

Community Schools FAMILY ALBUM

Volume XXIII *The Newsletter for Community School Alumni* Spring 2011

Community Athletes

by Pete McKeown

The Physical Education program at Community School is a vital part in the growth of every student in the embodiment of the school's mission statement: "Nurturing the Gifts of Mind, Body, and Spirit." From Nursery all the way to Sixth Grade, P.E. is an educational priority, and Community is one of only a handful of schools that allots time every day for physical development.

The popular idiomatic proverb, "You can't have your cake and eat it too," usually has a negative connotation about how one can't have the best of both worlds, but Community's P.E. program is an exception. Not only do the students cultivate a love of being active regardless of ability, but they also become better athletes. This has been proven year after year, as alumni frequently go on to have athletic success following their years at Community.

Christine Bugnitz, the early childhood PE teacher for nursery to first grade since 1989 and current boys' varsity head coach for cross country at John Burroughs, has been integral - along with Nancy Schmer and Jim Hoots - in creating a curriculum that encompasses the school's philosophy.

Her vision is not to put the students in a position to feel self-conscious, but rather to allow children of all abilities to enjoy themselves without fear of embarrassment. Along with games that help build motor skills, the early childhood students also get to exercise their mind and imagination with activities like walking through mazes laid out on mats, or taking nature hikes through the woods on the school grounds.

Once the students move onto the second grade, their PE teachers are Nancy Schmer and Jim Hoots.

In the upper division PE program, children are exposed to a variety of sports like football, wrestling, gymnastics, field hockey, track, volleyball, soccer and much more. There are still fun and games, but there's also an emphasis on mechanics and fundamentals with activities like throwing a football properly, setting up a spike in volleyball or dribbling and passing a soccer ball.

Schmer and Hoots are both well versed in athletics and have resumes in playing and coaching that make them ideal for helping children find fun in learning these sports while also being competitive. Schmer is currently a field hockey coach at the varsity level at JBS and has coached extensively for five different high schools, and Hoots not only played football in the NFL for the Buffalo Bills and Dallas Cowboys, but also coached for many years at the high school level following his playing days.

Schmer succinctly describes the mantra of the Upper Division P.E. program. "What we're trying to do is push the students to be competitive and play each game to win, while also deemphasizing outcomes. Winning and losing is not the important thing, especially at a young age, but that doesn't mean students shouldn't try their best."



CS alum Jimmy Martin '01 playing hockey at Yale.

It's this ideology that has led to the athletic success of many Com-

continued on page 7

In this Issue. . .

Letter from the Head.....	2
Note from the President.....	4
Class of 2011 Lunch.....	4
Alumni News & Notes.....	5
2010-2011 Life Member.....	6
Jim Hoots.....	8
Sharon Barnholtz.....	9
Advancement Update.....	10
Where in the World?.....	11
Update Form.....	12



Headlines

A Message from Matthew Gould



Family Album

The alumni newsletter of

Community School

900 Lay Road
St. Louis, MO 63124
(314) 991-0005
(314) 991-1512 Fax
www.communityschool.com

Head of School

Matthew A. Gould, Ph.D.

Editor

Laura Falk

Contributors

Christine Bugnitz
Kathy Fitzgerald
Matthew Gould
Art Kerckhoff
Pete McKeown
Mark Palmer
Nancy Schmer

2010-2011

Community School Alumni Association Board

President

Artie Kerckhoff '91

Board Members

Robert Armstrong '84
Emily Lane Arneson '77
Jeanne McDonnell Champer '81
Eliot Cori '75
Lindsay Margherio Franke '91
Sarah Jane Hunkins '99
Matt McDonald '81
Christy Marshall '62
Helen Sayad '78
Laura Jones Reichman '86
Allison Klayman Walton '89

Nearly one hundred years ago, a group of St. Louis women saw a need for an educational choice and took bold action. Started in a church basement on Skinker Boulevard, Community School opened in 1914 as just a small kindergarten. Today, from its humble beginnings at Grace Church and its early move to De-Mun Avenue, to the expansions that have ensued here in the "country" of Ladue, Community School has developed into one of the pre-eminent schools of its type in the independent school world. Outstanding faculty, terrific students, a solid program, and a campus rich with potential have remained constants for Community School. In each of these areas, however, the School has experienced remarkable growth and development.

Faculty

The bedrock of any school community is its teachers. The teacher-student relationship is truly the most important relationship in a school. Not surprisingly, in a recent National Association of Independent Schools survey, parents rated high quality faculty and staff as the number one priority for school excellence. Investing in the growth and development of faculty has been, and remains, a huge priority at Community – attracting the best and then allowing them to grow professionally.

Think about those Community School master teachers who have made and continue to make such a difference in your lives – teachers like Jim Hoots and Sharon Barnholtz who will retire this year after thirty-two years of inspired service to the

School. Experienced faculty transfer their excitement to the children and exemplary learning results. After all, creating an enriched environment for learning is a fundamental purpose of Community School.

Students

Greeting our children at the front door each morning and watching them learn throughout the day is a source of inspiration for me. Maybe it's a SKer identifying the parts of a butterfly, third graders presenting a glorious rendition of the 1904 World's Fair, or a sixth grader engaged in a complex math problem – all of these snapshots add up to the wonderful array of learning opportunities our children experience here at Community School.

Community is a remarkably robust learning environment that is unwavering in its support of individual excellence, as well as the healthy growth and development of collaborative efforts. Community School students are talented in so many ways – from the arts, athletics, and the sciences to the humanities. No doubt we have grown and developed over the years, but the goal of the program has always been to create a dynamic partnership of learning between the teacher and the student, supported by dedicated parents – a Community School tradition.



Program

Since 1914, the Community School program has grown, evolved, and changed while it has remained at the forefront of educational excellence. While the program has changed over time, what has remained constant is Community's commitment to excellence in the basic intellectual skills and an acknowledgment that learning occurs beyond the schoolhouse walls.

In recent years, Community School has focused on several enhancements to the overall school program. First, differentiation (or individualization) has transformed the way Community School teachers impart knowledge. Our differentiated classrooms provide students with multiple avenues to acquire content, to process and make sense of ideas, and to develop product so that each student can learn effectively. Second, interdisciplinary teaching and learning has become a hallmark of the Community School experience. For example, our fifth graders are not just reading about important patriots of the Revolutionary War; they are painting portraits, giving speeches, and performing dramatic renditions of the time period. All of this leads to increased excitement among the students and heightened learning.

Not only are the humanities alive and well at Community, the sciences have received much attention in recent years. In particular, the Internet and computer technology have dramatically changed the educational landscape. And while we are blessed with strong components that link us within and beyond our walls, we are cautious not to let technology drive learning at Community. Rather, we hold fast to the opposing view: that learning will drive technology. Imagine our sixth graders and art teacher David Lang having the capacity to show and discuss the Elgin Marbles (located at the British Museum) in their Community School classroom. In this way, technology becomes a transforming tool for learning. And, no doubt, the Community School program, balancing innovation and tradition, will continue to grow and develop.

Campus

Now that recent construction projects are complete, we have spent the year enjoying the results of the *Branching Out* Campaign. In particular, the Fifth and Sixth Grade Leadership Wing has transformed the experience of our



oldest students – making differentiation possible, customizing the Community School experience for early-adolescents, and integrating technology seamlessly.

In addition to the Leadership Wing, the expansion of the kitchen has allowed us to continue to enhance the quality of our distinctive family-style lunch with healthy and delicious offerings. We are also thoroughly enjoying the new front porch and entry plaza which is not only beautiful, but adds great functionality to our carpool drop-off and pick-up procedures. Again, while our facilities have changed monumentally over the years, the “spirit” of Community remains remarkably consistent.

I think Community School can be summed up in a single phrase – healthy growth and development. Whenever we celebrate the superb success Community School currently enjoys, however, I am quick to remind myself of those Founding Mothers in 1914, as well as the myriad of others who have passed through this school as it has grown and developed. Community School is filled with narratives, stories of great prosperity as well as those of great trial. The stories of past students underscore the manner in which Community School beginnings make a genuine difference in their lives. I am committed to making sure that Community School is leading the charge for exemplary education. Our strategic plan, to be completed this spring, will chart those action plans to ensure our continuing prominence. Thank you for being part of something great.

Matthew

Above: 5th grade teacher Dustin Cutts using the SMART-Board for a discussion in the new fifth-grade classroom.



A Note from the President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Community School has once again experienced a year of progress and transformation. Throughout its history, Community has grown and adapted to meet the changing needs of our students, and the most recent expansion and improvements are complete! The success of the *Branching Out* Capital Campaign is apparent to everyone attending or visiting the school. If you have not been to the school in the last 18 months, I strongly encourage you to stop by!

The Alumni Board has been very busy during the past year planning and hosting events to keep the alumni of Community School connected. In September 2010, the School held a Campaign Celebration and Family Picnic, which was very well attended – alumni toured the School, saw firsthand the improvements, and interacted with faculty and families past and present. We are currently enhancing the online Alumni Directory, which can be accessed at Community's web site. In addition, we are always monitoring our other online tools, such as Facebook and LinkedIn. In a new direction, we are looking into having smaller gatherings for alumni who graduated within 2-3 years of each other, giving everyone an opportunity to see those in their graduating class, as well as the classes above and below them.

Community recently announced the bittersweet news that after 32 years, Mr. Jim Hoots and Mrs. Sharon Barnholtz will both retire at the end of this school year. To honor their amazing careers, the Alumni Association will host a reception on Thursday, May 12th, from 6:30–8:00 pm on campus. Please mark your calendars – this will be a great event!



In closing, I would like to thank our Alumni Board and all of the alumni that have been in touch and involved. We know it is difficult to retain relationships that go as far back as our elementary years. Community School is so unique and special, and I thank you for staying connected to the place where you first discovered your love for learning.

Art Kerckhoff
Class of 1991

Last year, Community School began a new young alumni tradition of hosting graduating high school seniors and their parents at a luncheon in May. The brainchild of past parents Shari Diemer, Karen Kalinowski, Pam Mandelker and Mary Stillman, we agreed it would be great to get alumni back to visit and give them a chance to reconnect with former classmates and teachers before heading off to college. This year's luncheon for the Class of 2011 (CS Class of 2005) will be held on Sunday, May 15 from 11:30 - 1:00. If you're a member of this class, we'd love to see you! If you haven't received your invitation, contact Mark Palmer at (314) 991-0005. *Below: Pictures from last year's luncheon.*





Alumni News & Notes

Martha Knight Clyde '28 writes, "Still alive at 92 and living in a lovely retirement community in Santa Barbara. I have an orange and persimmon tree in my patio. Is there anyone that remembers me from the 6th grade in 1928?"

Peaches Butler Taylor '31 writes, "I love reading about Community. In my day we were on DeMun Ave. I also assisted in the Kindergarten in 1940-41 under Mrs. Maguolo - Miss Stone was the principal."

Doris Hughes Bryant '55 retired after 30 years of PR work with various St. Louis hospitals. Her son, Derek, was married last October. She shares her home with 4 cats and has inherited a farm from her mother which keeps her busy.

Ben Senturia '55 married Bronwen Zwirner in 1997 and lives in University City. During his career he was the Exec. Director of two environmental organizations, on staff of the Natl. Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, consultant to the national campaign finance reform movement, and spent 25 years as an organizational development trainer/consultant with environmental groups around the country. He is now active with many social, environmental and political change groups in St. Louis. Additional interests include European soccer, vegetable gardening, golf, family history and travel.

Debby Mefferd-Gaudette '59 has moved to the "wilds of northern California."

Elizabeth Alvis Rosenthal '59 is the proud mother of Chip Rosenthal (Chicago, IL) and Sally Rosenthal Dix (Des Moines, IA) and the doting grandmother of 2-year-old twins JT and Will Dix.

Steven Faber '63 says, "Son #1 is a first year law student at Mizzou. Son #2 is an undergrad and working for an IT company. Granddaughter #1 (and only) is 2 and attends a French immersion preschool."

Harry Imster '77 and wife Ginger recently welcomed triplets! George Irvin, Henry Patrick and Miriam Eleanor were born in January.

Art Kerckhoff '91 and wife **Molly** (former teacher at Community School) recently welcomed Parker James Kerckhoff in early March. Congratulations!

August John Felder '93 recently moved to Madison, WI with his wife Mary and son Jack.

Eric Leander '96 is married to Rebekah G. Leader and welcomed Wyatt Gustav Leander last November! Congratulations!

Grinnell College recently used 12 beautiful watercolors painted by **Laura Knight '01** in their 2011 calendar.

We'd like to welcome another generation of students to Community! Children and grandchildren of alumni admitted for the 2010-2011 year include Abby, granddaughter of **Cecil Charles '59**; Tyler, son of **Lindsay Margherio Franke '91**; Brady, son of **Kelly Mittelman Hager '84**; Greta, great-granddaughter of **Bob Hermann '34**; and Grady, son of **Allison Klayman Walton '89**. And while we went to print before the final Admissions deadline for 2011-2012, so far we're welcoming Austin, son of **Jennifer Davis Jermak '82** and Alexandra, daughter of **Michael Todorovich '87**.

And now for some awards for the Class of 2005! National Merit Commendations include **Pepper Dee**, **Helen Rodgers**, and **Keaton Wetzel**. Semi-Finalists include **Karlos Bledsoe**, **Madeline Brandt**, **Libby Cornwell**, **Sara Grote**, and **Willie Maritz**. **Karlos Bledsoe** is also a semi-finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship. New honorees for the MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society include **Grace Bridwell**, **Alex Hyken**, **Jane Kaiser**, **Lucy Ross** and **Deena Sant**. (We realize this list of achievements may be incomplete, and apologize for any omissions.)

Don't see your name on this page? Please send us your updates (via Facebook, email, or the form on the back) and we'll fill your former classmates in on where you are and what you're up to!

Young alums often come back to see family members get their CS pins on 6th Grade Recognition Day. Here is a snapshot from last year's reception. From left: **Henry Pflager '07**, **Tyler Gerard '02**, **Kate Pflager '05**, **Madeline McDonnell '08**, **Logan Gerard '06**, and **Morgan Mullenix '06**.





2010-2011 New Life Member

Community School held its Annual Life Members Luncheon on December 9, welcoming one new member into this esteemed group. Life Members are elected by the Board of Trustees, and are past parents, alumni, grandparents, teachers, and friends who have contributed their time and talents and shown a continuing interest in the School. Although she needs no introduction to most of you, we'd like to introduce you to our 2010-2011 new Life Member:

Susan Hunkins served as one of the driving forces behind the growth of Community School from the time she arrived in 1996. A consummate professional, Susan utilized her skills in non-profit fundraising to take the School to a new level in terms of philanthropic support. During her thirteen-year tenure, Susan used her position as Director of Advancement to promote the financial and physical development of the School, overseeing five major fundraising campaigns to improve Community School.

Her first project was the completion of the 1994-1996 *Building Campaign*, which provided \$3 million for the new Early Childhood Center, the Discovery Center wing, renovated classrooms, and the preservation of the Nature Trail. Next came the 1998 *Endowment Campaign*, a \$5 million effort to support faculty salaries, curricular programs, financial aid, and technology – along with a commitment to continually grow the endowment every year. The *Polar Bear Express Campaign* followed in 2002, raising \$500,000 for air conditioning to be installed in all the classrooms, the Community Center and the Buder Gymnasium. Two years later, Susan headed the campaign to establish the *Sheillah B. Rogers Fund for Curriculum Excellence* – a \$750,000 endowment fund providing for the annual Circle of Learning Speaker Series and faculty professional development. In March of 2009, Susan led the celebration for the completion of the *Branching Out Capital Campaign*, the most successful campaign in the School's history. This \$8 million undertaking allowed the School to build the Leadership Wing, renovate and expand the kitchen, restructure the administrative offices, redesign the driveway, add the entry plaza, and increase the endowment. In all, Susan facilitated the raising of more than \$17 million for capital projects and the School's endowment.

As an employee and a parent, Susan developed a true love for Community and its mission, and she helped



others to feel the same. She worked closely with myriad parents to coordinate all the volunteer efforts that make the School so extraordinary. Her leadership with regard to the Community Parents Association, the Alumni Association Board, the Cornucopia auctions, and many other special events was phenomenal. Parents and students were not the only ones to benefit from Susan's tenure at Community, though. Her three children were influenced by her time here, creating a foundation for their current success: Stephen is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University with a BS in Spanish and is presently studying Medical Information Technology at the University of Missouri – St. Louis; Sarah Jane (CS '99) is a graduate of the University of Missouri – Columbia with a BS in Communications/Special Events and is now the Assistant Manager of Old Warson Country Club; and Samuel (CS '02) is studying Civil Engineering at University of Missouri – Columbia.

Susan left Community in 2009 to take over the operation of her family business. Kramer-Hunkins & Associates is an event management company whose signature event is the annual Heart of Country Antiques Show at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. In addition to her business, Susan is now consulting on a ten-part documentary series entitled "Why Quilts Matter: History, Art & Politics."



Community Athletes, cont.

munity alumni. There's no better example than the Martin Family. The youngest sibling in the family, Luke, is a current sixth grader and a budding star hockey player.

The oldest, **Jimmy Martin '01**, is a defenseman and team captain for the Yale Bulldogs hockey team, which was the top-ranked hockey program in the country and recently was one of the last eight teams in contention for the National Championship.

Though he has ended up specializing in hockey, Jimmy's enjoyable experience at Community immersed him in many sports, allowing for a broad range of athleticism. "I played baseball, lacrosse, hockey, football and soccer growing up," he said. "P.E. at Community was very fun, and I think that is the number one reason it contributed to my development as a young athlete."

Wade Martin '03, a sophomore at Colgate University on the varsity soccer team, made the All-Patriot League First Team as a defender this past season and started every game for the Raiders. At John Burroughs, he was the captain in his senior year, when he was named to the First Team All-State as well as the Class 1 Player of the Year as his team won the Missouri State Championship.

Charlotte Martin '06, a current junior at John Burroughs, led all field hockey players in Missouri in scoring this year with 59 points, and was named the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Field Hockey Player of the Year in the Bombers' run to winning the State Championship.

Charlotte wasn't the only Community School grad in this year's *Post-Dispatch* fall sports awards section. **Sam Van Doren '05**, is a senior this year at John Burroughs, and was

named to the *Post-Dispatch*'s First Team for football. He was the quarterback for the Bombers in their run to being the Class-2 State Championship runner-up, and will be playing next year in NESCAC for perennial division-3 powerhouse Trinity College in Hartford, CT. In addition to Sam, 11 other CS alumni played for this winning team. (See picture below.)

The tennis section in the *Post-Dispatch* was laden with Community School alumni, starting with **Sydney Lehman '06**, who was named Player of the Year. Lehman, a junior at John Burroughs, has won the last two Class 1 Singles Championships, with her only finals' loss coming in her freshman year, to older sister **Alex Lehman '06**. Alex won Class 1 Singles Championships in 2006, 2007 and 2008 and is currently serving and volleying her way through Harvard University.

Also named in this year's *Post-Dispatch* tennis section were First Team selection **Katherine Desloge '06**, a junior at MICDS, and **Carly Cassity '07**, a Second Team selection out of Clayton High School.

There were also recently a few girls who were nominees in the Metro Women's Athletic Association for the *Skippy Keefer Participation and Sportsmanship Award*. Keefer, a staple at John Burroughs, is actually the mother of Nancy Schmer.

Nominee **Grace Bidwell '05** is a senior at MICDS and a star for both the cross-country and track and field teams. She will be attending Washington University in St. Louis. Another nominee, **Olivia Volarich**, was named for her play in both soccer and volleyball and will be attending Emory University in Georgia next year.



This list of Community alumni with athletic prowess could go on and on, but the point is, students who leave the comforts of our school go on ready to meet the challenges the world has to offer.

Whether they become a player of the year, a collegiate superstar or an intramural participant, Community graduates carry with them a love for having an active lifestyle. They understand that win or lose, it's the hard work and fun that really count, and that is a lesson that transcends sports and will be a vital quality in the game of life.

photo by Jim Baer



The Gentle Giant

by Christine Bugnitz & Nancy Schmer
(with help from CS students)



Since 1978, Jim Hoots has nurtured the mind, body and spirit of every student at Community School. There is not a student - past or present - who does not have a story or memory about Mr. Hoots. Here are some of the memories and "Hoots-isms" as recalled by several of his current Community School students. Some you may recognize:

The Hoots cheer and his family grouping
His "Pete and Repeat" joke
"OMG"
"You are dipping in my bucket"
"I had a dream"
Camp Kooch-i-ching
"Justin Kingston"
All of his games that were "Nothing like Werewolf"
The Peanut Butter Jelly dance
His encouragement
How he is always so caring
He is nice to kids and good to them
How when I ask to go to the bathroom, he says,
"Right here?"
Mr. Hoots is nice, friendly and caring
I love it when he sings
He always asks about me and my family
His stories about Mrs. Hoots, the professional wrestler
He always encourages me, even when I think I'm
doing bad
Mr. Hoots always makes sure our buckets were full
Always makes us work to the best of our ability
When he taught his swim move
The nicknames he gave us
The way he makes everyone laugh
The way he has those dreams and the way he sold
golfballs to my dad

He is very funny and always jokes with us
His purple Aardvark
Him letting me out of my car every morning
"WEAVVVVE RUNNNNNN"
Gentle Giant
Oogie Pringle
Passion for health
His Jungle Escape story
"Don't make me snap my fingers in a Z formation!"
He is one of the best teachers I ever had
He always makes me happy when I am down
Great coach
Always pushing for me to strive for my best
His wonderful character and great sense of humor
"Can't" is not in his vocabulary
Mr. Hoots always tries to enjoy everything he does and
always has a way of putting humor into things he
says and does
"No excuses"
His everlasting kindness and his neverending smile
It won't be Community without him.

Whether on the field or in the gym, Mr. Hoot's presence and impact are irreplaceable. Be it leading the fifth grade hike or the low ropes course or organizing the track meet, Mr. Hoots continues to leave his indelible mark on the physical education program.

Finally, the sixth grade camping trip will never be the same. Mr. Hoots was always the first one up, before dawn, getting the fire started, the water heated for hot chocolate, and the griddle ready for his famous pancakes and scrambled eggs. Many a sixth grader has gone to bed with the flashlight on after hearing Mr. Hoots' campfire tale of "Ollie Campenaris" still out prowling the night! Whether it was supervising kayaking, leading the night hike, telling ghost stories, or organizing a game, Mr. Hoots has always been the spirit of the camping trip.

In short, he did it all and with always one thing first and foremost in his mind: his students.

We will miss you, Mr. Hoots!



Years of Great Community School Beginnings

page 9

by Kathy Fitzgerald

Sharon Barnholtz and the nursery class have been synonymous for the past thirty-two years. This spring Sharon made the decision to retire from Community in order to spend more time with her family. She will be missed and we are grateful for the many years she has given to the youngest members of our student body.

Sharon became involved in early childhood education as her son began preschool. She had a strong desire to learn more and pursued her Child Development Associate degree at Forest Park Community College. A mentor suggested she continue on with her studies and Sharon pursued her B.A. and M.A. in Early Childhood Education from Maryville University.

In addition, Sharon participated in the Psychoanalytic Institute and ultimately received her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from St. Louis University. Sharon has never stayed stagnant in her desire to learn how best to teach young children. Her dissertation was on summer homework and it continues to drive Community School's summer homework program. Clearly, Sharon exemplifies and models the principles of lifelong learning for her students and colleagues. In fact, co-teacher Paige Noel says, "*Sharon has taught me so much about early childhood education. She has been an amazing role model, mentor and friend for the past eight years.*"

You don't need to be at Community School for long, before you hear a child call out Mrs. B.'s name with fondness, as they remember back to the beginning of their educational journey. Sharon recognizes the importance of a child's first school experience for the child and their parents, as a bridge is created between school and home. Many traditions in Nursery began with Sharon. She instituted home visits, Fathers' Breakfast and Mothers' Tea.

Sharon introduced yoga to her nursery students in an effort to see if yoga and deep breathing would help them focus more easily. Future yogi will have Mrs. B. to thank for teaching them healthful practices at a very young age. If you go into the nursery classroom, plan on reading a story to the eager inhabitants! Sharon gets parents, faculty and staff involved in the nursery class in a variety of ways.

Sharon's contributions to Community School extend far beyond her classroom. She served on the Research and Development Committee, Diversity Committee and the

Homework Committee. Sharon is hard working, collaborative and always willing to go the extra mile.

Sharon shared one of her most special memories as the first time the class hatched chicks. The children were excited, but Sharon says she might have been even more so. There were twelve eggs and all twelve hatched into darling little chicks. There were joyous days shared with those little chicks running around. Sharon and the children made sure they were fed, stimulated, interacted with and, of course, loved. Almost every class in the school came down to visit. Eventually, the chicks went on to live a happy life on a farm.

It is interesting to me that this came up as one of Sharon's favorite memories. This is what she has been doing for the past thirty-two years. She gives our youngest learners all the essentials to help them go out in the world, full of curiosity, the love of learning and "ready for the farm."

Sharon's four granddaughters are going to be thrilled to have more time with their grandmother no doubt, as is her husband Ron and her three children and their spouses. None of us can imagine Sharon with idle time, and she would like to pursue the possibility of teaching at the college level on a part time basis.

CS parent Suzanne Johnson may have said it best, "*Sharon personifies the word nurturing. When you combine that trait with a dry wit and gentle demeanor you have the formula for an outstanding teacher and a wonderful friend.*"

We at Community will most certainly miss her. She has given a large part of her life to Community and we thank her from the bottom of our hearts. Enjoy every minute Sharon — we know you will!





Advancement Update

by Mark Palmer

In my role as Director of Advancement, I take great pleasure in interacting with Community School alumni and their parents from many generations. The wonderful memories they share, the insights they offer, and their generosity of both spirit and resources make me appreciate the privilege of being a part of the Community family. During the past year, I have received two phone calls that impressed upon me the lifelong impact Community School has on its alumni.

The first came from Guy Oliver '56, brother of Judy Oliver Lovelace '58 and Ebeth Oliver Scatchard '65. His call was to inform the School of the sad news of the passing of his mother and Community School Life Member, Betty Funsten McCarthy '30. Guy reminisced about the myriad experiences each member of his family had during their time on the beautiful campus at the end of Lay Road. He then informed me that his mother had left a bequest for the School in her will and had also requested that memorial gifts be sent to benefit the children of Community. What an honor it was to witness the reciprocal influence that Community has on its students and the alumni have on the School. Through her philanthropic spirit, Betty will continue to nurture the gifts of mind, body and spirit in generations of children.



Betty Funsten McCarthy driving the pony cart with Patches the pony and children.

The second phone call was, again, from an alumna who is the daughter of alumni parents. Lauren Woods Daugherty '71, daughter of James Woods Jr. '48 and sister of Jennifer Woods Tierney '72 and James Woods III '82, contacted me concerning a gift her mother, Chloe Crone Woods-Ward

'49, wished to donate to Community. Chloe offered the School a delightful statue of a tortoise. Knowing the joy that a donation of this kind would bring to children, she was anxious for it to be of benefit to our campus. Affectionately named "Timmy," this life-size sculpture has quickly become a favorite of our youngest students, and is it installed just outside the front door of the ECC building. Gifts such as this enhance the already phenomenal learning environment at Community and add to the beauty of our grounds.



These examples of support from our alumni, coupled with the hundreds of gifts to our Annual Giving Campaign we receive each year, show the love engendered at this special school. I am grateful to maintain these connections and to provide opportunities to help Community continue to be the educational gem it is.

There are so many ways for you to support our School. Whether through gifts of time, treasure or talent, your involvement benefits not only the current students receiving an incredible educational foundation, but also future generations of children who will walk through our welcoming doors. Just as you benefited from the generosity of parents and alumni while at Community, our students are helped by you. If you would like to learn more about and to participate in advancing the mission of Community, please contact me or drop by the School for a visit. Your support only makes Community stronger.



Where in the World is the Class of 2004?

Community School's Class of 2004 headed off to college earlier this year. Seven years ago these students lived and learned together each day, and now they are scattered across the U.S. from California to New York! While we cannot take all the credit for these fine students and what they are up to today, Community School, without a doubt, provided a strong foundation for the pursuit of lifelong learning. We wish them well!



Here is where members of the Class of 2004 are studying today:

Jacob Banton <i>University of Kansas</i>	Sophia Davis <i>Carleton College</i>	Peter Kalinowski <i>Gettysburg College</i>	Jane Plegge <i>Northwestern University</i>
Meredith Benson <i>Undecided</i>	Blake Diemer <i>University of Southern California</i>	Adam Kallaus <i>Indiana University</i>	Briana Poston <i>Unknown</i>
Daniel Blunk-Piper <i>UM - Columbia</i>	Natalie Fort <i>Texas Christian University</i>	Laura Knight <i>Knox College</i>	Charles Robin <i>Tufts University</i>
Alex Brasher <i>College of William & Mary</i>	Hayley Frost <i>Furman University</i>	Molly Lamping <i>Texas Christian University</i>	Amit Roy <i>UM - Kansas City</i>
Russell Browning <i>Cornell University</i>	Jennifer Gerard <i>University of Colorado</i>	Louise Love <i>Missouri State University</i>	Margi Sant <i>Year in Italy</i>
Zachary Cameron <i>Unknown</i>	Christopher Graham <i>George Washington University</i>	Alison Mandelker <i>Vanderbilt University</i>	Kalyn Saulsberry <i>Harvard University</i>
Courtney Cassidy <i>Southern Methodist University</i>	Rhyan Henson <i>University of Missouri - Science & Technology</i>	Najja Marshall <i>Indiana University</i>	Jake Siwak <i>Boston University</i>
Elizabeth Cherrick <i>Tulane University</i>	Mark Holekamp <i>Princeton University</i>	Benjamin Montgomery <i>Bowdoin College</i>	Emily Sky <i>Washington University</i>
Madeline Chervitz <i>Indiana University</i>	Frances Jones <i>DePauw University</i>	Cora Munroe <i>Ohio Wesleyan University</i>	Jessica Smasal <i>Northwestern University</i>
Carey Davis <i>Vanderbilt University</i>		Chelsea Olivastro <i>George Washington University</i>	John Stillman <i>Yale University</i>
			Ben Westfall <i>Indiana University</i>



Want to see this issue in color? Check it out online at:
www.communityschool.com - Click on: Getting Involved/Alumni/Welcome

We Want to Hear From You!

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of *Family Album* Alumni News. Please keep the information coming! We love hearing from you and so do your classmates! We'd love to hear your updates PLUS any fond memories or thoughts about your experience at Community School. Become a fan on Facebook - Community School (St. Louis) Alumni Group, or update us via email (alumni@communityschool.com), our website, or just fill out this form & send it back!

Name: _____ Class: _____

Email: _____

What's new with you?

If you'd like to start receiving our monthly e-newsletter, the **OakLe@f**, and find out even *more* about what's happening here at Community School, please let us know your e-mail address and we'll put you on the list. (We will never share or sell your email information.)

Parents: If your son or daughter
is no longer living at your address,
please notify us. Thank you.

Community School
900 Lay Road
St. Louis, MO 63124
www.communityschool.com



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
St. Louis, MO
Permit No:
2374