



April 2010

Please excuse our growing pains! This is the first issue of *The Weathervane* using our new program and our formatting may change just a bit with our next issue. We hope you enjoy this issue!

### **From the Director of Alumni/ae Relations**

Dear Alumni/ae,

How fortunate we are to count ourselves among those to spend time on Abbot Hill. I hope you recall vividly the images of spring at High Mowing—it arrives with striking beauty and a riot of colors, from daffodils to the magnolia tree beside the Emmet House. The students want to be outside (as do the rest of us) soaking up the warmth of the sun after a long winter.

More than 30 new students were accepted to High Mowing to join us in the fall. Early enrollments indicate that we will open our doors in September with at least as many students as this year, 94, and hopefully more. *Applications are still being accepted, so please refer family and friends.*

If you can, please join us for May Day, the Spring Play, graduation or Alumni/ae Weekend (dates are below). Come relive spring at High Mowing! Know that your presence is appreciated and enjoyed and that you are always welcome here.

Happy Spring to you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Heather Cochrane'.

Heather Cochrane

### **From the Executive Director**

Dear Alumni/ae,

I am in the middle of my first full year as Executive Director. As a reminder, this position reflects a steady evolution at High Mowing as the Board and Faculty work to increase the effectiveness and accountability of school governance. The Executive Director chairs the Leadership Team (Faculty Co-Chairs, Dean of Students and Academic Dean). The Board established the Leadership Team to “honor the mission of Waldorf Education and enable High Mowing School to become an efficient, sustainable school in which management processes flow smoothly.” I invite you to let me know if you see an opportunity to make our processes and communication smoother and more effective.

This is an exciting year at the school; we have an enthusiastic student body that is fully engaged in our curriculum. Our dramatic productions, studio arts and music are thriving. If you haven't had a chance to do so already, please visit our new [website](#). In addition to pictures of our current student body you will also see pictures of Guy WOLFF '70 on his annual visit with Mrs. Karl. Many of our alums remain active in our community serving on committees, the Board of Trustees and teaching at High Mowing. We continue to be grateful for the long-term connection that our graduates feel for the school.

I know you have been receiving *More Notes* periodically and hopefully are enjoying reading about all our other activities. However, as you know, nothing can take the place of being "on the Hill." We hope that you'll join us for Alumni/ae Weekend, if not sooner.

My best wishes,



Doug Powers

### **From the Alumni/ae Association President**

Dear Alumni/ae Friends,

The promise of spring has been visiting The Hill lately as the days grow longer. We're looking forward now to May Day, which is actually on May 1<sup>st</sup> this year. There will be games, a pageant with May dance and May song, good food, good music, the pottery sale, *The Pirates of Penzance*, the gathering of the HMS community and much more. You are all explicitly invited and I hope you'll join us if you can.

I had the good fortune to attend Cleve Beard's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party last week. Many of you will fondly remember Cleve and my father taking care of Pagan Motors, the campus infrastructure, and several generations of boys who needed to be kept busy. Cleve at 90, is still steady, sharp as a tack, and an inspiration to the rest of us. There were at least ten former HMS students in amongst the locals, and I'm pleased to have been one of them... Happy Birthday Cleve!

Milestones and significant birthdays are on my mind as my own 50<sup>th</sup> birthday arrived last month. My current life philosophy is that every day this side of the lawn is a good day, which tends to put everything else in proper perspective.

Please don't be a stranger to The Hill, the world needs High Mowing, and High Mowing needs you, so come on back when you can.

I hope all is well,



Alexis Pittman '77

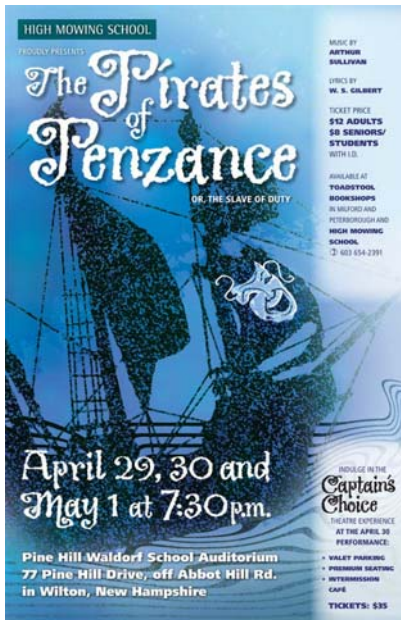
## What's Happening at High Mowing?

### Help for Haiti

High Mowing Students have been pitching in to help people in Haiti, which was devastated by an earthquake on January 12. Students have been silk screening t-shirts, tank tops and totes with student artwork and selling their wares during Winterfest Weekend and other on-campus events. All proceeds benefit Partners in Health, a non-profit organization that has been working on the ground in Haiti bringing medical care to poor communities for more than 20 years.

### Valentine's Day Traditions

In keeping with High Mowing tradition, once again Valentine's Day was a day dedicated to love! The sophomores planned events throughout the day to remind us of the theme. Advisors made valentines for their Advisees which were hung on a tree in the Big Room. There was also a wishing well for student valentines, which were delivered throughout the day and a dance was held in the evening.



### Spring Play Preparations & Dessert Fundraiser

This year High Mowing will present *The Pirates of Penzance* for our Spring Play. Performances will be held on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>; Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>; and Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Pine Hill Waldorf School Auditorium.

The Parent Association will once again host their **Spring Fundraiser at the Friday night performance and is offering a "Captain's Choice" Premium Ticket** which will include valet parking; premium seating for the Friday night show and a delectable dessert café at intermission. For more information and tickets e-mail [Heather Carver](mailto:Heather.Carver@highmowing.org) or call 603-654-2391 x. 135. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors (60+) and students (under 16).

### May Day, Saturday, May 1

We hope that you have High Mowing's May Day on your calendar: **Saturday, May 1**. This celebration of spring will begin promptly at noon with Morris and maypole dancing and a ceremony to banish winter and bring in spring! In the afternoon, there will be games for children of all ages, a sale of handmade pottery from Mrs. Karl's studio, a dessert café featuring High Mowing student musicians and other fun events. *Proceeds from May Day go towards the Beulah Emmet Scholarship Fund*. Please visit [www.highmowing.org/mayday](http://www.highmowing.org/mayday) for more information.



## Projects Block, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

Each Spring, High Mowing students and faculty spend two weeks out of the classroom. They undertake a wide range of activities that are designed to lead them beyond their normal realm of experience. Students have the opportunity to stretch themselves. Many alumni attest to the importance of Projects Block and remember its significance years later, recalling their experience as a transformational moment. Projects are fun, growth-enhancing and deepen relationships within the school community. Here are the activities for this year: Filmmaking; Jewelry Fabrication & Design; British Isles Longwalking Adventure; In the Steps of Thomas Hardy; Art in the Modern World: Superman's Workshop; Rock Climbing/Community Service; and Serving and Learning in Santo Domingo: The Dominican Republic.

**Graduation, Saturday, June 12, 2010. 10:00 a.m.** Be sure to stop by the Alumni/ae tent! You will find your Alumni/ae Association welcome tent on the oval.

### Development News

#### Annual Campaign Update

Two hundred and fifty-six people have already donated to the Annual Campaign, which is \$11,000 from our goal of \$260,000. With your help, we will exceed our goal and provide much-needed support to our faculty and students. Thank you to all who have given! To make a gift, email [Heather Cochrane](mailto:Heather.Cochrane@highmowing.org) or call her at (603) 654-2391 ext. 105.

#### Alumni/ae Survey Results

Thank you to all who responded to our alumni/ae survey. Almost 150 people responded, letting us now what HMS did well and what we can do better! This information is used in the accreditation process and in our own work to make High Mowing the best it can be for the young people here now. Thank you for your help! High Mowing is going through our 10 year reaccreditation with the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). This year we are simultaneously completing our first accreditation with Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA). Though we are a founding member, this is the first time AWSNA's accreditation process has been available while undergoing our NAIS reaccreditation. This is the newest service AWSNA is offering to its members.

#### Michael KLEIN '54 leaves \$112,000 bequest to High Mowing School

In the fall, High Mowing School received \$112,000 from the estate of Michael KLEIN '54. His unrestricted gift has been placed in the School's rainy day fund and will help ensure High Mowing's financial stability.

Michael and his family emigrated to the U.S. from Prague at the beginning of World War II, when Michael was three. Michael's father was a renowned oceanographer and he found work at the Scripps Institute in San Diego, where Michael lived until he came to High Mowing School as a freshman in 1951. During his senior year, Michael was a King in the Nativity and the editor of the yearbook.



After graduating from High Mowing, Michael went to Pomona College. He then won a Fulbright and went to the University of Tuebingen (in Germany), where he worked on a PhD in linguistics. Michael worked as a translator for the Anthroposophic Press. He taught in a Waldorf school in Vienna and he returned to Abbot Hill to teach for a few years before going home to San Diego. He led a very modest life helping people living in poverty.

Michael called High Mowing a few times last spring, to ask for contact information for some of his classmates and made a gift in memory of a class member who had passed away. He did not mention his intention to leave his estate to High Mowing School, and his bequest was an unexpected blessing. We are very grateful to him for remembering the school and touched that his years here meant so much to him. He died on October 23, 2009.

For information on including High Mowing School in your estate plans, please [visit our website](#) or contact [Heather Cochrane](#) or phone (603) 654-2391 ext. 105.

## Alumni/ae Association News

Did you know that you don't have to live close to High Mowing to be part of the Alumni/ae Association meetings? If you are unable to attend in person, please join us telephonically!

To call in to the meeting (which is toll free), dial 1-877-475-9058 and, when prompted, enter PIN #1968. You can be part of the meeting from just about anywhere!

Please mark your calendars with the following meetings and events:

**Saturday, 5/1/2010** - May Day - High Mowing Campus. Alumni/ae social, 3:00 p.m.

**Friday, 5/14/2010** - Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Alumni/ae Association meeting 1:00 p.m., Emmet House

**Saturday, 6/13/2010** - Graduation - Alumni/ae Reception, time TBA

**Friday, 6/18/2010** - Alumni/ae Association meeting, 3:00 p.m., reception 5:00 p.m., Emmet House

**Saturday, 6/19/2010** - Alumni/ae Association annual meeting

**June 18, 19, 20 - ALUMNI/AE WEEKEND**

### Class Representatives Needed, by David WHITE '62

Your Alumni/ae Association is rebuilding its constituency of class representatives. The class rep does not raise funds, but is a link between his/her class and HMS. (S)he stays in touch with classmates, and relays their news to the HMS Development Office for inclusion in *The Weathervane*. The role of class rep is especially important when there is a five year anniversary, there is opportunity for contact between the rep and classmates that assists in planning a class reunion either at Alumni/ae Weekend, or possibly at one of the homes of the classmates. The class of 1960 will have its Golden Anniversary this year. David MOTCH is coordinating this, and next year it's the class of '61! It's not too early to plan! There are a few classes which do not have reps at present, and we would welcome any volunteers to fill in these gaps. It's not too time consuming or laborious, and Heather Cochrane and her Development Office team are tremendously supportive. No reward except your own enjoyment, and reconnecting with fellow classmates, which I myself enjoy so much!

Classes in need of Class Reps are: '50, '52, '53, '54, '56, '57, '59, '60, '63, '65, '71, '74, '89, '05. If interested, please contact [David White](#) for more information.

### Alumni/ae Weekend, June 18, 19, 20

Alumni/ae Weekend is right around the corner! By now you should have received your invitation in the mail with a [schedule of events](#). It is shaping up to be a fun-filled weekend! Connect with your former classmates and come back to "The Hill." There are three ways you can register: 1) [On-line](#); 2) Call the Alumni/ae Office at 603-654-9408 x. 135; or 3) e-mail [Heather Carver](#) in the Alumni/ae Office.

## Forty Years Later....Remembering the Fire of January 18, 1970 "A Devastating Fire That Was Not A Tragedy"

Below is an excerpt from David WHITE's '62 40th anniversary piece on the fire of January 18, 1970. Please read the [complete article](#) on our website.

January 18<sup>th</sup> marked a significant anniversary in High Mowing's history: A turning point in the life of the school. On this day forty years ago in 1970, it began with Sabina Nordoff (Teacher of Eurhythm, drama and English [1950-97]) waking up at one a.m. to the smell of smoke. Looking out her bedroom window she saw flames in the three arches of the passageway between the old faculty house and the main building. She headed out through smoke filled rooms, corridors, and the old chapel to awaken Mrs. Emmet. In Mrs. Emmet's words: *"Out of the darkness of deep sleep came the word "Fire"—the school is on fire! I turned on my light to find Sabina standing by my bed, a breathless eurhythmic figure with smoke streaming eyes."*

### Visits to High Mowing



**Guy WOLFF** graduated from High Mowing in 1970 and opened his pottery shop, [Guy Wolff Pottery](#), in Washington, Connecticut. He has come back every year since then to make pottery for Mrs. Karl. His one-week residency in the pottery studio is spent making vases, mugs, bowls and other beautiful and useful items. Mrs. Karl glazes and fires these pieces which are then sold at our May Day Celebration, with the proceeds donated to High Mowing School. His gift to the school does not end there. Students learn from his demonstrations throughout the week, and learn valuable techniques by watching him work. Thank you, Guy Wolff, for your continued support of High Mowing! May Day will be held on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from Noon until 4:00 p.m. Don't miss it!

**CLASSICAL JAM**, A New York ensemble of classically trained musicians visited High Mowing on January 28<sup>th</sup>. A workshop was conducted with our student musicians during the day and then presented a concert to the general public in the Big Room that evening. The concert and workshop were partly sponsored by the High Mowing Music Fund. [Learn more about Classical Jam](#) and sample their music.

### Class Notes

**Dierdre O'MEARA Humphrey '46**, published author, carpenter and grandmother is alive and well in Lawrence, KS, where she keeps busy remodeling kitchens, building window seats, and spending time with her family. Dierdre's family has sent three generations to High Mowing—daughters **Nora HUMPHREY Logan '67** and **Eloise HUMPHREY '81** and grandson **Jacob IMLAY-HUMPHREY '04**. Nora is an artist living and working in Brooklyn and the Hudson Valley. Eloise is the head chef at her own restaurant, El Camino, in Brunswick, Maine, which is garnering a national reputation for fantastic Mexican food created from local, organic ingredients. Nora's son Jacob is engaged to marry classmate **Lauren ROSSARIO '04**. Perhaps the Humphreys will be the first to have four generations graduate from the Hill!



**Peter GROFF '48** (shown left) sporting his new HMS gear which he received as a Christmas gift from his daughter, Judy. Peter is retired from the New York State Parks Service and lives in New York. (Hats, hoodies, vests and waterbottles will be available for sale at Alumni/ae Weekend. Watch the Alumni/ae webpage for our on-line store - coming soon!)

**Judith BISHOP '52** Spent her 76th Birthday photographing in Yosemite with Coyote, my daughter, and her partner from Sienna. Glorious old age, Newest poems in the M.S. 'The Deer Park'.

**Anne HARRISON Husted '66** has recently moved to Kentucky.

**David BOOTH '73** I am married 11 years with twin boys, 6 years old, living in Somerville, MA. I love being a daddy, though I realize I got a late start on it. I work as a software architect specializing in semantic web technology, leveraging my PhD in computer science. I was a musician in an alternative rock band from about 1987-1997, but left that when the band finally broke up. My hands feel like they still know how to throw pottery on the wheel, though I haven't done it for about 30 years. I keep hoping that someday I can make more pottery.

**David W. PARK '73** In retirement, I have become more involved with public service including running for city council, chairman of the city of Norwalk Historical Commission, board of directors and secretary of East Norwalk Library Foundation & East Norwalk Improvement Association and board member of Norwalk River Watershed Association. However, my priority in life is to go kayaking in Long Island Sound around the Norwalk Islands as much as possible, (and a few canoe trips on local lakes and rivers). In 2009, I published a book titled 'Kayaking in and around the Norwalk Islands' on sale locally including kayak retailers. It has sold many copies as it filled a local niche, non-profit on my part. Click [here](#) for some info on this book.

**Kit PANCOAST Nagamura '77** The leaves are just turning here in Tokyo and the skies taking on their winter brilliance. Time for giving thanks and baking cookies.... recent publication of my book 'The Ultimate Japanese Phrasebook' (Kodansha International) available at [Amazon.com](#) if anyone's interested.

**Julianna MARGULIES '84** took home the Golden Globe for Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series – Drama, for her role as Alicia Florrick in the CBS series, *The Good Wife*.

**Jason MILLS '90** is in the **New York cast of STOMP**. Check out the cast [here](#).

**Lyndsay BECKER '94** took center stage in the Seacoast Repertory Theatre's production of *Almost, Maine*.

**Llani DAVIDSON '98** "Gardens for Change" is a little business I started helping people who want to grow more of their own food at their homes but are not sure where to begin. I help them get set up and they then do most of the growing.

**Josh JACKSON '98** finished his MLS from Simmons in spring '08 and now works as a reference librarian at Emerson College. He lives in Cambridge.

**Justin JACKSON '98** (shown at right) is studying for his oral exams as he works towards a PhD in History at Columbia University. He is specializing in U.S. Labor History. He and his wife Sarah celebrated the first birthday of their son Sam last November.

**Jennifer JACKSON Albee '00** is living in Brooks, ME. She and husband Hans work for a green energy company in Liberty, ME.

**Ken SHIMIZU '01** Currently finishing law school at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA.

**Lauren ROSSARIO '04** is engaged to **Jacob IMLAY-HUMPHREY '04**.



**William MACKENZIE '63** Bill died unexpectedly on Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009 at his home. He leaves behind his wife of 42 years Maridia MacKenzie, and daughters, Amy MACKENZIE '02 and Cindy Black and grandchildren Austin and Kailyn Black. He was predeceased by his son, Brian MacKenzie. Given his sense of humor, he was appropriately born on April 1, 1944, in South Hamilton, to William and Eleanor MacKenzie (deceased). He had two sisters, Susan Lewis of Inverness, Fla., and Jane Jenkins of Gloucester, and one brother, David MacKenzie (deceased). He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Lois Jernigan with whom he had a very close relationship. As a cherished uncle of 13 nieces and nephews and their children, he was highly involved in their lives. The door was always open for a warm meal or a soft bed.

David WHITE '62, writes: "I remember Bill well. He was in the class below me at High Mowing and we had many lively and happy conversations. I last saw him at his daughter Amy's graduation from High Mowing. He was holding one of his grandsons and I was much touched by the closeness between grandfather and grandson. I extend my condolences to Bill's family and friends."

**Katherine WHITTEMORE '63** died suddenly and unexpectedly on December 10, 2009 of a heart attack at her home. A retired clinical psychologist, Katherine graduated magna cum laude from Plymouth State with a degree in psychology and from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with an MA and a PS.D. She had an inquisitive mind and especially enjoyed the study of behaviors, both human and animal. As a student and clinician, she co-authored or presented several papers on gender issues, sexual abuse, communication in relationships and bereavement. After working as clinical director for the Cambria County MH/MR/D&A treatment center in Johnstown, PA, Catherine returned to New Hampshire where she was in private practice from 1992-2007 in Meredith and Plymouth. Katherine shared her clinical skills in various aspects of community service some of which are her work with the Red Cross as a disaster relief volunteer, with the Laurel Highlands AIDS resource Council, Cambria County Human Rights Commission and as a Meals On Wheels Driver.

**Laszlo Atilla "Laci" TOTH '89** passed away on January 6, 2010. Visit his [memorial website](#).

### **For Laszlo: An Angel in Human Clothing**

Born in a rain of golden petals  
you were never of this world  
The light of an angel  
is sometimes more than human hands can hold

A true warrior of the light  
you were fearless in the face of darkness  
for you were the lantern

You danced with death a thousand times  
embracing the world's refuse  
thrown away out of ignorance

Nothing need be wasted;  
you knew that well  
befriending all those, like you,  
whom life had turned its back on

You were not afraid  
nor to be feared  
though many people mistook your light  
for the shadows it cast –  
it seems that you yourself  
often made the same mistake

And now  
My Guardian Angel  
whose light was more  
than your human hands could hold  
you have been liberated  
from this physical reality  
set free  
to take your place amongst the stars

And now I know that when I bow  
and kiss the sky  
I am kissing you

-Tatiana Berindei (Laszlo's sister)

## Contact Us

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### How would you like to receive your *Weathervane*?

In an effort to conserve resources and reduce costs, please consider receiving your *Weathervane* electronically! Please contact Heather Carver at [hcarver@highmowing.org](mailto:hcarver@highmowing.org) or call 603-654-2391 x. 135 today to help reduce our carbon footprint!