change," David painted this in 2014 at 4th and Manton Streets.



Growth and Change

COMMITTEE HELP WANTED

Your Alumni Association is looking for alumni who can bring expertise and enthusiasm to one or more of the various AACHS committees. We especially can use help with the Investment, Development, Finance and Marketing Committees. If you feel that your interests, background, experience, vocation, professional skills, or contacts would help facilitate the work of any of the committees described briefly below, or would like further information, please contact the Alumni office — alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com. 🎨

AACHS COMMITTEES (2015-2016 TERM)

Administration and Finance

This committee is responsible for the administration of all accounts and trusts in which AACHS has an interest.

Budget

The Budget Committee has as its responsibility the presentation to the Board of Managers at its September meeting a proposed budget for the Corporation for the ensuing year.

Class Representatives

The committee of class representatives undertakes to stimulate the interest of graduates in the school and the Associated Alumni and to enable contact with both via the maintenance of a group of alumni representing each graduated class.

Development Committee

This committee is charged with identifying specific projects for development, the target of fundraising activities, and identifying specific, potential sources of funds.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee is responsible for setting investment objectives for each of the accounts where AACHS has investment responsibility.

Law Committee

The Law Committee advises the President and the Board of Managers on all legal matters in which the Corporation may be involved.

Marketing Committee

The basic role of the Marketing Committee is to develop strategies that encourage alumni involvement and investment in the AACHS mission.

Prizes and Scholarship Committee

This committee is responsible for determining the nature of awards, prizes and scholarships under the Corporation's control.

Program Committee

Arrangement, promotion and presentation of programs at the various AACHS meetings is the responsibility of the Program Committee.

Publications and Publicity Committee

This committee is charged with publishing the Alumni Journal, the Barnwell Handbook, and such other publications as may promote the interests and welfare of AACHS and Central High School.

School Standards and District Relations Committee

Encouragement and support of the highest standards of scholarship and character among students of Central and of teaching at Central is the responsibility of this committee.

Student Activities Committee

This committee is responsible for the promotion and advancement of all student activities at the school.

Website Content Committee

The role of this committee is to direct and manage website content including thematic thrusts; focus setting; editing, approval and creation/posting of website items (news briefs, articles and events).

Website Operations Committee

The fundamental role of the Website Operations Committee is to support marketing strategy by leveraging the website to boost interest and raise funds for the benefit of the school.

Young Alumni Committee

This committee is charged with engaging mainly those alumni who have graduated within the last ten years, and fostering strong relationships with the school and AACHS.

INCOMING POLICE COMMISSIONER RICHARD ROSS (241) SWORN IN AT CENTRAL

By Yvonne Dennis (246)

Corresponding Secretary, AACHS



Richard Ross (241) is a proud product of Olney-area public schools so when new Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney asked him if there was a special place where he would like to be sworn in as the city's next police commissioner, one answer swiftly and definitively came to mind.

"I told him at Central," Mr. Ross said. "I'm proud of the fact that from kindergarten to 12th grade I went to public schools, neighborhood schools." Going to public schools, "you can work hard and succeed."

The selection also goes beyond the obvious ties that he graduated from Central, that his daughter, **Jasmine (272)**, graduated from Central and that several of his cousins graduated from Central. Having the ceremony Tuesday morning, January 5th in a neighborhood, instead of downtown, symbolizes his approach to serving the residents of Philadelphia in leading the more-than 6,000 sworn officers in the nation's fourth-largest police department.

"Taking it to the neighborhood, this is about working together" he said. "Philadelphia is a city of neighborhoods."

So while Commissioner Ross, 51 years old, was sworn in in front of and briefly addressing a largely student audience, his message was meant for the greater community.

Present for the ceremony in the auditorium was his wife, his two children, his parents, his in-laws and many other relatives and friends.

Central President Tim McKenna said he was thrilled when Commissioner Ross asked to have the ceremony at Central. Mr. McKenna thought it important to have the senior class witness the event, so members of the 275 were in the audience. Central's madrigal singers performed the National Anthem.

"As leader of this school I'm so proud to invite him back for this incredible honor," said Mr. McKenna. He added that as a Philadelphia resident he was pleased that Mr. Ross is the new police commissioner. ●



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 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 and creating scholarships and prizes for graduates and more! ●

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

| | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|
| Name | Class | Occupation |
| Home Address | | Work Address |
| Home Phone | | Work Phone |
| Email | | |

| Please enroll me as: | Life Member | Annual |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Classes 224-270 | \$500* | \$50 |
| Classes prior to 224 and after 270 | \$350* | \$50 |

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

ALMA MATTERS SUBMISSIONS

When submitting, please include your name, graduating class, and email address.

AACHS P.O. Box 26580 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141-6580

alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com