

# TASIS TODAY

Winter 2007

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of The American School In Switzerland



*International Week at TASIS*



## Inside this issue:

Meet artist  
Steve Maloney, PG '61

Life with  
Hunter S. Thompson

Solo at Sea  
Corrado Agusta '00

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

[www.tasis.com](http://www.tasis.com)

## Winter 2007



10 **Solo at Sea**  
TASIS alumnus Corrado Agusta '00 takes the plunge into deep waters and fulfills his dream to solo-sail the seas. His adventure takes off when he goes 2,000 nautical miles alone on a race that lasts a full month.

14 **Banned Booty**  
Have you ever wondered what has become of the items airport security confiscated from you and everyone else since 9/11? Artist Steve Maloney PG '61 can give you a better understanding with his *Houdini-Booty-Lock-Up* installation or one of his 10 sculptural paintings.

16 **Acting Up**  
Darby Hinton '75 grows up a well-known child actor as Isreal Boone on the Daniel Boone Show. When he escapes to TASIS to be anonymous is immediately recognized by a student who begins to sing the show's theme song.

18 **Life with Hunter**  
Anita (Bejmuk) Thompson '91, wife of "Gonzo" journalist, Hunter S. Thompson, and her friend, Alice Cotton '92 share some of their stories of life with the famed author.

23 **The New Theater/Performing Arts Building**  
Rehearsals in Tuscany, costumes from the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, and the guidance of TASIS Theater Director Kay Hamblin all contributed to bringing a superb production of *Romeo & Juliet* to the TASIS stage.

### Regular Features

- 2 From the Editor/Letters
- 4 Around Campus
- 7 Graduation, Class of 2006
- 24 Alumni Reunions
- 29 Coming Up
- 30 Volunteer Opportunities
- 31 Alumni News
- 48 Travel Connection
- 49 Parting Shots



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Amanda Adams-Louis '04  
Michelle Arslanian  
Hans Figi '75  
Sharon Figi  
Michele Kestenholz

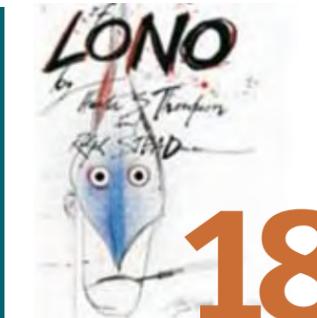


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Artist Steve Maloney PG '61

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### Mission Statement

TASIS is a family of international schools that welcomes young people from all nationalities to an educational community that fosters a passion for excellence along with mutual respect and understanding. Consistent with the vision of its founder, M. Crist Fleming, TASIS is committed to transmitting the heritage of Western civilization and world cultures: the creations, achievements, traditions, and ideals from the past that offer purpose in the present and hope for the future. Seeking to balance the pursuit of knowledge with the love of wisdom, and promoting the skills of lifelong learning, an appreciation for beauty, and the development of character, each school combines a challenging academic program with opportunities for artistic endeavor, physical activity, and service to others. Believing in the worth of each individual and the importance of enduring relationships, TASIS seeks to embody and instill the values of personal responsibility, civility, compassion, justice, and truth.

The TASIS Schools and Summer Programs are fully controlled by a Swiss, independent, not-for-profit educational foundation, the TASIS Foundation, registered in Delemont, Switzerland.

Donations to the Swiss Foundation, as well as to the US TASIS Foundation, Inc., a publicly supported, section 501(c)(3) non-profit, educational organization, are tax deductible to the extent allowable in the donors' respective countries.

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Attention: Sharon Figi



Buon anno!

I am delighted to present you with the Winter 2007 issue of TESIS Today.

Our last issue received gratifying response for its “facelift”, interesting articles, and new features. In this issue, look forward to more alumni profiles and student happenings, word from your TESIS friends scattered throughout the world, campus news, and much more.

We appreciate your comments, suggestions, and story ideas. They keep the magazine fresh, so keep them coming! For those of you who like to write, please share your skills by profiling a fellow alumnus. Let me know if you are interested, and we can assign a subject or you can choose your own. You can reach me by emailing alumni@tesis.ch.

Warm regards,

Sharon Figi  
Executive Editor for Publications

**PS: Remember to update us when you move so that you won't miss out on future issues of TESIS Today!**

## Letters to the Editor

RE: Abode of Snow, Spring 2006

Thank you for your talent and skill in writing so carefully and delicately about the sad adventure but beautiful romance of Fran and Sergei.

The succession of events you outlined appears to be chronologically close to the facts as far as I know. Truly, the article is outstanding! You have sketched their lives very nicely with the use of Fran's map (letter to Paul) and the pictures used in the story.

Fran had a consuming desire to climb Everest (Sergei had already done it) and they were both fit for the climb. They were sure of themselves and they made it! Unfortunately, they didn't anticipate bad weather and bad luck. When I reminisce about them, I think of how productive and how beautiful their lives were and could have been.

I see TESIS continuing to flourish and serving as a model for many other schools alike. Francys loved TESIS.

With my best regards and forever gratefully yours,

**Dr. Marina Yarbrow Garrett**  
Lexington, Kentucky

(Via e-mail)

To the Editor:

I've been meaning to write for a few weeks, ever since **TESIS Today** found its way into my mailbox in Connecticut.

Interestingly, **Harvard Magazine** arrived the same day. The long and short of it: You win hands down!

Congratulations on a beautiful publication!

All the best,

**Todd Fletcher**  
Waterford, CT  
Berlin, Germany

To the Editor,

I really enjoyed receiving my last issue of TESIS Today. It is always fun to catch up with what my classmates are doing. It was great to see all of the new developments on campus and those cute little faces at the Elementary School brightened up my day. I look forward to the next issue!

**Yan-Ming Lee '93**  
Seoul, South Korea

# Thank you!

In the 2005-2006 fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, TESIS raised \$125,000 through the Parents' Annual Fund and \$48,000 through the Alumni Annual Fund. With the money we were able to acquire:

- an electric pottery wheel for the Ceramics Department
- computer projectors for classrooms
- American classics books for the Library
- printers for several dorms
- digital cameras for the Art Department and campus photographer
- a laptop computer for the History Department
- swings, benches, and other playground equipment for the Elementary School
- a Digital Flex camera for the Science Department
- color printers for the Art Department and Elementary School

- enhancements to the Monticello dormitory
- a sizeable contribution to the ACA (Assisting Children with Aids) program
- over \$24,990 in scholarships and many other items and initiatives to enhance the educational experience for our students, meet the needs of our faculty, and for certain campus projects.

The addition of \$524,600 in donations and pledges for the new Theater/Performing Arts Building Campaign brings us over halfway to our goal of \$2.3 million.

Remember that Mrs. Fleming donated the School to the TESIS Foundation, Inc., and that donations to the US TESIS Foundation, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, as well as to the Swiss Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent allowable in your respective country.

**Hans Figi '75, Director of Development and Alumni Relations**

*A scene from Romeo and Juliet*



# Around

## New Faces

### Development & Alumni

#### Hans Figi '75

Hans is delighted to return to Montagnola as the Director of Development and Alumni Relations. Joining him are his wife, Sharon, and sons, Jake and Lucas, who attend 5th and 3rd grades at the new TASIS Elementary School. Prior to returning to TASIS, Hans was the Director of Patron



Relations and Major Giving at the Greater Yellowstone Coalition – a renowned conservation organization located in Bozeman, Montana. Sharon has had an accomplished career in publishing and is TASIS' Executive Editor for Publications, producing TASIS Today and other publications. Hans and his family are avid skiers and he also enjoys

reading, collecting photography, and tossing sticks for their yellow lab, Rebel, who is one of the several canines who are regular fixtures on campus. Hans received a degree in economics from Carleton College and speaks fluent French in addition to the 3 or 4 words of Italian he remembers from 1975!

#### Tracy Fossum

Tracy and John Fossum led a comfortable life in Northfield, Minnesota. Tracy had been at Carleton College for 9 years, recently as Associate Director of Annual Giving, and John was a partner in a law firm. Their 2 year-old, Liv, was toddling right along. They liked their restored 100-year-old home, located just a short walk from campus and the quaint main street in "the town of Cows, Colleges, and Contentment" as it is nicknamed.

Then TASIS came calling...

Tracy is TASIS' new Director of Alumni and Parent Programs. She enjoys applying her Carleton experience (they run one of the best alumni programs in the United States) to her work at TASIS. Tracy is developing a Class Agent program, an alumni travel program, working on reunions around the world, and connecting with alumni and current parents. She's smart as a whip and has a great sense of humor.



"Coming to TASIS is a great opportunity," Tracy says. "I am so enthusiastic about the incredible international aspect of the School and living and working in Montagnola. Getting to know the alumni from all parts of the world and helping them engage with each other and their alma mater is very exciting."

### Business & Personnel

#### Massimo "Max" Gygax



Max joined TASIS in September as the new Business and Personnel Manager. He has taken over from Miro Pozzi, who served TASIS since 1972. Max grew up in Lugano, attending local public schools. He then went to Pacific Union College in California for undergraduate work and then the University of San Francisco where he received an MBA. In 2008, he plans to complete work

for a PhD in Finance and Business Ethics from Touro University in New York. While studying for his MBA, Max met his wife, Melissa. They settled in California where, starting in 1994, Max served as chief financial officer for a variety of firms. Max speaks four languages, having grown up with a Swiss German-speaking father and an Italian-speaking mother. Max and his wife, a French-speaking native of Tahiti, speak French at home with their children, Adrian (13) and Stefan (16) who are happy to attend TASIS.

Max is especially happy that his TASIS experience includes teaching a section of Economics, which will give him an important, up-close perspective on life as a teacher at TASIS. As Business and Personnel Manager, Max aims to pursue a tradition of excellence, fairness, and courtesy throughout all TASIS departments.

## Unsung Heroes

### Information Technology



Nic, Fulvio, and Fabrizio

The invisible force that keeps TASIS running smoothly is the all-important IT—Information Technology Department.

Fulvio Galli and his team of Fabrizio DeGregorio and Nic Mantovani do a brilliant job of maintaining the electronic infrastructure of the School in an incredibly demanding environment.

They estimate that there are over 300 laptops running on the wireless system, and they service over 100 desktop units School-wide. Finance and Accounting, Admissions, Alumni and Development, academic records, language labs, the graphics lab, the Student Computer Center, the faculty room computers – you name it. If TASIS needs it, they keep it running.

Grazie mille, IT Team!



Aurora, new classrooms and temporary theater space completed and in use!

# Campus

# 35 Years of Service



## Business Office Manager Miro Pozzi Retires

by Sharon Figi

**W**hen I sat down to interview Miro Pozzi I was nervous-uneasy that a short interview wouldn't elicit enough quality information worthy of a man who has spent 35 years - more than twice the age of an average high school student-dedicated to his job at TASIS. In fact, Miro didn't provide a lot of information about himself. Instead, through many generous compliments about friends and colleagues around him, he told an even more inspiring story of a man who has tirelessly supported, molded, and cradled our institution, in lean years and strong.

Miro began his journey with TASIS on May 1, 1972, as a bookkeeper. He quickly assumed the role of Business Manager, handling a myriad of responsibilities from health insurance and Social Security to housing and income taxes. He credits his years of success to a combination of "luck" and support from his "excellent team" in the Business Office, saying, "It was the collaboration with and among employees that made me a success."

He speaks fondly of Luca Ugolotti, who has been his friend and co-worker since 1990. The two have watched each other marry, have children, and grow personally and professionally. Francesca Piovani, he notes, helped him tremendously with the students. And of Gianni Patuzzo he says, "We worked very well together and it was always a pleasure."

With a grin and tilt of his head, Miro talks of swapping recipes with friends Angelo Piattini and Luca Ugolotti. Years ago their gracious entertaining styles inspired him to cook. Miro's wife, Pierangela, is happiest of all about her husband's retirement, and enjoys sharing the cooking and entertaining with him.

Listening to Miro speak of Mrs. Fleming, one knows immediately that a long and lasting bond will always remain between the two. Respect and admiration for this great lady flows from Miro's being. As he tells me, "Anyone who hasn't known her is missing something great." He boldly states, "I have three loves: first, Mrs. Fleming, second, my wife, and third, TASIS." Miro assures me that his wife Pierangela understands and agrees.

When asked about plans for the future, Miro laughs and says that what he looks forward to most is babysitting his 2 and 3-year-old grandchildren, climbing, walking and cooking. Then he says with conviction, "Thirty-five years of work can't be put in a box!" In addition to relaxing, Miro admits he will probably work for TASIS as a consultant or on a part-time basis.

Miro seems genuinely happy to move on to the new freedoms retirement will bring. But during our seemingly cathartic review of his memories, I sensed a touch of sadness at the reality of the impending change. TASIS will miss his years of rock-solid commitment and involvement with the School, but as I've discovered, he'll never be far away.



Class of 2006



## Commencement Speaker

Dr. John Rassias is Professor of Modern Languages at Dartmouth College (USA) and founder of the Rassias Foundation for the Teaching of Modern Languages.

*Dr. Rassias speaking during the commencement ceremony.*

## The Cathy Clark Memorial Fund

Alumni parents, Col. Robert G. and Ann Z. Clark, US Army (Retired), established a special fund to honor the memory of their daughter, Catherine Elizabeth Clark, who attended TASIS for six years and graduated in 1987. After graduation from George Mason University, Cathy served in the headquarters of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF), Washington, DC. She was recognized for her distinguished service to BATF personnel and for developing an outstanding AIDS awareness program. She was appointed a Special Agent of the BATF and died in a tragic auto accident while en route to her new duty station. Her parents have established this scholarship as a memorial to her commitment to public service and law enforcement so that Cathy's dreams may live on through others. This scholarship recognizes particular students who demonstrate a commitment to public service, and/or wish to pursue a career in law enforcement. The Cathy Clark Memorial Fund recipients to date are:

- Mehron Torrans '02 - Kiril Mondeshki '03 - Levent Turkman '05 - Hailey Parsons '06 - Hristina Kircheva '07

This year's Cathy Clark award recipient, Hristina Kircheva '07, not only demonstrated a commitment to supporting HIV-positive children in Romania, but also as a Proctor, she repeatedly demonstrated the importance of dealing fairly with others to maintain a strong community.



*Hristina Kircheva '07*

Around Campus



Julia Billings '07 and Brooke Sharp '07 lead the girls soccer team onto the game field.



Girls JV Volleyball at Leysin

## TASIS Tigers



SGIS tournament in Locarno



Rugby

## Launching Into Cyberspace

by Sharon Figi

It's another first for TASIS, as one of this year's micro-economics classes launches into cyberspace with its first-ever on-line roundtable.

While working on his doctorate research, TASIS Business Manager and economics teacher, Max Gygax, traded in a cumbersome phone conference communication system for a sleek cyber chat room format. He found that working on-line with his professors was much more successful than having to arrange for them to all join him on the phone, at a specified time, on a specific day to get help. This idea translated into a useful tool that Mr. Gygax thought he would test with his students this fall in micro economics.

It didn't take long for both students and teacher to agree that the cyber roundtable is a huge success. Mr. Gygax says that when he asks a question during class time students tend to be shy and often find it difficult to form complete arguments on the spot. He says that, "By posing class discussion questions on the Internet in the form of a roundtable discussion, students have the time to think their responses through and can be concise and to the point. A simple question can turn into students disagreeing intelligently, and this leads to creative thinking." Students can take the time to respond to their teacher and to their peers with value-added comments and revisiting their textbook readings to research answers more thoroughly than ever before.

The program was built without any additional budget by superheroes Fulvio Galli, Fabrizio DeGregorio, and Nicola Mantovani - better known as the TASIS IT team.

Other teachers at TASIS are beginning to catch on to the cyber chat room concept and are using it to enhance their classroom learning as well. Mr. Gygax says, "This could eventually be used campus-wide for everything from Art

History to Algebra." With numbers of *Net Generation* students on the increase in the Middle and High Schools, it's more important than ever to keep up with the times.

In addition, "*Net Generation* students born between 1982 and 1994 are often also referred to as the *Digital Generation, Millennials, or Generation Y*. They are the first to grow up in an environment completely surrounded by computers at home and at school, music downloads, instant messaging and cellular phones. Students in this generation frequently use Internet technology for education (information, research), communication, entertainment, and self-expression."

Today's youth are different from any generation before them. They are exposed to digital technology in virtually all facets of their day-to-day existence, and it is not difficult to see that this is having a profound impact on their personalities, including their attitudes and approach to learning. They:

- are multitaskers and multiprocessors
- have little tolerance for delays
- are more comfortable constructing their knowledge than being instructed
- prefer to be interactive

With a generation of students who are constantly distracted and often only partially attentive due to information technology multi-tasking, TASIS faculty have a challenge on their hands. Keeping students' minds alert and interested in learning while competing with emailing, IMing (instant messaging), text messaging, and computer games takes creative solutions like the cyber roundtable concept being used in TASIS classes this year.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Wikipedia

<sup>2</sup> Source: Tapscott, Don. (2005) *The Net Generation* and the School. Milken Family Foundation



# Solo at Sea

## A TESIS graduate finds Inspiration...

By Kristin Pedroja, EAL Teacher & Writing Instructor, TESIS

especially of singlehanded “solo” sailors, whose experiences seemed so beautiful and fascinating. It sparked a fire within him, and he knew he had to do something about it.

“When I set out to do this, I had to justify my dream to my parents,” Agusta says, letting out a small chuckle. Corrado took two years off, postponing his education to work with a professional sailing team, learning the business and training and raising funds before being able to sail, alone. “I think what convinced them was that I was convinced.”

Corrado got a job working for one of the top singlehanded sailing teams in the world, Offshore Challenges, based on the Isle of Wight. The team is known for its technologically advanced racing boats with state-of-the-art equipment, and for Ellen MacArthur, a world-famous sailor who has broken records for around-the-world sailing.

Corrado covered a great deal of ground by working in the yard for a year. He was quickly promoted to manager, including working a 50-ft boat with Aussie skipper Nick Moloney, who raced across the Atlantic in 2002. He served as information guru for marketing and PR professionals during events and sailed the boat back to England afterwards. “It was a great snapshot of professional sailing at a high level,” he says, noting that along with learning how elite teams worked, he learned about the art of raising capital.

All of it allowed Corrado to put together a realistic business plan, a budget, and a marketing plan. With the help of friend Adrian Frares he set up a company and began shaping his dream into something tangible.

Corrado’s goal was to sail alone on a prototype boat built to specific perimeters in order to race in the “open” classes. He explains that this type of racing is much like Formula 1, where the racing class is budget-dependent. Luckily, in 2003,

It’s easy to dismiss dreams and aspirations as “naive”, fleeting thoughts between meetings or classes or in the brief moments between being awake and asleep. Those who have the guts to realize their dreams are the fearless, the ones who have the last laugh and the best stories, and sometimes the ones who quietly ease back into reality with a wink and the knowledge of greater things.

Corrado Agusta ‘00 could have finished college quickly, could have had numerous job offers in various countries, could have continued into the Real World without so much as a glance back to his childhood dream of sailing solo. Instead, he focused on what he wanted most and reached for it, and did so with determination and heart.

Corrado was born to Italian parents in Washington, DC, and spent much of his childhood in Monaco. Youthful days in the midst of the yachting culture fostered a dream in Corrado. As a child, he sailed on a small, single-person boat called an Optimist, which is often used to introduce children to the sport. He continued his passion even into his days at TESIS, from 1997 until his graduation in 2000.

After TESIS, Corrado enrolled in The American University in Washington, DC. He continued sailing in Annapolis, but this wasn’t enough – he found himself drawn again and again to the sea. He began to read numerous biographies of sailors,



the year he was planning to begin his own solo sail, yachting company Beneteau came out with a boat for singlehanded racing designed by French team Finot. The ten-meter fiberglass boat included attractive technological amenities but skimped on luxuries.

The boat boasted a hammock, a hot-plate for cooking, a charting table and a staircase with a computer. Otherwise it was a naked shell of fiberglass. A sailor in this class knows that comfort means weight, so makes do with the essentials.

Corrado found sponsorships from Sector watches, Vetta tools, Weather-Gear and Musto outdoor clothing specialists, and others, and put together a modest package of € 100,000. With his funding settled, he went full-on into training for his solo debut at sea.

Corrado had tasted the discomfort of sailing solo. “You’re uncomfortable, you’re alone, and you have to be aware enough to maneuver the boat at all times,” he says. “And sleep deprivation is the biggest issue.”

A sleep specialist, Dr. Claudio Stampi at the Chrono-biology Research Institute, shared his theories with Corrado, exploring cyclical patterns of sleep, where the most efficient sleep occurs every 12 hours rather than every day, over shorter periods of 5-45 minutes. Dr. Stampi recommended that Corrado sleep in 15-minute intervals, for 3 hours at a time every 24 hours to maximize his energy recovery. Returning to a poly-phasic sleep pattern that we practice as babies and again as elderly people allowed Corrado to remain mentally alert and fully function while alone on the sea.

The summer of 2003 marked Corrado’s racing season. The highlight was Le Solitaire du Figaro in August (see map). The race had four legs of 500 nautical miles each, including tactical challenges such as sailing around islands. It began in Les Sables d’Olonne to Bilbao-Gexto, then to La Rochelle, then to Dingle on the western Irish coast, then back to Saint Nazaire in France. The race took a month.

“When I started out on this adventure, I never understood how physically demanding it is to sail alone for so long. You’re faced with all of your physical and mental limits at once.” On one side, he dealt with sleep deprivation, nerves, frustration, and massive mood swings. The intensity of being alone for that long can break a solo sailor. “You test yourself in nature to the max – you test all of your abilities in nature at the purest level,” he says.

Though Corrado didn’t win the race, he did complete his dream – and perhaps that builds character more than anything else. “Success in this sport is just like any other,” he says. “You train like other pro athletes. To become an elite sailor means training during the winters in extreme conditions, training the body in sleep management, that sort of thing.” He ended the season and his sailing career on a high note, participating in a race from France to Senegal, where he came in 4th place.

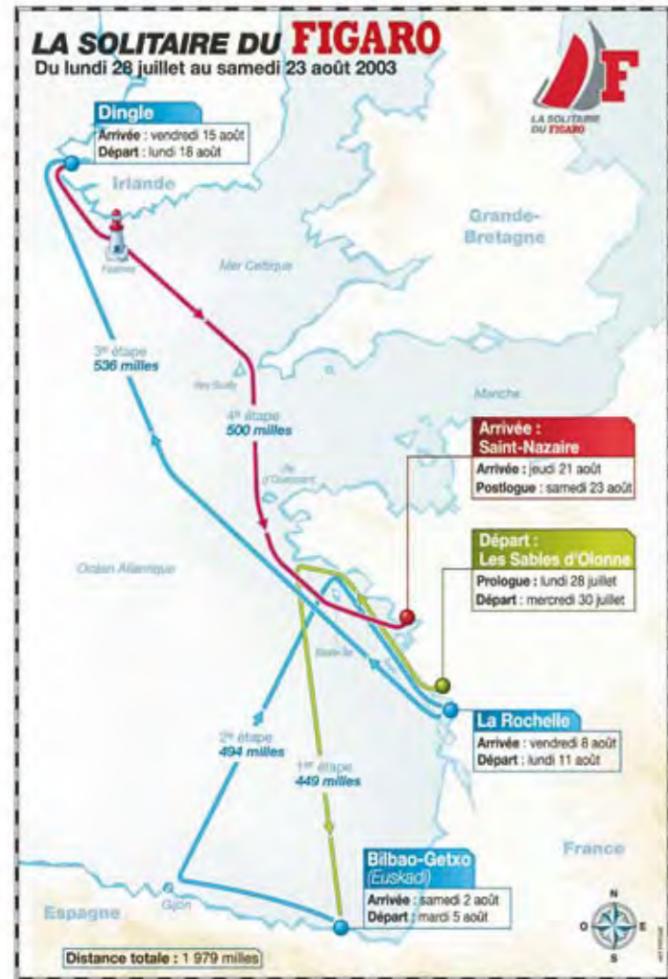


“I was thinking about how I got to this dream and how it was all steered by capitalism and finance,” he muses. “I kept thinking, I’m floating because Sector wanted to give a taste of sea breeze to their marketing campaign. I found this bitter-sweet, and began thinking about my true feelings for sailing. So I decided to go back to school and get on with it.”

Corrado also realized how much he enjoyed the other part of his years off – the management, structuring his company, and employing good people. “I loved the project as much as the event,” he says. He finished a degree in international business and CS from Regents College, London, and is currently working on his masters degree at Cass Business School in London. His new passion is real estate investment, and he sails during his time off.

Six years after leaving TASIS, he mentions his alma mater with a smile. He feels the values he learned at TASIS became clear as he made his decision to pursue his dream. “Success isn’t money, or how famous you are, but more about how you define success.” He mentions Mrs. Fleming as an inspiration - especially her instinctual nature. “She is an adventurer with such soul. She just has this inspirational quality,” he says. “That’s been a big part of my life.”

So Corrado moves onward, this time finding success in the academic world, and likely, in the future, through the real estate world. “Success is making a child smile, or floating a boat across the Atlantic alone. That’s the mantra I followed and that’s what I continue to do now.” ■



# Damned Booty... and other treasures

Contrasting styles in art by husband and wife, Steve and Yvonne Maloney

Cover story by Paolo Andrade '00



"Houdini Booty Lock-Up"

Steve Maloney (PG '61, Swiss Holiday '62) is a man of different incarnations; he's been a successful clothier, entrepreneur, owner of a machine tool manufacturing plant, and a loving husband. At the heart of all of his incarnations, Steve Maloney has always been an artist. Since retiring in the late 1980s, Steve has focused his attention on producing art. In 2002, he started the Maloney Gallery in Rancho Santa Fe, California along with his wife Yvonne, an artist in her own right. Steve has been interviewed by *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *CNN*, and *National Public Radio* about his work.

To understand Steve Maloney's creativity, you have to understand his upbringing in Kalamazoo, Michigan. "My first real exposure to art was at home, since my mother painted and sculpted and my father made pottery and also painted. After that came my TASIS experience where I studied Art History and had exposure to artists like Chagall, Van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso, and travelled to museums throughout Europe." He continues, "The absolute beauty of Europe was and still is inspiring. Looking at centuries-old architecture and art combined with the new. All of this - along with being exposed to different languages - opened up a whole new world and made me see things differently."

His works are inspired from "our everyday life and what is happening in the world." This is evident in *Banned Booty*, a portfolio of 12 works that include 10 sculptural paintings and two installation pieces. They were created from items confiscated by the Transportation Security Administration at six California airports after September 11, 2001. The central piece in the series is "Houdini Booty Lock-Up", a large plexiglas cube with six California airport codes stenciled on the sides. The cube is wrapped with 60 feet of antique padlocks and chain. Inside the cube, there is a plethora of confiscated airport material including knives, doctors' reflex hammers, and even a pair of deer antlers.

In strong contrast, yet pleasantly compatible, Yvonne's work depicts flowers and the use of soft colors. In her *Women* series, "Kelly with Kandinsky" exhibits a beautiful example of her art. It's an acrylic-on-canvas piece whose subject's shape is reminiscent of Modigliani. The figure is in black and white juxtaposed against a multicolored floral background. It's apparent through her work that she's inspired by Matisse, Modigliani, and by her "surroundings...beautiful landscapes and flowers."

Like Steve, Yvonne's upbringing also played a key role in her creative development. "Growing up in Malta by the sea surely added to my senses, and to this day the smell of the sea and ocean feed my peacefulness and tranquility of mood." As she grew as an artist, Yvonne felt that she needed to have a "driving force" behind her art. "I found a cause close to my heart, and that is the Foundation for the Children of the Californias, which founded a hospital



"Pin Up"

in Tijuana, Mexico. They operate on indigent young children, mainly assisting those with cleft palates and other facial deformities, in order to help the children resume a normal life." She also has donated her pieces to Art for Healing at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Steve Maloney recalls his time at TASIS fondly. "The biggest and most profound memories are of Mrs. Fleming and her charisma and dedication to her students. Her plan was to help us realize that there is a big and exciting world to be discovered and embraced. She definitely was inspiring and set a perfect example of forward thinking."

The Maloney Gallery is located at 19604 Via De Santa Fe, Rancho Santa Fe, California. You can also experience their art online at [www.themaloneygallery.com](http://www.themaloneygallery.com). ■



Steve working on a scale model sculpture he conceptualized called Tower of Speed to be used for his future presentation to NASCAR, the city of Charlotte, NC and architects I.M. Pei for the new NASCAR Hall of Fame Museum to be built in Charlotte, NC. The actual sculpture would be 40 feet high.



"Boogie Woogie No. 3."



Yvonne at work



Yvonne's "Interior with Black Piano"



# Acting



By Hans Figi '75

**"As I got out of the taxi that delivered me to TASIS for the first time, I thought, 'This is great. Here's a place where I can finally be anonymous, relax and just be myself...'. Two seconds later, another new TASIS student yelled: 'Hey! Israel Boone!' and started singing the Daniel Boone theme song."**

**D**arby Hinton '75 was one of the most famous child actors of his generation. He is most well known for his portrayal of Israel Boone on *The Daniel Boone Show*, which played in millions of living rooms during prime time from 1964 to 1970. The show had all the spirit and Western adventure you could cram into an hour. It was the first television program I ever saw in color, on an enormous console TV at a family friend's fancy-pants high-rise apartment in Milwaukee.

Darby's father, Ed Hinton, appeared in over 60 films and television episodes in the 1950s. Following in his father's footsteps, Darby made his acting debut at the age of 6 months. As a result, Darby's dad got to see his young son carry on the family business before, sadly, he died in a plane crash when Darby was just a year old. As he grew up in "the business", Darby appeared in many commercials, films, and TV series.

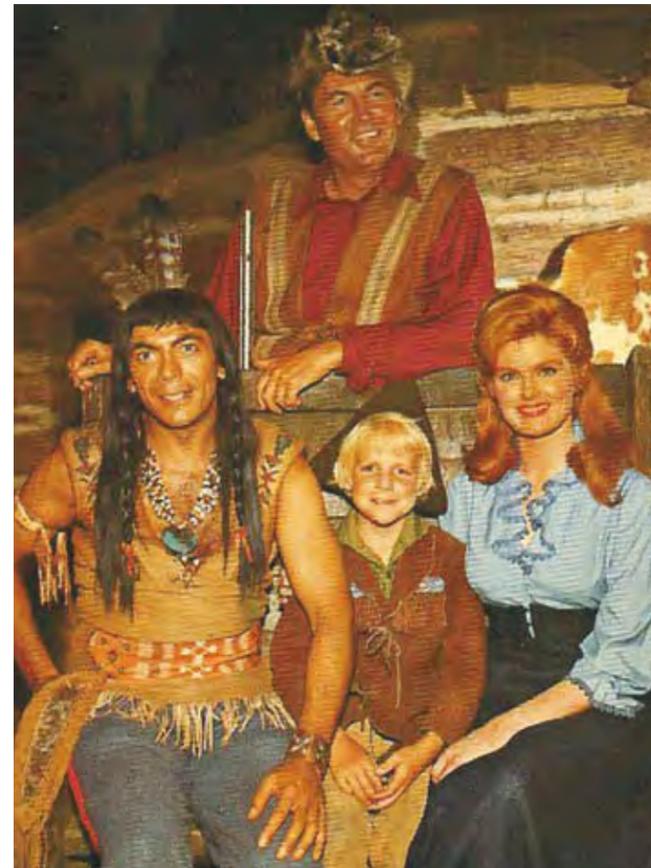
Darby arrived at TASIS as a senior in 1974 after his older sister, Daryn '73, told him of her great times in Lugano. Being a working actor, most of his education had been with a tutor on the set for three hours a day, and TASIS was the first place he actually had a chance to "study" acting. Darby appeared in the TASIS productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, and *Salome*.

After graduation, Darby was asked to stay on and teach acting at TASIS, which started a whole new career for him as an acting coach. Darby was also the dorm parent for the Gianni dormitory.

Darby then went to college for three semesters on the World Campus Afloat Institute for Shipboard Education, an academic

ship that sails around the world. He continued his serious study of the theatre arts that he started at TASIS by sailing to different parts of the world and studying Ancient Greek Theatre, Japanese Noh and Kabuki Theatre, and even visiting China and the Peking Opera.

Darby eventually returned to California and attended Pepperdine University. Soon his acting picked up again and he found he couldn't attend college full-time and meet the demands of his acting schedule, so he finished up his studies by taking extension classes at UCLA.



*Cast of The Daniel Boone Show, circa 1966, Darby, center front*



*Darby Hinton with Hannibal A. Goose*

Darby then took a number of years off from acting after he met Tony Robbins, one of the giants in the self-help movement. Darby studied with Tony, eventually becoming a Master Trainer. He also sought out other great teachers in the field such as Julia Cameron, author of *The Artist's Way*, and Wayne Dyer. It was around this time Darby evolved from being an acting coach to a "life-coach" for people in "the business", with current clients ranging from actors and producers to casting agents.

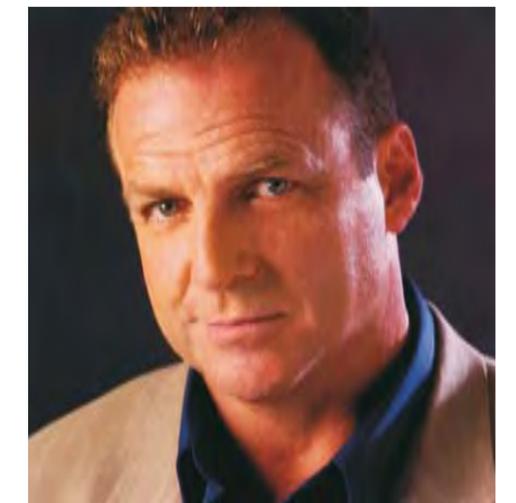
Darby dedicates much of his time helping current child actors. He is an active member of *A Minor Consideration*, a member of the SAG / AFTRA *Young Performers Committee*, and serves on the Advisory Board of *Looking Ahead*, an organization that helps child actors and their families cope with growing up in the public spotlight, and how to plan for the future.

Darby has been a guest star in numerous iconic American television shows, including *Beverly Hills 90210*, *Hawaii 5-0*, *Mr. Ed*, *Magnum P.I.*, *The Fall Guy*, and *Knott's Landing* – to name just a few. He was also the "Salem Rapist" for two years on *Days of Our Lives*. Though sounding somewhat creepy, fans will be quick to tell you that this role was a

pretty big deal... Darby continues to act in theater, recently appearing as Charles in the production of *The Manor*, a play about the life of Charles Dohney. It is actually performed in the Dohney's mansion, Greystone, which remains the largest mansion in Beverly Hills.

Darby has four children and lives in Studio City, CA, with his wife, Shan, an accomplished interior designer with high-profile clients such as Paul McCartney.

Channel 7 in Milan just started showing Daniel Boone reruns during prime time, and all 6 seasons are now being released on DVD in the States. I hope that after almost 40 years Darby still qualifies for "residuals" – a percentage of the licensing fees that typically goes to the actors. Either way, it's great to reminisce and gather my two young boys around the 'ol flat screen TV to watch little toe-headed Israel Boone in action again. I can just imagine some of our old friends catching these reruns and saying, "Hey, it's Israel Boone! And he's speaking *Italian!*" ■



# Looking For Hunter

By  
Anita Bejmuk Thompson '91

*Editor's note: Anita (Bejmuk) Thompson '91 married the celebrated American author, Hunter S. Thompson, in 2003. Thompson, the originator of "gonzo" journalism, (a style of writing that mixes fiction and factual journalism) and a longtime contributor to Rolling Stone gave the phrase "fear and loathing" its cultural relevancy, as the author of the novel Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas. His persona was ripe for caricature. Both Bill Murray and Johnny Depp portrayed him in feature films (Murray in Where the Buffalo Roam, Depp in the film adaptation of Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas). He was also Garry Trudeau's inspiration for Uncle Duke, the loose cannon of the Doonesbury comic strip who sported a floppy hat, aviator sun-glasses, and cigarette holder. Anita shared with TESIS Today some insights of her life with Hunter and excerpts from her blog, [www.owlfarmblog.com](http://www.owlfarmblog.com). Hunter Thompson died in 2005 at the age of sixty-seven.*

Hunter taught me about football by forcing me to bet on it. We would place house bets of \$20 for the final score, but the real betting action took place during the game. Every play was a betting opportunity: would Payton Manning's next play be a pass or a hand-off? Would the Colts make the fourth down? It mattered to me only if I had money to lose on it. I learned to bet with my brain, rather than bet on whom I wanted to win. He always said that was the key to betting successfully, but it only sunk in for me after many painful losses.

My first night of Real Work for Hunter, in the winter of 1999, consisted of photocopying letters that had been extracted from the Vast Archive of 1000 boxes in the Owl Farm basement. Hunter and I had known each other for two years at this point. His assistant had recently fled in the middle of the night never to be seen again and his secretary wasn't accustomed to helping with the creative side of his work. There was a team of long-time friends and colleagues in the kitchen when I arrived. Curtis and Donna Robinson of the Roaring Fork Sunday News-



Hunter and Anita

paper, Wayne Ewing, an Emmy Award winning filmmaker who would later create *Breakfast With Hunter* and *When I Die*, and several others all gathered around him under a massive story board covered with photographs, quotes, letters, notes and clippings.

Hunter presided over the evening wearing a blue and white striped shirt, legs propped up on the counter, head tilted with a cigarette and looking handsome as ever. They were debating - sometimes angrily - about which letters should be included and which letters should be burned. Curtis at one point took a stance like a lawyer defending a client when one of his favorite letters was about to be axed. I watched with fascination.

While this was all going on, a woman ushered me into the other room, handed me a few boxes and showed me how to operate the Xerox machine. The action continued in the other room, though not as clear under the hum of the copier. Suddenly, Hunter's deep, screaming voice came through loud and clear: "What do you mean she's photocopying in the other room? Get her in here! She needs to LEARN this stuff!" In no time we were lugging the massive photocopier into the kitchen. I continued to photocopy, but more importantly, I was learning.

From [www.owlfarmblog.com](http://www.owlfarmblog.com):

May 5, 2006

## New York, New York

I just got back to the hotel from a party for the 1000th issue of *Rolling Stone*... Hunter, of course, is on the cover. He is the only person on the cover in two places. Once, as the spirit in the sky, and then the huge blue gonzo symbol in the back, on which Jack Nicholson is perched. It's a wild cover, with artistic, cultural and political icons spanning from 1967 to 2006. Inside, Doug Brinkley writes ... about Hunter's love for Bob Dylan's music, with a story about Bob's harmonica and Hunter's red IBM Selectric II typewriter and how I sent it to Dylan after Hunter died, knowing that that was what Hunter wanted.

The piece ends by listing some of the projects that are in the works, noting: "Practically anybody who ever downed whiskey with Hunter has a memoir in the works. Lost in all the mania over Gonzo Hunter, however, is the more poetic, brooding, contemplative Thompson - the one on this final *Rolling Stone* cover, the man who read *Revelations* weekly, memorized Coleridge and listened regularly to 'Mr. Tambourine Man' as if it were a gift from heaven."

I re-read this issue in the car on my way home from the party. I walked up to my hotel room, sat down on the bed and had a good cry. Not so much out of sadness but because I see that he is so very much alive in this legacy he left behind. More and more people are being introduced to his work. People who hadn't read anything of his while he was alive are being introduced, then seduced, then activated.

Call over a few friends for the Derby. I suggest you reread *The Kentucky Derby is Decadent and Depraved*. (We all know *that's* a humdinger!) And don't be shy about drinking a mint julep or two. Hunter drank them only one day a year, and liked his with fresh mint perched on the side.

Sweet dreams!

Anita

May 6, 2006

In last night's note I said that Hunter was the only person in two places on the cover of the 1000th issue. But I was wrong. The other person pictured twice is John Lennon...

June 13, 2006

## Thompson, McGovern and Chief Sitting Bull

Hunter wrote the following (after quoting Chief Sitting Bull) about one of his favorite human beings under the sun, George McGovern, in September 1972. The election was two months

away and a horrible realization was setting in, but as always, Hunter kept his eloquence and keen sense of justice. Hunter loved to point out the fact that, as he was writing it, in the vortex of the presidential campaign, in Colorado his future wife was being born...

"Hear me, people: We have now to deal with another race - small and feeble when our fathers first met them, but now great and overbearing. Strangely enough they have a mind to till the soil and the love of possession is a disease with them. These people have made many rules that the rich may break but the poor may not. They take their tithes from the poor and weak to support the rich and those who rule."

- Chief Sitting Bull, speaking at the Powder River Conference in 1877

"If George McGovern had a speech writer half as eloquent as Sitting Bull, he would be home free today - instead of twenty-two points behind and racing around the country with both feet in his mouth. The Powder River Conference ended ninety-five years ago, but the old Chief's baleful analysis of the White Man's rape of the American continent was just as accurate then as it would be today if he came back from the dead and said it for the microphones on prime-time TV. The ugly fallout from the American Dream has been coming down on us at a pretty consistent rate since Sitting Bull's time -- and the only real difference now, with Election Day '72 only a few weeks away, is that we seem to be on the verge of ratifying the fallout and forgetting the Dream itself."

- Hunter S. Thompson

So now, 33 years after Hunter wrote that passage - and 129 years after Sitting Bull made his harrowing statement - they are somehow together, watching over us.

Original hard cover jacket from *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*



# Knowing Hunter

June 15, 2006

## Electricity

Today's wisdom comes from *Songs of The Doomed* from a piece titled "Electricity". Hunter studied electricity in the mid '50s at Scott Air Force Base. ...electricity became something he loved and respected for the rest of his life. The first thing he learned was "the stance":

"Lock one hand behind your back before you touch anything full of dissatisfied voltage—even a failed light bulb—because you will almost certainly die soon if you don't. Electricity is neutral. It doesn't want to kill you, but it will if you give it a chance. Electricity wants to go home and to find a quick way to get there—and it will."

Hunter studied electricity like any young boy studies a superhero. You see it in his writing spanning all the decades of his work. I still have the card on the TV that says "ANIMALS, WHORES AND DIALOGUE." Those were the things he would write about to get himself out of a writer's block. In the winter of 2002, he added "ELECTRICITY" to the list.

June 19, 2006

## Monday Morning Attitude

Good morning. I have a treat for you today. It should go under the category of ATTITUDE.

"The Menace is loose again, the *Hell's Angels*, the hundred-carat headline, running fast and loud on the early morning freeway, low in the saddle, nobody smiles, jamming crazy through traffic and ninety miles an hour down the center stripe, missing by inches...like Genghis Khan on an iron horse, show the squares some class, give 'em a whiff of those kicks they'll never know..."

—Hunter S. Thompson, *Hell's Angels*

That is from the first page of the first book Hunter ever published. He was twenty-nine years old when he wrote it, and thought that if he didn't publish a book by the time he turned thirty, he would have to call it quits and become a barber.

Hunter had been riding with and studying the *Hell's Angels* for a year. He spent six months writing the first half of the book, which is the scholarly and methodical half of the social and political phenomenon of the *Hell's Angels*. One day, he looked at the calendar, and it occurred to him that he had four days to complete the entire second half of the manuscript! So, instead of panicking, he rented a hotel room on the outskirts of San Francisco, loaded up with a supply of Dexedrine and Wild Turkey, and finished the book. Many people agree that that second half is by far the best—the part that kicked off his career.

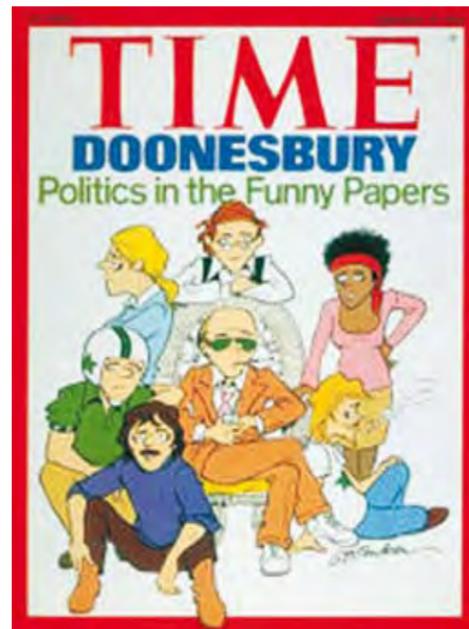
Don't be one of the people who get fooled into thinking that it was the drugs and alcohol that produced the wild gonzo attitude in the second half of Hunter's *Hell's Angels*. Here is the secret: It was the previous 15 years he had spent studying the art and craft of writing. Hunter had read the classics by the time he was 18. He skipped school to, yes, drink and smoke, but while he was drinking and smoking and cutting classes he was reading Plato's *Allegory of the Cave*, Joseph Conrad, and the *Louisville Courier Journal* cover to cover. He would spend the rest of the evening WRITING.

It didn't matter to him if he was writing an article or a love letter to a beautiful girl. The most important thing for him was to learn the craft – from the masters. And if he didn't have a letter or a story to write, he would copy pages out of Fitzgerald or Hemingway to "feel the rhythm" of their writing. This kind of discipline turned into a habit.

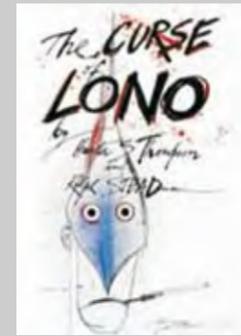
That is why he could stay up for four days and four nights and produce one of the best books on American sociology in recent history. Hunter explained to me one night that it was his "muscle memory" of having those many years of practice that enabled him to pull it off.

Until Tomorrow, your friend,  
*Anita*

P.S. I'm told to mention that all of Hunter's writing is property of the Estate of Hunter S. Thompson. Needless to say, we are dedicated to making more of Hunter's life and work available. ■



*Doonesbury was featured on the cover of the Feb. 9, 1976 issue of TIME. Duke (who depicts Hunter Thompson) sits on the chair in the center.*



*The Curse of Lono - Book Cover*

By Alice Cotton '92

Alice Cotton '92, a close friend of Anita (Bejmuk) Thompson '91 from TASIS days, was a friend and assistant to Hunter S. Thompson. She manages [www.gonzostore.com](http://www.gonzostore.com) and kindly added her recollections for this story.

The first time I met Hunter Thompson I had no idea what to expect. I was quite nervous, which was unnecessary as he was a perfect Southern Gentleman and we had so much to talk about. We had traveled to many of the same places and had similar interests.

My friend Simon and I were the first people invited to stay in his house in a number of years; there is a sweet little cabin next door where most guests stayed. We slept in a room downstairs in the main house called "Johnny's room" where Johnny Depp stayed when he was there to learn how to act like HST for the film version of *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. When Johnny lived there it had spiders and gunpowder, both of which had been eliminated by the time we stayed.

"Owl Farm; a fortified compound outside Aspen", as it was called, was a real farm, with cats, dogs, peacocks, coyotes, bears, mountain lions, lamas and emus. Somehow, Simon and I became part of this amazing Woody Creek community and part of Hunter's entourage. For me it was not only fun and educational, but I was also spending a lot of time with my good friend, Anita.

When Anita and HST went to Las Vegas for the opening of the documentary *Breakfast with Hunter* I went along to help out. I met up with them again in Honolulu for a book signing. Hunter broke his leg and had to spend a few days in the hospital, where he had me read the entire *Curse of Lono* to him. Imagine reading an entire book back to the author!

Hunter loved to hear people read and always put them to work when they came over. Strangers frequently found themselves reading his books back to him, and naturally most were quite nervous at first. Hunter was great at making corrections and keeping up the right pace, or usually, slowing down the pace, since most people were so nervous.

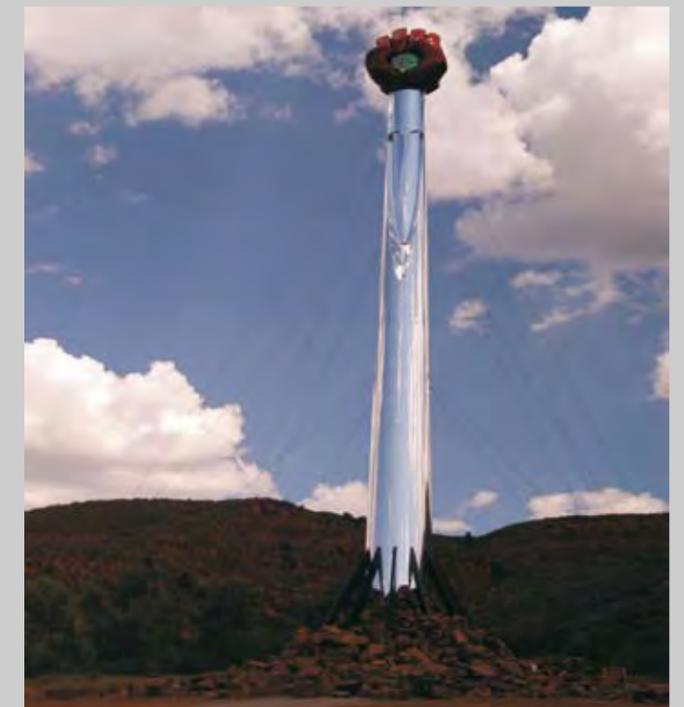
The last time I saw HST was in LA for a book signing. We all had a fun time; new and different energy helped feed Hunter's never-ending desire for a challenge and new ideas. Things always had to be fun and smart.



*Alice's last time with Hunter, LA 2005*

The last night there, Hunter and I were up late, Anita was asleep, and we desperately needed a Bible. So we called the front desk and had them deliver one. I don't think they opened it 'cuz when we did, we found that it had been cut out inside to make a stash hiding place. It was great - only at the Chateaux Marmont on Sunset Strip would they hand-deliver a Bible to Hunter Thompson's suite like that. He signed it and we left it there for some lucky person to find. Now I wish I had kept it, but oh well...

I went back to Aspen for a few months shortly after Hunter's death to be with Anita and to help organize and take part in the memorial event Johnny Depp put on. He got permission from Pitkin County to build a temporary monument taller than the Statue of Liberty on HST's property and, according to wishes that he outlined in a BBC documentary from the '70s, his ashes were shot out into the sky and the Dylan song "Mr. Tambourine Man" played. Hunter was now home, forever. ■



*The cannon Johnny Depp commissioned to blast Hunter's ashes into the Colorado sky.*

# Performing Arts Building Campaign

Goal: \$2,300,000

Total Raised to Date (including pledges): \$1,356,000



## Theater Campaign

In the course of reworking the TASIS Campus Master Plan due to the acquisition of crucial new properties, the site for the new Theater/Performing Arts Building has been changed to a more prominent position next to the Palestra. This greatly enhanced location speaks to the vital role of the performing arts in the academic and cultural life of TASIS.

We are over halfway to reaching the campaign goal of \$2.3 million. Naming opportunities remain, from \$2500 for individual theater seats and up. Please donate on-line at [www.tasisgiving.com](http://www.tasisgiving.com) or email the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Hans Figi at [hans.figi@tasis.ch](mailto:hans.figi@tasis.ch) to discuss a contribution.

## In Gratitude for Spaces Already Funded

Bridge	Mr. Steve Maloney PG '61, SH '62	\$100,000
Terrazzo Piccolo	Ms. Jane Goldman '74	\$50,000
Portico	Mr. Curtis McGraw Webster '75	\$50,000
Upper Lobby	Mr. John Pritzlaff '72 and Mary Dell Pritzlaff	\$50,000
Terrazzo Grande	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bell PG '65	\$100,000
Piazza	Mr. Donald MacDermid PG '62	\$100,000
Stage	Mr. Robert Perkin PG '66	\$100,000
Entry Foyer	Mrs. Holland Coors	\$100,000
Technical Booth	Mr. Curtis McGraw Webster '75	\$100,000
Lights & Light Board	Mr. Curtis McGraw Webster '75	\$100,000
Backstage	Mr. & Mrs. John C. Gage '60	\$50,000
Director's Office	Gov. & Mrs. Bola Tinubu	\$50,000
Green Room	Anonymous	\$50,000
Dressing Rooms	Mr. & Mrs. Roberto Vaglietti	\$25,000
	Mr. & Mrs. Roberto Vaglietti	\$25,000
Catwalk	Mr. & Mrs. Jan Opsahl '68	\$25,000
	Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd DeVos	\$25,000

## Remaining Naming Opportunities

(as of January 2007)

**Performing Arts Building \$650,000**

**Theater-Angel Seats: 17 to be funded @\$10,000**

Funded: Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Appels, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bell PG '65, Mr. & Mrs. Feyyaz Berker and family, Mr. & Mrs. David Mair, Mrs. Alexandra Wicki '80 (2), Theresa Stone Thompson PG '65, Dilaria '06 and Sinan Uzan '04, Babs Mumma '67, PG '66 Class Gift, Laborinska Family, Mr. & Mrs. Hans-Joachim Schmidt.

**Premier Seats: 25 to be funded @\$7,500**

Funded: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bell '65, Mr. & Mrs. David Mair, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Brown, Babs Mumma '67, PG '66 Class Gift.

**Theater-Lover Seats: 27 to be funded @\$5,000**

Funded: Anonymous, William & Pam Doyle, Mrs. Kathryn Pitner '62, TASIS Parents Association, Robert Perkin PG '66, Dilaria '06 and Sinan Uzan '04, Mr. Hans Weidemann, Christian Draz '70, Dr. Michael & Mrs. Lynn Aeschliman '63, Mary Crist Fleming, Mr William (Tom) Fleming '61, Mr. Fernando Gonzalez, Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas and Shelley Schorsch, Ned Lynch PG '66.

**Theater-Fan Seats: 22 to be funded @\$2,500**

Funded: Judy Callaway Brand '63, Ernest C. "Ford" Barrett III, SH'59 for Diana Barrett, Mr. Sergey Atanasov, Mr. & Mrs. Chihming Chu, Mr. & Mrs. Tun-Jen Lin, Mr. Dominic '85 & Mrs. Diane '84 Mauriello, Mrs. Mary Dell Pritzlaff, Mr. Marco & Mrs. Lesli Seta, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Waterman, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Chassagnade, Marina Rasini, Ms. Nyawira Kariuki '03, Richard Jensen '73, Yau-Loi, Charles Chan, Berkley and Peggy Latimer, Barry and Gail Sanditen for daughter Sarah Isabella '10.

### Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499

Mr. Scott Alexander PG '66, Mrs. Gail Breton, Mrs. Betsy Newell SH '62, Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Howell, Mr. John Palmer '64, Mrs. Ruth Russell PG '67, Mr. John Schemmer, Mrs. Carol Solheim, Mr. Cemil Sonmez '01, Mr. Guy Tolman SH '59, Ms. Deborah Webster '66, Ms. Cynthia Whisenant, Mr. Scott H. Whittle '71, Mrs. Valerie Youmans '69

### Gifts of \$500 - \$999

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Bradley, Mr. Joseph Cook '64, Prof. Jack L. Cook, Mr. & Mrs. Hans Figi '75, Mr. Timothy P. Horne, Dr. & Mrs. Frank Klein, Mr. Sang Do Lee, Mr. & Mrs. Dario Lucchini, Ms. Carolyn Mowers PG '66

### Gifts less than \$500

Mr. Eric Amundson '90, Mr. Boris Anthony Bakovic '85, Mr. William A Benish, Ms. Loring Bolger PG '66, Mr. & Mrs. Theo E. Brenner, Ms. Laura Bubani TSLP '84, Mrs. Gai Case '59, Mr. Craig Comstock PG '66, Mr. Gregory S. Cook '90, Rev. Cynthia M. Crabtree PG '66, Mr. A. Edward Cross, Mr. Frederick 'Fred' Crumrine, Ms. Stephanie De Vos '03, Ms. Mary Dean PG '66, Mrs. Sarah Di Lenardo, Mrs. Laura Ehrich '73, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gebhardt, Mr. Norman Goldbach, Mrs. Elizabeth Grajeda PG '66, Ms. Jennifer M. Greene '74, Mrs. Kay Hamblin, Ms. Cambron Henderson '82, Mr. Howard Lovett, Mr. John Luttrell '75, Mrs. Diana Madsen PG '66, Mrs. Lyn McKeane, Mrs. Madelyn Messner PG '66, Ms. Cheryl Miller '90, Mr. Ewan Mirylees, Mr. Christopher Moloney, Mrs. Polly Oliver PG '66, Mr. Simon Owen Williams, Ms. Patricia Oxman '63, Ms. Wendy Palmer PG '66, Mr. Charles E. Pannaci PG '66, Mr. Gianni Patuzzo, Ms. Paula Peterson PG '66, Ms. Barbara Pierce '72, Mr. Christiane Rump-Van De Velde, Ms. Mary Kelton Seyfarth PG '66, Sir Peter Smithers, Mr. Charles Howard Stickley, Mr. Kneeland L. Taylor PG '66, Mr. Ken Tobe '91, Dr. Todor Vljacic, Dr. & Mrs. Louis Vogel, Mr. Henrik Wallberg '90, Mr. Jonathan Walton  
(as of January 2007)



Donations to the US TASIS Foundation, Inc., a publicly supported, Section 501(c)(3) non-profit, educational foundation, as well as to the Swiss foundation, are tax deductible to the extent allowable in their respective countries.

To make a donation, please fill out the pledge card or contact:  
Development Office, TASIS The American School in Switzerland,  
CH-6926 Montagnola, Switzerland - Phone: +41 91 960 53 01  
Email: [hans.figi@tasis.ch](mailto:hans.figi@tasis.ch) - Give on-line at [www.tasisgiving.com](http://www.tasisgiving.com)

## Romeo and Juliet

Rehearsals in Tuscany, costumes from the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, and the guidance of TASIS Theater Director Kay Hamblin all contributed to bringing a superb production of *Romeo & Juliet* to the TASIS stage. Mrs Fleming hosted the cast for four days at her home in Tuscany a week before the play, allowing uninterrupted rehearsal time to prepare for the Parents' Weekend performance. *Romeo & Juliet* is a particularly challenging play for high school actors, with its mix of action and comic dialog in the first half of the play, leading to its tragic conclusion and commentary on the futility of revenge at the end. The In-Pro theater retreat at Capitignano, with its idyllic Tuscan setting, gave the TASIS Players the valuable time they needed to prepare their characters and hone their acting skills. Guest artist, Derick Chappel, from TASIS England worked with students on stage combat while Kay directed the actors with their lines and scenes. Each afternoon the cast performed a series of scenes for Mrs Fleming, and at dinner she and Kay and the actors had a chance to critique the day's work. All is captured in a beautiful book of photographs by TASIS Photographer and Web Designer Kim Nelson (samples on right on this page), the sale of which raised enough money for one more theater seat. TASIS alumna and film director Michele Josue '97 and alumus/cameraman Travis Belgard '98 documented the retreat and rehearsals for a film which will highlight the educational value and importance of theater at TASIS. The parts of Romeo and Juliet were double cast, as were many of the principle roles, giving stage opportunities to experienced and new actors as well. The Fall Shakespeare production has become a tradition at TASIS, and this is the fifth consecutive year that Kay and her students have staged a play. Next fall's production will be *The Taming of the Shrew*, aptly following this spring's musical *Kiss Me Kate*.

Bill Eichner, Admissions Director



# 50th Year Reunion

## TASIS 50th Anniversary Celebration



Mrs. Fleming shares a toast with Donald MacDermid '61

Over 250 friends and former students made the trip to Lugano from around the world to celebrate TASIS' 50th Anniversary on May 20, 2006, at a candle-lit banquet in the Palestra.

As Mrs. Fleming got up to speak to the crowd no one doubted that she could have addressed everyone there by name. She snatched the microphone away from a helping hand, and with a strong and certain voice belying her 96 years pronounced her love for the students that helped create her "dream come true". Her comments brought laughter, tears, a standing ovation, and a huge cake bearing 50 candles that was rolled out to "Happy Birthday" sung by the TASIS Choir.

The PG Class of 1966 held their 40th reunion at the same time. During the dinner they presented a check for almost \$18,000 to Mrs. Fleming to be used for the new Performing Arts Building campaign. A silent auction raised another \$36,000 and Birgitta and Jan Opsahl announced a \$25,000 gift, all going towards the goal of building the new Theater/Performing Arts Building.



PG Class of 1966

# 50th Year

TASIS 50th Anniversary



Graduation Class of 2005

From left:  
Tessa Wienker  
Fiona Struengmann  
Efi Anastasiadis  
Marta Jankovska  
Marie Christine von Molitor  
Dilhan Hanif  
Eda Aksoy



Rob Perkin PG '66



Young Alumni enjoy the reunion in the Piazza



Cynthia Whisenant with Alumni



Horst Dürrschmidt and Elisabeth Malcolm



Ned Lynch and PG '66 Classmates



Hans Figi '75



Carolyn Heard and John Nelson



Giorgia Di Lenardo '98,  
Rebecca Gebhardt '98



DeHaven Fleming, Dr. Michael Aeschliman



Birgitta and Jan Opsahl '68



TASIS parents Rick PG '65 and Paulise Bell



Donald MacDermid '61, Lynn Aeschliman '63, Kathy Pitner '62



Charles Hodgkins '71, Nicla Mambretti



Daniel Martin '99, Sofia Rasini '99

# NEXT NEW YORK REUNION

Saturday,  
November 17, 2007

Racquet  
and Tennis Club  
New York City



Class of 2000 friends



Tae Sato '00, Dr. Michael Aeschliman



Michael Wilson '04, John Newman '93,  
Liz Zaborowska '92, friend, Pete Rojas '93,  
Bill Eichner



Dienyat Mabika '04, Kelly Hau '04



Meg Smith PG '00, Anna Josue '00, Christina Miles '00,  
and Alumna friend



John Reeser '78, Hans Figi '75,



Jeff Bradley, Can Doganci '05



Amber Alliger TE '86, Lisa Maxwell FCF '74



Skyler Gross '05 talking with a friend



Michael Wilson '94, Daniel Ciraldo '01, Lynn Aeschliman '63,  
Christina Miles '00



Permele Doyle '05, Molly Toole '05



John Gage '60, Curtis Webster '75, Hans Figi '75  
Amy Gage, Kathy Pitner '62, Jennifer Webster



Annie Witt '05, friend, Laura Katzman PG '05,  
Hanna Bree '06



Sharon Figi, Jim Chiasson '74, Pam Tritt Chiasson '75  
and daughter Christine Chiasson



TE alumna, Sarah Griffin TE '02, Amy House TE '02



Two Alumni enjoy the evening



Curtis Webster '75, Tracy Fossum, Director of  
Alumni & Parent Programs

# New York Reunion

# New York Reunion

# Parents' Weekend

## Fall 2006



Mr. Billings with Nola Seta and daughter Julia '07, Juliana '07 with father Glenn Solheim



Parents visiting Photo Studio



Jaymie and Annie Carter '08



Ozgu Can '07, with mother Mrs. Karasu



Parent meetings with teachers in the Palestra



Parent taking photos



Horst Dürrschmidt with Nicholas Schorsch, father of Tory '08



Students performing at the Parents' Weekend Assembly



Students selling goods to raise funds for ACA

# Save the date

## Turkey Reunion

# Coming Up

## May 4-6, 2007



Join TASIS alumni from around the globe for an unforgettable weekend in Turkey. Cemil Sonmez '01 invites you to the Hotel Baia Bodrum, a premier 5-star facility nestled in Gündogan, one of Bodrum's most beautiful bays.

Reunion attendees are being offered deeply discounted rates. Prices include accommodations, a Friday cocktail party, a private dinner on Saturday and all of the amenities this luxury, family-friendly, all-inclusive resort has to offer. Swim in the outdoor and indoor swimming pools. Have fun at the aqua park, complete with a two-section water chute and children's area. Unwind in a sauna or take a Turkish bath. Lounge on the 250 meter-long private sandy beach. Enjoy tennis, beach volleyball, non-motorized watersports, daily entertainment and a lively disco.

For an additional charge, guests may take an all-day boat tour of the sparkling bays of the Aegean Sea or immerse themselves in the rich cultural and historical heritage of the area by going on a guided bus tour of Bodrum and the surrounding villages. Also available for charge are massages, use of the Spa Center, motorized water-sports (including banana boats, water skiing, and fly fishing), billiards, bowling, and many other activities.

This event is not to be missed! It is a unique opportunity to get together with old friends and meet new ones in a setting that is arguably one of the most gorgeous in the world. To register, go to [www.tasis.com](http://www.tasis.com) or contact the alumni office at [alumni@tasis.ch](mailto:alumni@tasis.ch) or +41 091 960 5300. To see more pictures of the resort, click on [www.baiahotels.com](http://www.baiahotels.com). We hope to see you May 4-6, 2007! **Special TASIS rate per person in a double room: USD 100, rate for a single room: USD 150 per night.**

## Other Events:

**Kiss me Kate,**  
a musical by Cole Porter  
performed by TASIS  
students  
**March 19-24, 2007**  
For reservations  
email: [reception@tasis.ch](mailto:reception@tasis.ch)

**TASIS Spring  
Arts Festival**  
May 17th-20th, 2007

**Alumni 5-star  
In-Pro in Italy**  
Fall 2007  
More information  
soon!

### 1st Annual Gala

Dinner and Benefit Auction  
to raise funds for the TASIS  
Performing Arts Building  
**Saturday, May 19, 2007**  
Switzerland  
For more information  
email: [tracy.fossum@tasis.ch](mailto:tracy.fossum@tasis.ch)

**All-Class  
San Francisco Reunion**  
Class of 1982-25th reunion  
celebration **June 23, 2007**  
San Francisco, CA  
Contact Jack Rosenhan '82  
for more information.

**Class of 1977  
-30th Reunion**  
(Dates & Location TBD)  
Contact Rick Mullen '77  
for more information  
[rdmullen@charter.net](mailto:rdmullen@charter.net)

**Class of 1987-  
20th reunion**  
**September 28-29, 2007**  
Washington, DC.  
Contact Dom Casolari '87  
for more information:  
[dcasolari@sps.suffield.org](mailto:dcasolari@sps.suffield.org)  
or [dcasolari@comcast.net](mailto:dcasolari@comcast.net)  
[www.alexandriahilton.com](http://www.alexandriahilton.com)

**Chicago Reunion**  
**October 13, 2007**  
Chicago, IL.  
More information soon!

**New York Reunion**  
**Saturday,  
November 17, 2007**  
Racquet and Tennis Club  
New York City

## TASIS TODAY ADVERTISING

Reach over 10,000 international alumni, current TASIS families and staff.  
Two times a year - winter and summer issues.  
For prices and deadlines please e-mail Sharon Figi: [hfigi@mac.com](mailto:hfigi@mac.com) or phone +41 79 6512318

# Volunteer Opportunities

## Class Agents

Have you always wanted to volunteer for TASIS but didn't know how? Love to plan a good party? Enjoy gently twisting arms to support a good cause? Well, then, you would be a great Class Agent!

Our goal is to have at least one representative from each class work with the School to reconnect classmates to TASIS and strengthen the world-wide network of alumni.

**1. Find people.** We have lists and lists of "lost alumni" who we KNOW aren't lost. You, however, probably keep in touch with your classmates or know somebody who knows somebody. As Class Agent, we hope you'll serve as a conduit of information. Class Agents keep their eyes and ears open for missing classmates and actively track them down.

**2. Build a reunion program.** The long-term goal is that at every milestone year for your class you would have an organized celebration. TASIS alumni need to know that there are set times that they can count on celebrating with their TASIS classmates. Right now, wonderful reunions are being planned sporadically but the School will systematically help a Class Agent begin that reunion tradition.



Old friends enjoy the New York Reunion

**3. Make a powerful statement to current students, faculty, parents, and future students that a TASIS education is worth supporting.** Class Agents remind classmates that the School is now part of a non-profit foundation, and annual gifts go directly to TASIS to enhance programs. The goal of the Class Agent is to encourage participation and build excitement about giving back monetarily to TASIS.

It looks like a lot but we'll be there to make it a fun and rewarding experience. Want to know more? Even if your class is already represented, don't hesitate to get in touch. Please contact Tracy Fossum, the Director of Alumni and Parent Programs at [tracy.fossum@tasis.ch](mailto:tracy.fossum@tasis.ch).

Thanks to these enthusiastic volunteers who have already stepped forward:

### Class Agents

John Gage '60

Fred Morris '62

Kathy Pitner '62

Susan Sheldon Hargrove '62

Ned Lynch PG '66

Pam Carillo Jackson '69

Scott Whittle '70

Trish Mullen Rempen '72

Wendy Barton Benson '73

Kathy Gamble Pilugin '74

Linda Jaekel Avery '75

Andrew Jones '75

Shauna Morrison '76

Rick Mullen '77

Heidi Pace '78

Jeff Duckham '79

Antonella Noseda '80

Jack Rosenhan '82

Kristi Alger West '84

Boris Bakovic '85

Denise Mobley '86

Maggie Boyle '86

Kristen Norton '87

Franca Marena Gullet '90

Sophie Desplaces '92

Paula Quijano '93

Hege Shanor '94

Kevin McMenamin '97

Paolo Andrade '00

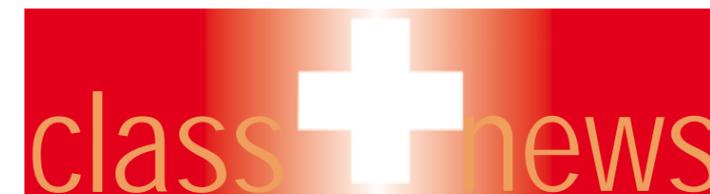
Caroline Rothstein '01

Masa Yo '04

Sheila Tursini '05

# ALUMNI

TASIS CH, Lugano - High School



**62 Robert Sears** wrote to tell us about his life since TASIS: '62-'66, Colby College, Waterville, Maine; '66-'70, U.S. Air Force Capt.; '70-'90, Merrill Lynch Int'l, whole time overseas, V.P. and Office Manager; '90 - Present, Executive Director American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. He says, "I would love to hear from any of the old-timers out there. What great memories and stories if I could remember them!"

**63 Jim Ferrelli** is responsible for marketing and strategic business development activities for The Lexington Group, an international Employee Assistance Program. He has a diversified 30-year management background and has served on the Lexington Group Board of Directors since 1989. Jim received degrees in social work from The American University, Washington, DC, and a master of business administration degree from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York. • **Annette (Peabody) Roydon** moved back to Vermont 10 years ago after living in Anguilla BWI for ten years. She built and ran a hotel there and enjoyed the experience very much. She is now back in the States and raising grass-fed organic beef cows, a Scottish Highlander/Black Angus mix, as well as Standard-bred race horses. She is on the Select board of her small town as well as serving as the deputy health officer. Annette says, "I have a 5-year-old grandson that is the love of my life, a good dog, and an almost 200-year-old farmhouse. I can't ask for anything more."

**64 Sally (Miller) Dunford** lives in London, where she has been since graduating from Boston University in 1968. She is a book editor, working mostly in the field of fabric and knitting design. She has authored a few books of her own on that subject. Sally is married to Mike Dunford, who owns a business crafting fine cabinetry. • **Lindsay Green** tells us that she is currently self employed as a graphic designer. "Not able to afford Westchester County, NY, I moved to Bristol, RI in 2001. I lived in Westchester for about 25 years and really miss the proximity to NYC. I was married while living there for about 10 of those 25 years. I keep myself professionally up-to-date by taking occasional classes at RISD in Providence. I am co-chair of a citizen's advocacy group in Bristol, educating and informing citizens about local events. We are organizing a citizen's forum for our town to be held in March 2007. I have two adopted greyhound dogs that keep me well exercised. We walk to the ocean every day."

**65** After TASIS, **John Palter** attended the University of Maine and went on to SUNY Albany, New York, where he graduated with the master's degree in anthropology. His interest then focused on archaeology and he went abroad to attend the Institute of Archaeology in London as a post graduate student. During his early career as an archaeologist he published several articles and directed a number of excavations. He toured France and Spain one summer, exploring more than 40 caves searching for Paleolithic

cave art! After two years of study at the Institute (1972-74), he was so enamored with life in London that he decided to continue living in the City (Bloomsbury). He landed a job working for one of the world's leading antiquarian book companies (Bernard Quaritch Ltd) and spent a year attending the auction rooms of Sotheby's and Christies', purchasing rare books and maps for the company. One of his responsibilities was researching early editions of rare books in the Reading Room of the British Museum library and found it a fascinating experience. He returned to the States in 1975 and got a job as a research assistant at Albany Medical College and worked for the Chief of the New York State Birth Defects Institute where he maintained a pediatric cardiology registry. In 1977, he received a commission in the United States Public Health Service where he was trained in Baltimore as a registered records administrator. After completion of his training, John was transferred to San Francisco along with his wife, Gerry, who he met at Quaritch in London. When the USPHS hospitals were closed down in 1982, John was hired as a systems analyst for an insurance company in the city. After 4 years, he got a job with another insurance company closer to home (5 minutes commute). He's been with his present employer for the past 17 years and specializes in data architecture and building models used to design large databases. He continues to dabble in archaeology in his spare time. John's last article was in 1999 in the *Society for American Archaeology*. • **Larry Cornelius** is an accountant for Lockheed Martin and lives in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, a suburb of Akron. He has been married 24 years and has a son who is studying to be a priest. He was in the Navy for almost four years: boot camp in San Diego, a tour of duty on an LST in Vietnam, Yeoman school in San Diego, a short tour of duty in Beeville, Texas, and, finally, a tour of duty with an aircraft squadron whose home field changed from Patuxent River, Maryland, to Brunswick, Maine, and deployed in Bermuda. He says, "Join the Navy and See the World? You bet!" In January 1995, Larry returned to the Lugano campus for the first time since graduation and reports that, "it's the same, but 30 years newer...my old

room in Hadsall House is still there... the campus has been enlarged like you wouldn't believe. The cab ride from the train station to the school is still in a Mercedes, but it costs 30 Sf! If you've been back to visit, please share with me your observations ... if you've never been back, you should go at least once." • **Maria Connors** is a public health nurse with the Vancouver Health Department, specializing in hospice care. Her husband, Joe Connors, is from Cape Cod and is an oncologist for the provincial government. They have two sons, Brendan (15) and William (13). • **Heidi (Stanfield) Cole** wrote to say "I am very involved in painting and sculpture, (my website is [www.enterscapes.com](http://www.enterscapes.com)), bought a new dog, and ride my horse, all the things I love the most. I am enjoying the music scene in Austin as well as being closer to my boys. If anyone ever gets to Austin look me up. The School looks great, and hopefully someday I will be able to visit."

**66 Mary Alice Lightle** is a financial consultant to small businesses. She earned a degree in economics from Bryn Mawr in 1970 and went on to get an M.B.A. in finance from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. • **Lori Griffin** is an independent wine broker in Los Angeles, representing many California wineries including Hop Kiln Winery, owned by her uncle Dr. Marty Griffin, the father of **Anne (Griffin) Lynn '67** and **Linda (Griffin) Hente '65**. • **Leslie H. Evans** recently bought a house in Cumberland, Rhode Island, and will be moving in the early fall. Her second grandchild, Mathew Robert, was born in January, and she is enjoying being a grandmother. • **Patricia (Harris) Bayne** says, "My oldest son, Brett, is a junior at Baylor in Waco, Texas and my youngest son is a freshman at Sam Houston State in Huntsville, Texas. My husband, Harry, is a lawyer in Dallas and I work at Lake Highlands High School, where both my boys have attended. We plan on retiring to Lake Bob Sandlin, located about 2 hours from the Dallas area in Pittsburg, Texas, in a year or so. My husband will commute for a few years between the lake and his Dallas office and then go into mediation in the Pittsburg area. I am looking for anyone

# ALUMNI class news



who knows where **Pat Foreman** is. Please let me know any good information on anyone in the high school Class of '66. My email address is [patsy.bayne@risd.org](mailto:patsy.bayne@risd.org)."

**67 George H. Diller** has been at the Kennedy Space Center working in the NASA Public Affairs arena for 23 years serving as a NASA spokesman. His areas of expertise are spacecraft and expendable launch vehicles, tracking/telemetry, and weather. He supports the NASA launch facilities at Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, and Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Mr. Diller is also a launch commentator for NASA Television. • **Ann (Hall) Billings** married (for the first time) at age 53 in 2002 to Bruce Billings of Dallas, Texas, and they have homes in Dallas and in Galveston, Texas. A retired magazine publisher, Ann now freelances as a publications consultant and copy editor. She has been taking piano lessons for the past year to relieve the stress of remodeling her house and caring for her husband, who broke his neck in a fall this summer. But, Ann has good news to report! "We have a new kitchen and my husband's chances of a full recovery are excellent." • **Becca (Benton) Hanson** wants her fellow TESIS classmates to know that, "Yes, Becca Hanson (a.k.a. Becky Benton) is alive and well and living on Bainbridge

Island in Washington State...when I am there!" Becca's work takes her around the world with her husband and their firm of creative team to design and construct botanic gardens, zoos, and nature preserves. But her two sons and one grandson in the Seattle area, as well as her brother, Craig, and his family in Oregon, keep her well grounded in the Pacific Northwest. • **Willard Morgan** informs us he was part of a group show entitled "*This Ain't No Karaoke*", curated by Max Henry at a new art gallery in Zurich, Haas & Fischer. He was then invited to Sardinia by the founder of the Milan International Film Festival, Andrea Galante, where he taped an episode for his comedy travel series now on the web, "Misguided Tours" ([www.misguided-tours.tv](http://www.misguided-tours.tv)). He's also been invited to be a judge at the Milan festival in March. Willard went on to the Venice Film Festival, where he continued filming his travel series and attended a considerable number of dinners and parties. He was also in Paris for the 50th anniversary of The Jacques Lecoq International School of Theatre. "Wow! Now I need a nap just recounting this itinerary," he says.

**68 Andy Miller** has just retired as a partner from IBM Consulting after a career in accounting and e-commerce consulting, first with Price Waterhouse and then IBM. After TESIS, he went to Dartmouth College and the Tuck School

of Business, graduating from both in record time. He lives in Greenwich, CT, with his wife Anne and three sons, David (17), Joe (14), and George (11). He also has two older sons, Chris (30), who teaches English at a public high school in the Boston Area, and Tim (27), who is about to graduate from Dartmouth's Thayer School of Engineering as a mechanical engineer.

**69 Yvette (Brault) Rogers** **1** wrote to say that her husband, Rob, and their daughter, Alix '91 **CDE** try to meet at their home in Hawaii as often as their schedules permit. Alix is now a junior studying bioethics at UPenn. Yvette and Rob are still living in Japan from whence Yvette drew much inspiration, especially from shrines and temples, for their newly re-built home that was designed by **Tom Mitchell**. She says, "A Class of '69 reunion on the patio at our house in Hawaii is definitely in the cards...not quite the view from Montagnola, but it will have to do!" The photo was taken Christmas day from that patio. • **Missy (Morrisette) Brett** is in New York State and is thinking of moving south since her boys are out of school. • **Holley (Hanson) Mattson** lives in Maryland and is teaching art to sixth graders and yoga to everyone. • **Sarah (Preston) Burton** is an interior designer and represents a clothing line out of New York.



• **Pamela (Carillo) Jackson** tells us: "My husband, Michael, and I have moved our company from California to Florida. Many of our employees have come with us and can now afford to buy their own homes (California is so expensive). If you ever need a meeting place for TESIS it could be at our house. We are on a river that goes out to the ocean and have a big back yard and a boat. Lots to do and excellent restaurants! I've heard that we might be having our next reunion in Nashville. **Peter Boynton's** trip sounded like the best and fun was had by all. [I'm] so jealous but with the business move it could not be. I hope that I can make to the next event. I will try hard." • **Ulf Krantz** wrote to say the following: "I really enjoyed celebrating the 50th anniversary of TESIS in May. Listening to Mrs. Fleming's alert and positive words - at the age of 90+ - was encouraging and comforting. The School has really developed nicely, and I plan to put my youngest son, Frederic (14), there for the next year's Summer Program as this year's filled up early. My brother's 5-year-old son has just started in the kindergarten program there. I also enjoyed seeing **Jan Opsahl '68** for the first time for 38 years." • **Cindy (Grimes) Craig** finds it hard to believe that her family has now been living back in the U.S. for just over two years! She is getting used to life in Nevada, which is VERY different from life in Africa. But, she reports that



everyone is doing well. "Kelso, my eldest, is in Iowa for his second year at the U. of Dubuque, studying aviation. Alex has just started at Oregon State, majoring in chemistry. Only Meghan and Kevin are at home and both are in high school. Meghan is a junior this year with six honors classes - plenty there to keep her out of mischief! Kevin is a freshman and seems to be settling in. Des is working for the State of Nevada and gets to see quite a lot of the U.S. He finally has a green card and is now our own personal resident alien! My advice to any of you thinking about going down the immigration road: start early and have your paperwork and money ready! I am still working part time for my brother but thinking about substitute teaching...any advice out there? Life in the U.S. is easy and we are getting used to the abundance and excess, as well as enjoying being close to family. I trust you all have had a great summer and are looking forward to the rest of the year." • **Colleen (McDougall) Heater** and her husband, J.T., are off to India for five weeks in October to research their next book "*Yogananda's India: A Travel Guide to the Sacred Sights of the Indian Master*." This is their third book, after "*The Pilgrim's Italy*" and "*The Pilgrim's France*," and they are looking forward to their first time in India. They were sorry to miss the reunion in Lugano, knowing how much fun they are. Next time they will make it!

**70 Catherine Badin** **2** spent two wonderful weeks visiting her family in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil. She hadn't had the opportunity to visit them for 20 years! On the home front, she is continuing to pursue photography and writing, as well as a voice narration career and wants you to contact her if you're making any documentaries! "Also, the Saatchi Gallery in London just invited me to post some of my photos on their 'Your Gallery' site (you never know who might see it, eh?); plus I'm still looking for a book publisher for my coffee-table art book on the 'goth kids' in L.A. After living in Portland, Oregon for the past eight years I've decided it's time to move on. So, I'm now in the process of investigating 'where on earth' I belong! My plan is to move sometime early next year, and after spending time in beautiful Rio, it's very clear I need to be living by the ocean. Possible landing points include Monterey, California, and either the south of France or somewhere in Italy. Hey, I figure you gotta dream big to live big! I welcome emails from any TESIS graduates." [badcat@popstar.com](mailto:badcat@popstar.com) • **Don Schriber** wrote to say: "After graduating in 1970, I spent 3 semesters at Syracuse University and suffered severe culture shock as I had never lived in the Northeast!" He left and managed to get a job in Norway working on an offshore drilling rig. This allowed some additional travel in Europe with **Robin Thomas '71** and a visit to TESIS. After two years, Don returned to the U.S. and received a B.F.A. in photography from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1976. He decided to make a career in the oil industry and spent 10 years working overseas with stays in Holland, Angola, and Gabon. He then got involved in the environmental services industry and now works for the engineering, consulting, and infrastructure subsidiary of Tyco International. Somewhere along the way he completed an **M.B.A.** in finance, met and married a wonderful young lady while at RISD, and had two children. The oldest, a son, is completing his sophomore year at Yale, and the youngest, a daughter, is a freshman in high school. They live in Pittsford, NY, just outside of Rochester. Currently, he is on loan to FEMA and managing a \$1 billion Katrina clean up program in Louisiana. "I have been here since September and it has been a really unique experience." • After TESIS, **Greg Krueger** **3** graduated from the University of Michigan in 1975. He parlayed his mathematics degree into a full time gig as a guitar player for the next 12 years until 1987, when he joined the Walt Disney Company in Orlando, Florida as a sound engineer. In 1991, he moved to California to work for Walt

Disney Imagineering where he was involved in creating the sound tracks for all the Disney parks worldwide for the next 18 years. He is now a freelance sound mixer (and still a performing musician), although his main client is still Disney Imagineering. • **Sarah Spitz** had this news to share: "I recently won two Los Angeles Press Club awards for a National Public Radio story I reported and produced ('Tim Hawkinson: creating Art with Moving Parts,' NPR's All Things Considered, Aug. 15, 2005) and a documentary I supervised ('Rabbi Abulafia's Boxed Set,' producer, Jon Kalish), which aired on KCRW-Santa Monica, the public radio station where I have worked since 1983. My latest NPR gambit includes the only one-on-one broadcast interview that David Hockney permitted while his exhibition 'David Hockney: Portraits' was on view at L.A. County Museum of Art. That story aired on NPR's All Things Considered on July 17, 2006. You can listen, if you like, at NPR.org. I received email from an American member of KCRW, living in Switzerland who sent along a picture of our bumper sticker on his car; and then I got another email from Switzerland. Our station is about to be profiled by a Swiss magazine, *Das Magazin*, because they tell us it's one of the most popular stations in the country - via our brilliant website, ([www.KCRW.com](http://www.KCRW.com)). KCRWMusic.com launched this year - an all-music service exclusively produced for Internet listeners. TESIS students can keep up with the best music the world has to offer on our 247/365 stream - no commercials! My mother, whom I take care of, turned 88 on September 25th; she lives next door to me in Santa Monica and is faring as well as can be expected. We celebrated with brunch at the classic Hotel Bel Air - where the new head chef actually was the chef at a six-course dinner for 12 that a close friend of mine threw for my birthday in July. What an honor - great food, too! I've recently been in touch with my former roommate, **Cindy (Kriesmer) Carr** and her best friend, Kristen Lowman who's since married distinguished actor Harris Yulin. I did my first film voice-over for a movie that's still in production called "Quid Pro Quo" not sure when (or if!) it'll be released. I was invited to attend opening gala concert and VIP party at the brand-new Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa, CA. And last but not least: I graduated from a 13-week intensive (7 hours on Saturdays!) University of California course that will allow me to become a Certified Master Gardener. I still need to do 50 hours of volunteer work at community and school gardens and in other settings, along with 15 hours of continuing education.

And it all happened because I fell in love with a Fuyu persimmon. Go figure."

**71 Wendy Wright** says that life has been quite a journey since leaving TESIS many decades ago! "I went to Lehigh University but did not fit in so I transferred to the University of Colorado where **Debbie (Billingsley) Lichtenberg** went. **Leslie Simitch** was also in nearby Denver. I stayed there for a year and a half then went to study in Italy for my junior year abroad. During the five years I was there, I graduated from college, worked as a fashion model, and fell in love with an Italian lawyer!" Wendy then moved to NYC and shared a loft with Leslie. She worked for the Italian Trade Commission. Wendy was also employed by a large public relations firm, working on Italian related accounts. After five years in the Big Apple, she quit her job and moved to a Greek island, Ios, where her family had a summer house since she was 12 years old. She fell in love with a Greek artist/wind surfer and worked in Athens for a study abroad program for college students. She got a lot of practice listening to kids' problems so she decided to return to the U.S. and attend Rutgers University, where she earned her master's in social work. Wendy then went on to get TEN long years of psychoanalytic training. At the age of 43, she became mother to a daughter named Mira. In 2000, she married Mira's father, Max Shane. Wendy is now a psychoanalyst with a private practice behind her home in Princeton, NJ. She especially loves working with adolescents, college students and couples. She and her family still travel every few years to Greece to their home on Spetses. She thinks life right now is pretty good! • **Robin Hamilton-Brooks** attended University of Vermont (to ski!) and graduated with a degree in social work. She went back to St. Croix for 2 years to save up enough money to travel Europe for a summer and move back to the states in 1977. She has lived in North Carolina ever since. Robin got her M.S.W. from the University of North Carolina in '81 and eventually found a career she loves in early childhood intervention. She is in her 23rd year and enjoys counseling and teaching parents and "playing" with babies and toddlers to help them learn new skills. She moved to Raleigh in 1982, (which she says feels just like yesterday) and met her husband, Michael, through friends. When she married in 1984, she had an instant family with Michael's son, Ryan. Their second son, Alex, was born in 1988 and is graduating from high school this year. They love NC and are now enjoying sitting on the

# ALUMNI class news



beach. They celebrated her parent's 50th wedding anniversary in 2000 by going back to Switzerland. The younger set took a side trip to Montagnola where she had a great time showing off the TESIS campus. "Wow, has it changed! But all the armor is still in the dining room! In 2004, I took a trip to England and I had the chance to reminisce about a spring break trip sophomore year to London - but what have they done with all the pigeons at Trafalgar Square!?! [Other than that] we just keep on keepin', thankful for each day set before us!" • **Rio Helmi** **4** is a professional photographer and hopes people will visit his website [www.riohelmi.com](http://www.riohelmi.com) which has a number of pictures from an exhibition he did called "Shadows and Reflections, Light Arrested." The following is an excerpt from a quote he wrote for the posters and press release: "Shadows invite us to project, creating silhouettes that compel us to fill in the blank spaces with our own ideas. As for reflections, the play of light that mirrors the subject, they take us by surprise, expanding visual spaces and drawing us into the illusory." He credits his writing style to all those creative writing courses and doing English lit with Max Page! • **Robin Thomas** **5** and her husband live in Desert Hot Springs, California, and would love to hear from old friends [robinsline@aol.com](mailto:robinsline@aol.com). • **Alan Lewis Robinson** graduated with a masters of business administration in global management from the University of Phoenix.

**72 Allison (Morgan) Christensen** has been living in Honolulu, Hawaii, for the last 20 years with her husband and 15 year-old daughter. She did her B.S. in computer science and has been on the internet 23 years (way before the web). She would love to hear from other classmates. • **Lisa Permar** **6** wrote the following: "Since it has been over 30 years, I will give the abbreviated format. I have 4 children, all of whom are adults' now. Dawne Marie (32), is married with one son, Cameron. She works for a local medical supply company in the contracts department and is adjusting well to being a first-time mother that works full-time. Brendan (25), is living in Naples, Florida as an executive sous-chef for one of 74 certified master chefs in the world and enjoys traveling across the country for master chef dinners. Logan (22), is currently in the Army stationed Ft. Carson, CO, after a back to back tour of duty in South Korea, right on the North Korean border, then a year in the news blackout zone in Ramadi, Iraq. He is supposed to be out this June, but may be stop/loss cloused to return to Iraq. We are praying that he gets out, after two purple hearts, a special medal of honor from the Marines, bronze star of valor, 22 recorded head concussions from bomb blasts, etc. and substantial hearing loss in one ear (worse than mine now, if we can find humor in this). My youngest, Duncan (19), is working at the same company as my daughter in

shipping and receiving, as he saves for college. He keeps changing his mind from network technology to medical research and back again. We lost my adopted son', Zach, tragically two summers ago this year, when he was killed on his moped. Duncan and I still have our moments of sharing tears, but we have so many memories of his time with us, that it helps us through those times as well. I have been divorced for 8 years now, [it was the] best decision I made though [I] waited far too long. I have a wonderful man in my life and I am truly lucky to have found a real partner to share life's ups and downs. I am currently unemployed and going nuts, but in its way it has been a grace as my mother has been in poor health so I have had the time to take care of her. I have a huge 'baby' named Bruiser weighing in at 140 lbs of husky/rottweiler/shepherd mix that adores anyone and everyone and most especially his own pet cat, Tyson. Life could be better, but then it could also be far worse." • **Barbara (Fales) de Braganca** greets us from Boston! Her baby, 15 year-old **Camilla '05 (TFLP)**, went to TESIS summer camp last July, so there are already some new family ties developing! She and her husband, Miguel, have been based in Boston for 25 years. Her husband was an Egyptologist working at the Museum of Fine Arts when she met him in Boston. She wrongly assumed that she would spend the rest of her life on

the Nile! In fact, Miguel continued his passion for Near Eastern/Egyptian art as an avocation while changing to a career in investment management - same research skills, just a different application. Miguel's great love is opera, and he devotes much spare time to help promote the growth of the Boston Lyric Opera. Despite his passion for this music form, it was shortly after they were engaged that he shared with Barbara his true past: he had been a Dead Head! They have two other children. Miguel (20) is a musician/ singer/ songwriter about to embark on studies at Berklee College of Music and Annabel is a junior at St. George's in Newport, R.I. Barbara is thrilled to report that all children are more than conversant in Spanish and French and share the same love of music and wanderlust as the rest of the family. They have lived in the heart of Boston all of this time, interspersed with far flung travels to Mauritius, Galapagos and South Africa and many a winter weekend is spent freezing up in Northern Maine on the ski slopes of Sunday River. The last few decades have seen Barbara involved in launching numerous projects for Children's Writing and Author's Programs at the Boston Public Library. She was the President of the Alliance Française for quite a few years, and now that it has merged with the French Library, she continues to work there as a trustee, developing programs and fostering better understanding between

France and the United States. Her other main area of involvement has been to raise funds for the New England Conservatory and help develop a cooperative tie between the two youth orchestras of NEC and that of Venezuela. In June of '05 she accompanied their orchestra to Venezuela, which was her home country from birth until 13 years of age. She had not been back in several decades. It was an emotionally fraught homecoming. Nonetheless, the kids Barbara was accompanying and their counterparts in Venezuela proved that the best way to foster common understanding is at the grass roots level and through the arts.

**73 Chris Miller** **7** is an architect living in Woodstock, Vermont, where he has been for 19 years, by far the longest stint of his life. After TESIS, he attended Williams College and then the University of Pennsylvania, where he met his wife, Sally, also an architect. After school, they both lived in Chicago for a year, and then moved to Boston for five years before moving to the wilds of Vermont. They have three daughters: Kate (20), who is in the Class of '08 at Princeton University, Liz (18), who is currently in Tanzania doing volunteer work before attending Bates College next fall, and Meg (14), who is finishing up middle school in their local public school system.

**74 Larissa Shmailo** **8** wrote to tell us about the CD release party for "The No-Net World" (SongCrew 2006) which was at the Bowery Poetry Club on April 29, 2006. She has read at Barnard College, The New School, The Knitting Factory, for the Writers' Harvest Against Hunger, with the Black Panthers at Revolution Books, at the Langston Hughes residence, and on WBAL and WNYE, among other venues. She has received "Critic's Pick" notices for her appearances from *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, and *Time Out* magazine. She has been published in *Newsweek*, *Rattapallax*, *Lungfull*, *American Translator's Slavfile*, and many other publications. She translated the Russian Futurist opera, *Victory over the Sun* by A. Kruchenyh, performed at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival and exhibited at the Los Angeles County Museum and the Hirshhorn Museum. Her poem, *The No-Net World*, has become an international anthem for the plight of working people and the homeless. Her poetry CD, "The No-Net World," is described as "intense and poignant" and "spoken word dynamite." • **Kelly McQuilliams** moved to Dallas, Texas to be with her mom until she passed away a few years ago. She was thinking of returning to Canada, but fate intervened and she has found a new career that she really appreciates. She now is an independent catastrophe insurance adjuster and works on

catasrophe claims for homeowners and commercial properties. For the past three months, she has been in Chicago working on commercial claims from hurricanes Katrina and Wilma and several hail storms. Kelly met up with her TESIS buddy, **Bill Hargrave '75**, and they have shared several Sundays at hockey games and taking in some great Chicago sites. She said in the end of her letter to us: "I lead a fairly transient lifestyle traveling and working in disaster zones. I can't tell you how important and gratifying it is to connect to someone ole and true." • **Dan Higgins** is a celebrity photographer and was recently in London for the Hyde Park concert, in which he had the pleasure of meeting/ working with infamous figures such as Jimmy Page from Led Zeppelin, tennis player John McEnroe, and classic rock band The Who. • **Anne (Arnold) Guthrie** wrote with a followup to our last issue to say the following: "I'd love to hear from anyone who attended TESIS '72-'74. I am personally doing well after surviving the horrors of hurricane Katrina. I continue living in the French Quarter, which only received minor hurricane damage. I stayed through the storm and only left four days later after the levies had broken and it was obvious that this was something BIG, and that water, power and security were problems not to be solved soon. Living in the Quarter is kind of like living in Manhattan in respect to owning a car. It just never made sense. Parking is impossible, insurance high, and you can either walk everywhere, take a cab or rent a car when you need to. So when the time came for me to 'get out of Dodge' I was stuck. Not to mention, I had my little Cairn terrier and my darling cat, Scout, to worry about. Well, I found someone who had no intentions of leaving to take care of the animals and another friend that was evacuating and had room for me in his car. So off we went, on quite an adventure. We caravanned out of town in four cars, driving right past the Convention Center, who's image so many saw on the news. It was truly heartbreaking and frightening at the same time. People were desperate, and even though your heart said, 'Help them!' you knew that it probably wasn't safe. Long story short, I ended up in Alexandria, VA at my parents', via a long hot trip to Dallas. While there, I stayed in touch with the

city via the friend who was taking care of my animals, my local watering hole, Johnny Whites Sports Bar NEVER closed, as reported on CNN et al. and their land line was operating, so I called at least twice daily to get updates. I returned as soon as our Mayor had given the O.K. for my zip code, which was Sept. 26th. Upon my return, the city was pretty creepy, as most of people there at the time were men, and let's face it, the place stunk! But it was my home and I was desperate to be back. And God being on my side, the power was restored the very day I returned! The pets were happy to see me but kind of looked at me after I switched the breakers, like, "Where've you been? It's been damn hot these past three weeks!" The city is making a slow recovery. And we all thank everyone who has made their personal contributions. We will rebuild, restore, and renew with your help. I was looking at my yearbook, not too long ago, turning 50 makes one nostalgic I suppose, and it was kind of ironic to see on the inner page, class reunion-New Orleans 1980. I believe I read that **Ali Massoudi** and maybe one other person showed up for that! Anyway, maybe we could plan another one down here. I'd be happy to help so feel free to contact me at [anniegu3@cs.com](mailto:anniegu3@cs.com). My love to all, and happy 50th to TESIS and Mrs. Fleming!" • **Joanie Guay** recently married Peter Axelrod and is living in Sonoma County, California. • **Kent Oztekin** **9** and his family are doing very well, and share a picture with us. • Since 1987, **Roubik Aftandilians** has been Vice President and C.O.O. of Nouveau, Inc., a textile and fashion company in Los Angeles, CA. Three years ago, he met up with **Amir Rezaei '75**, his wife Patricia, and their 3 daughters in Los Angeles. Roubik played tennis with Amir and had lots of fun. Amir and his family now reside in Costa Rica.

**75** After TESIS, **Libbie Wride** came to Northern Colorado where she had extended family and attended both CU-Boulder and Colorado State in Fort Collins. She married and they now have two girls. Kelley (26) lives in Virginia, and Holly (22) is in her senior year at CSU. She says, "I spent many years busily holding family life together while working full-time, driving kids to sports and music and friends, being part of

# ALUMNI class news



community and church organizations, fighting clinical depression, and trying to finish school. While rafting the Grand Canyon a few years ago, I took a life-altering dunk in the rapids and realized that it was time for change. So after becoming empty-nesters and struggling through 23 years of rocky marriage, Neal and I parted ways. Two years later, after 23 years at LSI Logic, I was downsized due to the tech sector down-turn. I have got to watch those 23-year anniversaries! Now I find myself at the age of 49 in the wonderful position of being able to remake my life and have hit mid-life crisis with both feet running and joy in my heart! I returned to school on a part-time basis studying environmental geology (I am in love!) and plan to graduate in 2010. I also live with my parents as primary caregiver. They are in their mid-80's. After a year and a half looking for a full-time job, I am now working at CSU, which works well as my benefits include 6 credit hours a semester, and a break on tuition for Holly. Both of my brothers live here. **Don Wride '76** is still in real estate, and busy with wife Ginny and four children. **Bill Wride '76** remarried 2 years ago to a truly lovely woman, Christine, who has two children; he is still teaching and is also active in his church. We do manage to see each other once or twice other than at holidays! I have thought often of TESIS and Montagnola and Lugano and Mrs. Fleming and all of

you. Look who I got to know and what I got to learn and where I got to go during those years! How lucky can a woman get! My love to you all. **Linda (Jaekel) Avery '10** says she is having a wonderful time in the mountains of Western Colorado! "My company, Avery Land, is doing very well. There are still lots of people looking to buy a great investment spot of land in these lovely mountain regions - no slowdown yet! We just bought a catamaran, which is kept in Tortola, B.V.I. - providing a great balance with mountains and water! We had a spectacular time at the 50th reunion in Lugano, and hope to see lots more TESIS alumni over time." **Cindy (Pender) Gruel '11** went to Europe this summer for a vacation with her husband and two children. They were able to go to Lugano for a couple of days in June and visit the School. She says, "The campus has expanded so much and is really lovely. Although it has changed in many ways, it has still remained much the same. It was a great experience for all of us." She was disappointed to find both McDonald's and Burger King in downtown Lugano. Also, she had promised her children ice cream in front of Innovazione and was disappointed to find that ice cream is not sold in there anymore [and even] the name of the store has changed! She recently got together with **Glee (Jewel) Garlie '76** who lives in Colorado, but was in Phoenix

getting her son situated at college. **In** the 32 years since leaving TESIS, **Tom Junker** went to university and graduated with a degree in engineering. He then went into the oil industry which has allowed him to spend the majority of the time since leaving university working and traveling overseas. The experience of living overseas as a teenager gave him the bug for living and traveling to different countries and it's still in his blood. He currently lives in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tom reports, "I have managed to keep in touch with **Curtis Webster** from time-to-time despite all the moves. I have a 21 year-old daughter and 18 year-old son from a previous marriage and I am now helping my wife of 5 years, Angie, raise our 3 year-old daughter Natalie."

**76 Theo Miller** is currently living in Boston, MA, and working as a business broker, arranging purchases and sales of international companies. He does a lot of traveling around the world. After TESIS, he attended Middlebury College and then Thunderbird International Business School. He has lived in Arizona, Florida, Virginia, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Madrid, and London, and may soon be moving to Europe again. He and his wife Priscilla have one son, Robert (12), who as his uncle, **Chris Miller '73**, said "has attended more schools than I had at his age, which

is saying a lot". Theo has also turned out to be the best linguist of the family, having kept up all of his European languages and adding a few others as well. **Kirby Ellis, '12** his wife Ginger, and daughter Meredith recently visited TESIS and were all very pleased with the tour. Kirby reminisced about some wonderful times, and his loved ones had a chance to share those memories with him. **Jonathan Barkich '13** has three kids and is keeping busy with family. He recently took a trip to Disneyworld with his family. **Bob Armantrout '14** and his wife, Camille, just celebrated their twelfth anniversary. They enjoyed the company of friends, gardened, cooked, ate, drank, and hiked. Life doesn't get much better than that! **Many** of you may know that **Hillary Bernhard** who attended TESIS from 1972-76 passed away in 1998. Her son, Chris, is a freshman at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He wrote to TT asking if anyone who knew his mom would share their memories, impressions, stories or photos with him. He can be reached at [Christopher.Shwayka@colorado.edu](mailto:Christopher.Shwayka@colorado.edu)

**77 Class Reunion - In the Works.** contact [alumni@tasis.ch](mailto:alumni@tasis.ch)

**78 Doug Pinard '15** attended the Lugano Reunion in May, and expressed

his pleasure in taking part in such an event. **Amir Abdelmoneim** lives in Columbia, Maryland. He still works in the family business in Cairo. Working half a year away from family is no fun for Amir, but it has given him the chance to travel a lot and he is enjoying his work. **Laney (Sproat) Pitt '16** is married and living in Florida working as a realtor. "I love to kayak and read. One of my daughters just received a full ride for her master's at Oxford so we are all going over next summer to see her and I will take everyone to Lugano to see TESIS. As I grow older, I realize what an important part of life my TESIS experience was and I would love to hear from any old friends."

**79 Nounou Taleghani** took a leave of absence from her career as an ER doc at Stanford, and is now dabbling in medical education at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar. "While I consider Palo Alto, California, my home, I will be in Doha, Qatar, for a few years. If anyone is coming through the region they should drop me a note. For information about the educational boom in Qatar, you should check out the web site of the Qatar Foundation ([www.qf.edu.qa](http://www.qf.edu.qa)), which is responsible for bringing the cream of the crop in American Universities to Qatar." **Clare (Buchanan) Lowery** still lives in Northern California and remarried two years ago to Charles

Lowery, a golf professional. She has two boys, ages 11 and 15, and teaches acupuncture at The Five Branches Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine. **Jennifer (Mathiesen) Ito** resides in Kailua on the beautiful windward side of Oahu and is in the middle of a home renovation that is taking up most of her time. She continues to do many things part-time and no one thing full-time except being a wife and mother. "I will start the Hawaii Real Estate Licensing course this week. I thought it would be a good continuing educational tool for me since I am in a renovation of my own home, selling a family home here in Hawaii, and managing my own real estate investment property in Las Vegas at this time." Her oldest daughter just entered the 9th grade and her other two girls are in 6th and 2nd grade. **Angela Anderson** is living in Florida with her husband and two daughters.

**80 Cathy Gibson** now has three children, John (16), Michael (13), and Amy (8). She teaches middle school language arts and social studies in the Plymouth-Canton School District. She has recently lost touch with TESIS friends, but would like to get a hold of everyone again. Please feel free to contact her at [gibsongirl@wowway.com](mailto:gibsongirl@wowway.com). **Tessie Webb-Oman** says, "I'm now living in Birmingham, AL, with my 2 children:

Erica (14) and Tanner (10). I'm working as a registered nurse at UAB Hospital dealing with everything from leeches to maggots and patients, too. **Cathy Gibson** visited this summer - thank goodness for old friends who help us get our new lives in order! My brother, **Wendell Webb '79**, is still living in New Mexico with his wife, Donna. Their son is now 22 and married." **Daryoush Koohdar** and **Zyad Al-Kurdi '17** met up in the summer of 2005 and had a wonderful time getting back in touch. **Allison (Kirby) Pryharski '18** had quite a summer adventure! "My daughter, 17, graduated from high school here in Los Angeles. So...we took our own AMAZING RACE. I gave her clues before we left home letting her know what was coming up in summer. We spent a week in Paris, visiting Versailles and Monet's Gardens. We came to Lugano for two days. We visited TESIS during a busy summer session and the night Italy won the World Cup. Next was Rome for a couple of days. From there, we caught a 12-day Mediterranean cruise that went to several countries including Croatia, Spain, Sicily, and France. We ended up back in Rome for two days touring the city and The Vatican. The whole trip was 22 cities and 6 countries. Here is a picture of her standing in the same spot I did." **Ericka Meyer** graduated college with a B.S. in mathematics and political

science and a minor in computer science. Her career has spanned international finance, post-merger integration (PMI) and currently, marketing. She lived in New York for 10 years, New Jersey for 15 years and moved to Florida 2 years ago to be on the ocean. "I met my husband 15 years ago and have been married 8 years. I'd love to hear from any of my classmates."

**81 Tom Mullen** lives in Laguna Beach, California. He visited Lugano in the fall of 2006 before traveling to Tuscany for a vacation. He then began an environmental consulting company in California. **Debi (Trierweiler) Roberts '19** was selected to be the Construction and Facilities Management Officer (Senior Engineer) for the Colorado Army National Guard in July 2005. She was promoted to Colonel shortly after this assignment. Debi and Elliott continue to reside in Centennial, Colorado, with their children Josh, Ben, and Naomi. Debi, Elliott, and the kids enjoyed a three-week vacation to the U.K. this spring. Although they did not have an opportunity to stop by the TESIS campus, they certainly hope to do so during a future trip. Debi's sister, **Tammy (Trierweiler) Wooley '79**, is doing very well. She continues to work for Microsoft and lives in the Seattle area where she lives with her husband, Kevin and their two beautiful daughters.

# ALUMNI class news



**82 Karin Knolle** and her family recently visited **Domitilla Zerbone De Guglielmo '20** in Italy and had a wonderful time. • **Domitilla Zerbone De Guglielmo** let us know that after TESIS, she went to college in Washington, DC, but did not like it very much. She started to miss her home and family returned to Italy to live. Domitilla says, "I had to go back to high school since the TESIS diploma seemed to have no equivalent here and after one year graduated from Italian Lyceum, specializing in foreign languages. Afterwards, I attended the local State University - Department of Foreign Languages and graduated 6 years later. Education in Italy is much different than what I experienced at TESIS and at the American University – a lot more theory, heavy and thick books and, no practice. After graduation, I worked for a few years for minor companies then joined Heineken Italy - Commercial Department. It was a great experience and I learned a lot about the real business world. Two years later, I joined my father's company, which specialized in catering and shipping supplies. The international environment gave me the opportunity to practice languages and travel around to meet existing customers and acquire new ones. On a trip around the U.S., I had the chance to meet my senior year roommate and very close friend, **Susan (Sindoni) Wright**, in L.A. We also visited **Alicia**

**(Brawns) Favius** and stayed at her house overnight. Lately I have been in touch with **Tessa Mantle** who is living in South Africa ([www.viva-afrika.co.za](http://www.viva-afrika.co.za)), **Karin Knolle**, and **Irene Smith**. Karin came to Italy over the summer with husband Jody and step-son Michael. They stayed at my house for 2 days. **Ihab Abdelmoneim** also joined us from Massa Carrara, where he was on a business trip. Unfortunately, my dad passed away in Oct 2004 and this event really affected my life. I was married in Sept 2005 in a civil service but will marry in church soon. I decided to leave the family business and, together with my husband and other colleagues, we set up our own catering and shipping supplies company. It has been hard but we are very proud of it. I'd like to stay in touch with people from TESIS and I welcome old friends coming to Italy to give me a call and show up, if possible.

**83 Robert Cutter** wrote to say that since leaving TESIS, he finished high school in California before moving to Arizona for college. He graduated from Arizona State University in finance and then went to Thunderbird, The American Graduate School of International Management for his M.B.A. He met his wife in Arizona and got married in 1991. He runs the Arizona Division for CEMEX, a global cement and construction materials company. "We love living

in AZ and enjoy the many outdoor activities." • **Dianne (De Val) Pethel '21** and her family live in Jersey City after having moved about a year ago from Marina del Rey, California. Her beautiful daughter, Samantha, recently turned 4 years old, and is quite the bundle of joy. Aside from being a heavy-duty mom, Dianne is working at CheckFree Investment Services in Jersey City and so far enjoying it. • **Dawn (McLeod) Fields** has lived all around the world since graduating and married a man in the oil business. She now lives in Camberley, England. Her son, Emory (14), is in the 8th grade at TESIS England and absolutely loving it. It is becoming a real family affair! They will probably be in England a few more years before moving on to the Middle East. • **Veronica d'Orey '22** lives and works overlooking the forest in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She is a graphic designer and has a cat, dog and a baby on the way. She would love to hear from friends and teachers. • **Michelle Nalty** is taking classes, and working as a nurse for a visiting nurse company. Her daughter, Nicole, is nine years old. Michelle is very active in the school P.T.A. and in her daughter's hobby, horse clubs.

**84 Bill Ecker '23** still lives in the great Northwest with his family. He works as a construction manager for a medium-sized commercial builder,

overseeing projects around the country. • **Tom Little** says all is well in beautiful Newburyport, Massachusetts. His wife, Kim, and two sons, Tommy (6) and Nicholas (2), enjoyed a classic New England summer including lots of time at the beach, on the boat, and on Martha's Vineyard. He says it would be fun to reconnect with classmates and faculty. • **Carolyn (Clark) Huff** married Patrick Huff in '03 and they have one child who is almost 3. They live in Orlando, Florida now and her husband is a structural engineer. Carolyn works for him part-time as a computer-aided drafter, but mostly she spends time taking care of their beautiful son **24**. • **Julie (Church) Wardle** has been living in Shanghai, China for the past 11 years. She and her husband have 4 children they adore: Phoebe (9), Sophie (7), Jedediah (3), and Zeke (1). She's a stay-at-home mom with a small jewelry business on the side and her husband is a consultant for large multi-national companies in Shanghai. She'd love to show anyone who'd like to visit around Shanghai. They'll be there for awhile, so Julie says you are welcome any time. To see pictures of her family, you can go to their website at <http://web.mac.com/jandwardle/iWeb/Wardle%20%26%20Kids>.

**85 Suzanne (Peterman) Whetstone** is living in Orlando, FL. She now

has two children, Joshua (12) and Miranda (8). Her husband, Ron, is a firefighter for one of the local fire departments. Suzanne is an AVP/Office Manager at a local bank. She and Ron are kept active with the kids' school and sports programs. • Anticipating a promotion, **Jackie Del Val '25** moved this year and the promotion came in February '06! She is now the Learning Resources Coordinator for their District Library Tech Services. She oversees a staff of 4. Their task is to make sure branch libraries get all they need. They order and process and manage their acquisitions budgets and processes. Plus, Jackie gets first dibs

on reading new books. It doesn't get any better than that! She also coordinates training for use of the library management system. They are in the middle of an upgrade now and she enjoys the 'chaos' more so than others. In the New Year, she met someone new and is very happy. "Luciana is a senior systems engineer and she is from Brazil. Thankfully she has her green card. Yes, we were both upset over the World Cup. I, upset about Spain, and both she and I, for Brazil! I did wear my Italian jersey though for the final! I still spend lots of time with my nephew who lives here in Tampa. He is now 2 years old and lots of fun. I tend to get injured

whenever I play with him but I am not as young as I once was. He keeps me young and my doctors busy!" • **Renee (Nalty) Neville** lives in Naples, Florida. She recently received a promotion and is now the Director of Finance for the Philharmonic Center for the Arts. It is challenging position and a fun place to work. They have an in-house orchestra, performing arts center, and museum. Her daughter is now 3.5 years old and they spend her Fridays off work doing fun things like going to the zoo, ice skating, pottery painting and, her favorite, the dinosaur playground. Her sister, **Michelle Nalty '83**, is doing well (see '83). Renee also keeps in touch with **Sue (Bacheller) Dunne**.

**87 Class Reunion - In the Work** **Ellen (Kvinta) Palmisano** is now married and has a baby boy. Her husband is a veterinary referral and emergency center in Norwalk, Connecticut. Ellen is an operating room nurse but is presently not working outside the home, dedicating her time to her lovely baby.

**88 John Fondas** is now living in New York City and working in the fabric business. He just bought a house in the Bahamas and goes back and forth between there and New York. John also owns several retail businesses in the Bahamas. • **José Luis Galvez** is still living in Caracas, but planning to move to Spain this year. He's dealing with all the papers to get his residence and to be able to work there. • **Claudia**

**(Leavitt) Nielsen '26** sends a big hello to all TESIS alumni worldwide, many of whom she has met on her travels. She sends special greeting to **Jennifer Wraspir '87**, who she has been in contact and friends with all along. True friendship never fades! Claudia went into the hotel management field after TESIS and it has given her the opportunity to travel the world. Now after years of working in the hotel, hospitality, and travel industry abroad in places such as Paris, Los Angeles, London, Dubai, and onboard Princess/P&O cruise ships all over the world, her travels have finally brought Claudia and her husband back to her home town, Copenhagen, Denmark. • **Iskender Besen** currently lives in the Washington, DC area with his family. He is keeping himself busy with his 7-year-old boy and his work in the wireless industry. He can be contacted at [iskenderbesen@yahoo.com](mailto:iskenderbesen@yahoo.com).

• **Micheal Brunnschweiler** recently welcomed his third daughter, Addyson, on August 13, 2006 in Landstuhl, Germany. Both mother and daughter are doing great and her two older sisters are excited to have a new addition. He is still working for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Engines in Germany and has been living there for close to two years. • **Dean Arnold '27** son Cade (18), has enlisted in the US Air Force for 6 years. Dean took him on a good "guys" trip in mid-October to Denmark for 10 days so Cade could spend some time with his grandparents. They were in Copenhagen, went to Skagen, and then came back to Copenhagen. His other son, Dane (15), is a sophomore this year and picking up the guitar very well. He plays every day prefers blues and classic rock. Dean's daughter, Kayleigh (13), is in 8th grade and is the studious one out of the bunch. She's now a real teenager, but Dean says, "No boyfriend yet... thank God!" His wife, Valerie, works part-time at Ann Taylor and really enjoys her job. She also substitutes teaches on the side. She and Dean like to listen to live music and particularly like to go dancing anytime there's a Cajun band in town. He is studying for his U.S. Customs Broker's License Exam on Oct 3. It's tough – usually just 10% pass-rate. He says he hopes to be in that 10%! "A license such as this would give me a broader breadth of knowledge within my field and afford me more opportunities thanks to the increasing war on terror."

## Did You Know ?

**TESIS acquired non-profit status in 1996 when Mrs. Fleming donated the School's assets to a trust – The TESIS Foundation – thus assuring the School's ability to flourish beyond her lifetime. Since tuition alone does not cover the cost of educating a student, a Development Office was established 2 years later to help raise funds for scholarships, program enhancements, curriculum enrichment, and to update and build new facilities – like the recently inaugurated Fleming Library and exciting plans for a new Theater/ Performing Arts Building.**

**Things have never been better at TESIS, in part because of committed alumni, parents and friends of the school like you who generously provide financial support.**

*To give to TESIS on-line, please visit [www.tasisingiving.com](http://www.tasisingiving.com). Or call TESIS' Director of Development and Alumni Relations, at 41-91-960-5301, or email: [hans.figi@tasis.ch](mailto:hans.figi@tasis.ch). Depending on your country of residence your gift to TESIS may be tax-deductible. Donations are tax-deductible for U.S. residents.*

# ALUMNI class news



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He went to Hungary and Germany in September for 10 days for work and then to Denmark in October. He will possibly be in Asia in January. Luckily he likes traveling, so this is a good thing! Finally, once he's done studying for his exam, he hopes he'll be able to start doing some biking again.

**89 Shana (Van Shaick) Bae** and her husband, Tae, celebrated the birth of their son on April 11, 2005. Joshua is a healthy, active and very smart little toddler who keeps his parents on their toes. They're living in Erie, Pennsylvania now – far from family and friends but it's a great place to raise a family and they're enjoying the smaller-town life. • **Leslie (Cohen) Harris** is finally a homeowner and residing in Federal Way, Washington. She still sees **Lori (Romero) Ketter, Debbi La Rocque '88,** and **Geleah (Free) York '88** regularly. She was married last October and had quite an eventful honeymoon in Mexico. Shana and her husband got caught in Hurricane Wilma and spent 6 days in a convention center with 900 people – not the most ideal honeymoon, but adventurous to say the least! They are now expecting a baby. She is still the Design Center Manager for FloorCraft, and when she returns from maternity leave, she will be overseeing their 4 showrooms! She says the year has gone by very quickly, but she

reports she is happy and healthy, and very much looking forward to the arrival of their little boy. She was part of a mini-reunion with **Laura (West) Presnol '88** when she was in Washington for work this summer. "Talk about a walk down memory lane! The time went by so fast, but we laughed so much about old times, it was certainly worth it!"

• **Michelle Jack '28** is working at Children's Hospital in Seattle as a pediatric oncology nurse. Michelle, Dan, and their two kids, Piper (16months) and Christopher (13 years), live in Bothell and are doing well. She's heard from **Lori (Romero) Ketter** who is a new mom and **Claudio Bonometti** who is a new dad! She also hears from **Miriam (Harto) Harber** who is doing well in Florida and is a great mom to her two little boys. Her email is [mjack1993@comcast.net](mailto:mjack1993@comcast.net) if anyone has time to write these days!

**90 Justin Weddle** just got his M.B.A. from Webster University and now holds both an M.B.A. and M.A. in computer resources and information management. He recently took a trip to Alaska, and also spent some time in Italy the past summer. • **Valentina (Bardawil) Powers '29** gave birth to Sebastian Powers, February 4, 2006. • **Luke Waid** lives in Richmond, Virginia with his wife and baby boy, William Kappeler Waid **30**, who was born April 24, 2005. • **Heidi (Mundhenk) Jacobsen**

met **Jenny Iacobucci '31** at Disney World, Orlando last August, and they had a wonderful time reconnecting! • **Sharon (Yi) Kloser '32** says, "Hello friends from TASIS. I am still residing and working as a textile designer in the Bay Area of San Francisco. My husband and I are happy and proud to announce that we're expecting twin babies this coming March, 2007. We will be parents for the first time." • **Ken Tobe** and his wife, Megumi, had a baby daughter named Emma Luisa Tobe-Ando. She was born in Paris, France, April 14, 2006, measuring 3660 grams and 50 cm.

**91 • Alejandra Ornelas '33** married Alonso Cuevas May 27th, 2006. They had a traditional Mexican wedding at a ranch. Afterwards, they started their honeymoon in Spain for a week and then were off to South Africa and Botswana for a safari! • **Anita Bejmuk** (see '92 and p. 18)

**92 Chantana Jasper** is in Phuket, Thailand, where she works as a writer and editor. She married to a South African man named Mark and they have 3 dogs. • **Lisa (Engstrom) Drew** is living and teaching in Chattanooga, TN. Her husband is an administrator at a boarding school there and they have two children, Nathan (3), and Allie (1). She would

love to hear from old friends, [lisaegdrew@yahoo.com](mailto:lisaegdrew@yahoo.com) • **Alyssum Wier '34** wrote to share with us that she and **Juan Pelaez '01 (TE)** found themselves by chance working in the same small Chelsea art gallery in New York City. Alyssum credits TASIS's fantastic in-program travel to places like the Arena Chapel in Padua, and Bill Eichner's inspired art history lectures for establishing her desire to pursue a career in the arts. Both alumni also happen to be oil painters. Alyssum also designs and makes jewelry out of silver and hand crocheted silk and continues to write. • **Hossein Hami '35** just got back from India where he spent time seeing **Jimmy Narang's** company and seeing what a great job he is doing with Evian and Red Bull. • **Samira Anne Salman** is still living and working in Houston, TX. She recently bought a house and is working as an in-house tax attorney at Shell Oil Company. • **Alice Cotton** tells us, "I manage Gonzo Wear – a merchandise company that sells all sorts of fun items related to the late author Hunter S. Thompson. ([www.gonzostore.com](http://www.gonzostore.com)) The store was started by his wife, **Anita Bejmuk '91** who has just left Woody Creek, Colorado, to start school at Columbia University. In addition to starting this online store, Anita has a new magazine out called *The Woody Creeker* to help preserve the history of the great place where Mr. Thompson lived and includes articles

from and about people Mr. Thompson knew. You can buy subscriptions through the website. Anita also has a blog at [www.owfarmbolg.com](http://www.owfarmbolg.com). I am hoping to move back to San Francisco. **Paula Quijano '93** came to visit me here in Colorado over the ski season; we had a great weekend out."

**93 Hiroko Ogawa** stopped by campus with her new husband, Hiroya Otsuki, while they were on their honeymoon. They got married in Italy on the Amalfi Coast in Ravello on June 10, 2006. She is working for her father's company in Japan and enjoyed seeing all the changes on campus while she was here. • **Anna Marutollo** is living in Montreal, pursuing her Ph.D. in English literature at McGill. • **Alexandre Safyurtlu '36** married his wife, Hana, on July 3, 2006. They met in the Maldives in 2003 and even though they were separated by the great distance between South Korea and Europe, they managed to end up together. They settled down in the Philippines last year where he bought an island and built a resort. He wants to get in touch with all of his old friends from the Class of '93. Drop him line at [alexsaf@yahoo.com](mailto:alexsaf@yahoo.com). • **Aaron Kaupp** tells us "After four amazing years in Florence, I am now on the wonderful Amalfi Coast and manage one of the best and nicest hotels in the world. Life after TASIS has been good with some ups and downs just like life

should be. If anyone is planning a trip down to this part of heaven, please let me know." [www.palazzosasso.com](http://www.palazzosasso.com)

**95 Jeremy Moncho** was pleased to share with us the recent birth of his daughter, Soraya Christia Moncho, born July, 11 2006 in Geneva. His wife and daughter **37** are still based in Geneva, but he spends quite a bit of time abroad for business. Jeremy recently partnered with his father, and they both run his wealth management company. Jeremy and his family plan to get over to Lugano soon, and can't wait to get in touch with everyone from TASIS. • **Lizzie Jarvis** is about to move across London to a new house. Ella, her daughter, was a year old in June, is a very happy baby, and seems to have inherited a theatrical streak from somewhere! Lizzie is still working in advertising; her partner is a DJ and they have a full life.

**96 Masha Tivyan** shared the good news that her short movie won the first ever Drew Carey Short Film Festival award! The movie can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvFGgapBqvQ>. She also sent in a photo of a small gathering of TASIS alumni in Los Angeles in early May at the Coach and Horses Bar. (L-R) Masha, **Gen Okazaki, Yuki Yamashiro**

**'98, Michele Josue '97 '38** She is currently involved in a show called "Mortified" in L.A. this summer. ([www.getmortified.com](http://www.getmortified.com)) • **Melissa Davis** asked us to quote her on the following: "I'm doing wonderful! It's so hard for me to believe that it's been so long since we were all together. My husband, Larry, and I will celebrate our 10-year anniversary in January. Our sons, Gabriel (8) and Tristen (3), are both growing up so fast! Gabriel is looking forward to attending TASIS in 2013! I am currently working on expanding our mortgage company. We just recently opened a new office in Alabama. I hope all the alumni are doing well and would love to hear from you!" • **Kat Johnson** is working as an editor at a fashion company in New York. She had a great time in London getting together with **Gina Van Hoof, Margo McClimans '95, Sasha Crnogorac '97, and Su-Ling Gyr '97, Christina Rigamonte '94, and Lizzie Jarvis '95** in February **39**, and in New York with **Michele Josue '97, Sara Konklin, Sally (Akrawi) Andrea, Paula Quijano '94, and Terence Lloren** in May. • **Dan Inamoto** quit his software job in San Francisco and has been traveling through Asia for four months. So far, he has visited China, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Nepal, and India. He plans on spending a couple of months in India before returning back to the U.S., but his plans are nothing

close to being definite as he may end up staying longer in India. By the end of the year, he hopes to write a book in Japanese and English on his travels and will eventually think about having a "proper" job next year.

**97 Class Reunion - In The Works** **Su-Ling Gyr** is working as a consultant on London based lifestyle companies to help them build their fashion brands. She is also working on a collection for an American pop group. • **Kevin McMenamin '40** is actively working with a few others from to arrange a ten year reunion for the Switzerland Class of 1997. He celebrated his birthday last January and **Patrick Matta** was there. • **Hosan Kim** graduated from American University in Washington, DC, in May, 2006. Now, he is working at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. He lives in Mclean, VA. He plans on working for a few years at the Embassy and then going back to Korea. His e-mail is [kim\\_hosan@hotmail.com](mailto:kim_hosan@hotmail.com). He'd like people to drop him a line! • **Lucero Tagle Guisa** is currently a Recruitment Specialist at Google in London. She's been living in London for 3 years and will be getting married next year in April, 2007 to a French gentleman she met there! Her e-mail has changed to [lucertagle@hotmail.com](mailto:lucertagle@hotmail.com).

# ALUMNI class news



**98** **Nicholas Baudains** is now living in Galveston Texas, with his two boys, Erick and Marcus. He has reluctantly left the snake farm (Google Nick Baudains' good pictures from the snake farm), and now works as an investigator for Children's Protective Services (CPS). "Life is getting good: fishing, grilling, and raising two ruffians," said Nicholas. • **Cristiane Girao** studied economics and international relations at Boston University, and then worked in France, Brazil, and the U.S.A. He is now attending USC and working toward an M.B.A. • **Stephanie (Gove) Zaide** is currently living in Chicago with her husband, Lorel. They've been married for 2 years and are going on a trip to Rio de Janeiro in January to celebrate their anniversary. It's going to be sort of a "final" vacation before they start a family. They're also planning a trip to Switzerland sometime soon. She explains, "I can't wait to show him TASIS, where I spent the best year of my life!" Stephanie earned her license in June and is now the real estate broker for her family business, Zaide Real Estate. She says her life right now is fantastic and she's never been happier!

**99** **Ollie Rasini** visited the campus in March 2006 with **Christina Miles '00** **41**. She has just moved back to Milan after spending a few years in New York City and is looking forward to

playing with the Commedia dell' Arte in Milan and is looking for other theater jobs. • **Francesca (Chesa) Caparas-Hardwick** **42** is still in Santa Cruz, CA, with her husband, Jimmy, and 20-month-old daughter, Bellamina. She recently attended the wedding of **Gretchen Wolthausen '98** in Big Sur, where she also saw **Travis Belgard '98**. She and her family also took a trip down to L.A. and saw **Michele '97** and **Anna '00 Josue**. • **Robert Hux** is living in Arlington, VA, and working for Daon Corp. He helps develop biometric software for the travel industry. Robert recently participated in his first triathlon and finished! He loves the DC area and would love to hear from any classmates. • **Joana Sommerkamp** was recently married to **Robert Van Gulik '94, 95 TESS** and their son Mark Van Gulik Sommerkamp **43**, was born in Chelsea, London, January 26.

**00** **Miloš Markovic** told us the good news about starting a company in Geneva. He says he is really happy with how things are going so far, and is even thinking of settling in Geneva for good. • **Christina Miles** visited the campus in March 2006 with **Ollie Rasini** **44** (see Class of '99). She was taking a vacation and was traveling with her parents who came to see the campus as well. Christina is living in New York City and has a job working with the Metropolitan

Museum of Modern Art. • **Paolo Andrade** graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in operations engineering. Currently, he is working with a local consulting firm in Ann Arbor, Michigan. • **Sergej Dolezil** exclaims, "Hey people! I live in Zagreb, Croatia and have been working in KPMG's Croatian office, in the tax advisory department for the last two years. This summer, I briefly saw **Clarence Banez '99** and **Goran Vasiljevic '99** in Dubrovnik, and I have been in touch with **Miloš Markovic**. If anyone is still out there (**Takuro Kido** where are you, man?) please write to [sergej.dolezil@gmail.com](mailto:sergej.dolezil@gmail.com)."

**01** **Alex Clay** is currently working for IBM as a programmer in Northern Vermont. • Having graduated from Boston University in December, **Selin Turkmen** is living in Istanbul, Turkey, and working as an editor for **ALEM Magazine**. • **Christiane Deniger** is a lawyer and living in London, England. • **Diyanat Mabika** is living on the Upper East Side in Manhattan, taking courses at the Kaplan School, and preparing to enter an M.B.A. program in spring '07. • **Nicholas Goddard** is currently living in New York City and working in alternative energy and computer programming. Nick is in touch with many other '01 graduates including **Merritt Gurley** and **Sarah Wilson**

**McNeil**. Nick and Merritt were both at **Diana Badawski's** wedding in Martha's Vineyard in September 2005, when she was married to Baron Edward J. Turowski. • Class agent, **Caroline Rothstein**, has just moved to Atlanta where she is working and writing – her first stop on a cross country journey around the United States to do research for writing and social activism. • **Thiago De Aragao** is a political analyst and sociologist. He works at Arko Advice, specializing in political analysis and is the Director of Political Risk Analysis for Latin America. He's also a research associate for a British think tank called Foreign Policy Centre ([www.fpc.org.uk](http://www.fpc.org.uk)). After leaving TASIS, he went to Dublin, Ireland, to play football (soccer) professionally for a club named Bohemians F.C. in the Irish Premier League – but several knee injuries forced him to stop playing. Currently he's living in Porto Alegre, Brazil but spend most of the time in Brasília, where his company is based.

**02** **Katie Hope** just graduated from Otis College of Art and Design and really enjoyed teaching 2 graphic arts classes at her old high school to incoming freshmen over the summer. She sends greetings to her old classmates and teachers.

**03** After 5 years in Switzerland, **Vasily Vavilov** **45** decided that there is no place like home! He is studying at Ural State University, goes snowboarding every day, and car racing frequently. • **Remington Franklin** is playing water polo for the UofA. • **Su-Chiao Chao** **46** just started language school in Japan and is hoping to get into an animation school within a year! • **Lindsay (Smith) Glidden** was married on November 12th, 2005, in Las Vegas! She now has two step-children, and a great life. She is taking a pre-license course to get her real estate license. She and her family now live in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In her note, Lindsay expressed how much she misses everyone from TASIS, and would love to get back in touch with fellow alumni. • **Paoly Canedo Vincent** has been studying in Mexico City and in August will be moving to London to study there for some time. He misses TASIS and had a wonderful experience he had while he was there.

**04** **Christof Zancchia** is now going to Berklee College, and has been recently placed on the Dean's list for the spring semester of the 2006 academic year. • **Rina Kawai** is a junior in Claremont McKenna College, where she is a mentor for the Send Asian Pacific American Mentoring Program. She has also started to work at the

psychology research lab for a professor there. She says, "I miss TASIS a lot, and I hope to visit again sometime! Just as every summer, I met many of the TASIS friends in Tokyo, Japan. This is a picture of us with another friend of ours. In the picture are **Stas (Stanislav Strijtski), Kanoko Tamura, Masahiro Yo, Kei Aikawa, Shu Okada, Naoki Nishioka** and myself." **47**.

**05** **Alanna Cherry** **48** tells us, "Since graduation, I have been home to Kenya to visit with family and friends. I then moved on to Sofia, Bulgaria, where I did some volunteer work at the U.S. Embassy. Then I caught a plane to Ramstein, Germany to join the greatest Air Force this world has ever seen. I stuck it out through boot camp like any old TASIS alumna would and graduated on May 19th as an Honor Flight member. So now I am in the U.S. Air Force learning a lot of new things. I will keep you posted on new changes in my life!" • **Permele Doyle** is in her second year at the University of Virginia and loving it. She joined a sorority last spring which gives lots of ridiculous themed parties.

**06** **Andre Nogueira** is now living in São Paulo, in the first year of University Law. He entered the university he wanted and says he is really happy! He sometimes misses his life back in Campinas and his family and friends, but the cities are not far, so he can visit them often. He says "Life in São Paulo is actually great!" • **Hanna Bree** wrote to say the following: "I have been attending the George Washington University in Washington D.C. since this fall. Without planning on attending the same university, one of my close friends from TASIS, **Austin (Charlie) Perez** is now not only attending GWU as well but is also my roommate! We are both enjoying our nation's capitol and the school itself very much." • **Fabiana Bauer** **49**

reports she and her partner, **Anton**, are as happy as ever. Anton is studying in Manchester, while she is in London, but they see each other every weekend.

## POST GRADUATE PROGRAM

**66** **Steven Kampmann** **50** took a trip with three teacher friends to Nepal. They saw Mt. Everest, cremations at the Pashupatinah Temple, and Katmandhu from the top of the "Monkey" Temple. He also recently took a trip to Amsterdam and Vienna with his wife Judith. Their trip was a whirlwind of planes, trains, trams, taxis, canal boats, river boats, subways, a 1897 Ferris wheel, a roller coaster, Mozart, Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Sigmund Freud, Anne Frank, Roman ruins, Beethoven's autograph on a bar wall, and much, much more.

• **Jack Graf** attended the 50th Anniversary Reunion and had a wonderful time. His wife, Kay, who also attended, finally got to see for herself the impact TASIS has had on each of its students, as she watched them all interact and come together again. Jack and Kay were able to purchase a week at Mrs. Fleming's villa in Tuscany at the silent auction held at reunion. They plan to go soon with their family. Their youngest daughter is a D1 varsity lacrosse player at the Ohio State University, and their oldest is a secondary math teacher. • **Robert S. Perkin** attended the 50th Anniversary Reunion and said, "It certainly was a most memorable time to return to TASIS for the 50th Anniversary/40 year reunion. After 40 years, it seemed like a step into the Twilight Zone: talking to friends who looked and sounded the same as though I had never left 1966. I am still trying to convince myself that I was actually there for what I thought was a truly magnificent event."

• **Diana (Davis) Madsen** shares that her youngest daughter, Francie, married John Maletis of Atherton, CA, in June this year. The couple is living near Hanover, NH, while he finishes his M.B.A. at Tuck/Dartmouth. Her oldest daughter, Julie, and Sam Zarou are expecting their first child in December which will make Diana and her husband, Peter, grandparents! Their son, Tripp, is working at Credit Suisse in NYC. Peter and she are always busy. They still see lots of **Billy** and **Dede Wigton**.

**67** **Maude Glore** is recovering after three major surgeries this year including a rotator cuff repair 3 weeks ago. "I'm confined to the house and immobile and going nuts! All children are now launched with only one left in college. Ben graduated from Boston College in the spring and is working in Boston for Samuel Adams beer. He loves the city and is enjoying being on his own. William attends St. Louis University and plays hockey for them. He lived with his grandfather, Hixon Glore, all summer in Lake Bluff and boy did they have fun! I am raising money for the local indigent hospital, Wishard Health Services, and doing CASA work. Right now I have some extremely difficult cases but this is very rewarding. My husband continues at Eli Lilly, though is about to retire. Then what I do not know. All is well."

**83** **Jessica (Carroll) Balabanow** is in Santa Barbara and has just returned to gainful employment after taking a break to raise her little girl who is now almost 6 and just started kindergarten. She's working as an office manager for a chiropractic and acupuncture office. She'd love to hear what any other PGs are up to [Jess40jcb@pacbell.net](mailto:Jess40jcb@pacbell.net).

**89** **Marcella Fondas Bond '88 (TE)** was living in the Cayman Islands for 5 years which is her husband, John's home country. Five years ago, they moved back to the Bahamas. She now has two children, Jack and Emma **51** and opened a clothing boutique which has been really fun! Her twin brother is **John Fondas '88**, (See 88).

**94** **Tugrul Celengil** lived in Brussels for almost 4 years after Lugano. Later, he moved to the States, and lived there for the following 8 years. He feels lucky to have been in touch with some of his friends and visited them in different places. Along his way, he has met some new friends who were TASIS patriots as well. It is true that there is a special bond. He graduated with B.A. in business administration and B.S. in economics. He is still a student of life and very much into holistic studies such as Reiki - the healing power of the universal energy of life. Tugrul has commercial-free online radio broadcasting 24/7 electronic music variations from down tempo to dance. ([www.soundmatic.com](http://www.soundmatic.com)) He moved to Turkey in January, and is working with his father. ([www.fersan.com.tr](http://www.fersan.com.tr)) They

# ALUMNI class news



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produce fermented food products such as McDonald's pickles for Europe and the Middle East. Tugrul is still single, but there is a close candidate. He is finally back home but then again everywhere he has lived felt like home. He says, "I believe I owe this to my valuable TASIS experience." • **Roberto Buono** wrote to say the following: "I would like to let everyone know that, after a year long stay in Madrid, where I started my Ph. D. in mergers and acquisitions, I am now working as a Special Prosecutor for the Office of Monopolistic Affairs of the Puerto Rico Department of Justice. I hope that everyone is doing well and that they stop by San Juan on their next cruise." • **Karolina Gudmundsson** is currently working as the Deputy Representative for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Office for Eastern Africa based in Nairobi, Kenya, covering 13 countries in the region. She has been based there for nearly 2 years after working for the same UN organization at its headquarters in Vienna, Austria as well as the UNODC office for Colombia and Ecuador out of Bogota, Colombia since 2001. She is engaged to Ludovico Dell'Acqua-Bellavitis of Milan, Italy, and they are planning their wedding for late next year.

**05 Enrique Perrella** is currently in Caracas, Venezuela, studying business

administration, about to start his 4th semester. He is happy with his new baby brother **52**, his family, and girlfriend. But, he says, "I miss TASIS way too much and can't wait to go visit again soon. The TASIS lifestyle was the best!"

## TASIS SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**84 Annette (Pontell) Kesler '82 TESS** and her husband, **Filip Kesler '83 TSLP** are delighted to announce that they now have a 15-month-old son named Marko, who was born April 14, 2005. Annette has been teaching ESL since college, and has adjusted her schedule to work part time to spend time with Marko and 12-year-old Luke from her first marriage. Filip, whom Annette met while enrolled in TSLP, works in Silicon Valley and is involved with software – which is nice, as he sometimes is able to work at home.

**86 Mariam Al Idrissi '53** says: "I am an alumna of summer school Switzerland 1985 and 1986. Yes, it

sounds long ago, but time has sure flown by. After leaving Europe to go to North America in 1991, I received my degree in business administration and achieved a good professional career in information technology. Meanwhile, I am changing the direction of my life personally and professionally. That takes some courage and lots of faith, but good things are worth waiting for. I'm currently planning to move back to Europe (Austrian-Italian border) in order to enjoy the family life. I shared many happy moments and developed lasting friendships at TASIS with students, counselors and management folks. I would love to hear from you: [midrissi@msn.com](mailto:midrissi@msn.com)...best regards."

## TASIS ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**85 Giacinto Genco '82 CDE**, the elder of the two Genco (**Filippo '88 TSLP**, **'86 TSLP**, **'82 CDE**) brothers wrote to say the following: "My brother and I are graduate students at Purdue University where after the achievement of our Master's degree in aerospace engineering last fall, we are now in the Ph.D. program for nuclear engineering. We have also been

approached to become full time TA's in the Nuclear Department. For both Filippo and I, this is a crazy, busy semester with courses in nuclear engineering and classes to teach -- but we are having so much fun! A couple of years ago we lost our Daddy (Mr. Bartolomeo Genco) to cancer. In any case, we have a spiritual heritage from him and TASIS is a great part of it! How is Mrs. Fleming doing? Last time we both saw her was in summer 2000 for her birthday in Lugano. Hope all is going well for the Schools and the alumni!"

**86 Annabel and Alexander Watson** (see Faculty & Staff)

**88 Filippo Genco** (see TSLP '85)

## PROJECT EUROPE

**68 Bob Horner** still keeps in touch with fellow PE classmate **Brock Foster '54**. They continue to exchange the "Friendship Quarter" whenever they get a chance to see each other, and their next mission is to start a journal accounting for their visits. They would love to hear from other PE '68 students.

## SWISS HOLIDAY

**64 Lucy (Hadsall) Hedrick** caught us up with her life. In March, she was in the Virgin Islands for 3 weeks. She spent the first week with three female friends including fellow Swiss Holiday alumna, **Marilyn (Merchant) Schmitt**. The change of scene was wonderful even though it was hectic arranging to take so much time away from her involvement with the Arts Council and her work with her book proposal clients. Lucy has actually begun a new type of writing herself, joining a weekly writer's workshop with the task of writing a novel in the format of a family memoir. She is very much enjoying the challenge. Lucy will stay put in New England for most of the rest of the year, but will spend a week in Western Canada with a friend at the end of August. Then she and George will go to Costa Rica in December to attend a wedding at which George has been invited to give the bride away. They are very much looking forward to visiting that beautiful country.

## TASIS FRENCH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**98 Josie Chiles** has been out of college for three years and will start a Ph.D. in the fall in American Studies at Brown University. In the interim between college and graduate school, she worked in New York for CBS where she was an editor, reviewing content for programs. She was sorry to miss the New York reunion in November, but was in Guatemala working on the television show "Survivor." Now that she is heading back into academia, Josie is thinking ahead to a potential career teaching at the college level – although she is also interested in the possibility of working for a museum.

## TASIS CH FACULTY

**Michele and John Watson (TASIS, CDE)** were in South Africa with their daughter, **Annabel '85, '86 CDE, '04 CDE Staff** for the wedding of their son, **Alexander '81 – '86 CDE '55**, to Melissa Vermeulen on March 4, 2006. Alexander and Melissa will reside in Port Elizabeth, South Africa where Alexander is working as a Health and Safety Officer and Melissa at the beginning of her career as a professional photographer. Annabel is living and working in Barcelona, Spain working in customer support. • **Patrick MacIntosh (TASIS 2003)** is in San Francisco. He just married his wife, Toby **56**. They are both teachers. He is teaching sixth grade at A.P. Giannini Middle School in San Francisco's Sunset District. His

wife is teaching algebra and geometry in a high school in Fremont. They just bought a house in Placerville, east of Sacramento. Patrick started an online distribution business that is going well. He received a \$15,000 grant to develop a music and science program at his middle school and is expanding on the model that he made in the TASIS middle school in 2002. • **Sandy and Julie Doerge (TASIS & TE)** wrote to say, "We have been in and around Dallas for the last 18 years! Sandy has been Head of School for the past eight years and is now at Selwyn School in Denton, Texas, right across the street from the University of North Texas. I have been a school nurse for most of that time, except for three years I took off to be with our twins, Katie and Alex. I am currently at The Lamplighter School, which is a private elementary school of 460 kids Pre-K to 4th grade and I love my job. Katie and Alex will start high school next year, which is hard to believe. They are both good students, play in the band and play volleyball and tennis respectively. We have promised them a trip to Europe after they take European history so we will put Thorpe on the itinerary as well as Lugano. We keep in touch with many of our TASIS friends and remember those years fondly. We love to hear from old friends and always welcome visitors." • **Ken Blessing (TASIS, TE)** exchanged wedding vows with Rae Parrott on New Year's Eve in Puerto Rico **57**, full of joy because all of their children were able to share this special moment with them. They enjoyed nearly a week of a little sailing, a little snorkeling, a little kayaking, and a lot of fun with the kids before heading back to Vermont. They are in the midst of a major building project

there and hope to squeeze in a quick visit to England in the not too distant future, so Ken can introduce Rae, who has already seen the Lugano campus, to Thorpe and see all the recent campus developments himself. • After a long time away from the TASIS community, **Hendrik Woods (TASIS '65-'68)** sent in this note: "I am indeed the Hendrik Woods who taught at TASIS from 1965-68. I am teaching, much as I did in Montagnola forty years ago. However, the students are Vietnamese university students, the setting is Ho Chi Minh City, and the instruction is all about market capitalism. And the experience is just as enjoyable as in TASIS days. I do this twice a year along with teaching in Brussels at Boston University's Graduate International Program and the United Business Institutes, and both schools are notable for the international diversity of their students. In the winter, we escape to Portugal and other warm spots to paint and lounge around since Brussels, like London, loses its allure at that time of the year. I returned to education after a career in government and industry. Before retirement I was in London with BP and my wife and I had the pleasure of visiting with Mrs. Fleming at her Chelsea home. What an incredibly positive force of nature she is. It would be great to hear from Celeste Clement '69 and any other students from that very special era at TASIS. **53**

## TASIS IN MEMORIAM

**Terence Cosier '74** died from a short battle of metastasis colon cancer. He was diagnosed on October 13, 2005 and had to have emergency surgery on November 2. He and his wife cut

short their Thanksgiving trip, when he was told he had less than 2 weeks to live. Terence always talked about the experiences and people he had met at TASIS. He was a beloved husband, son, and brother who lived life to the fullest and enjoyed traveling and being with family and friends.

• Many of you may know that **Hillary Bernhard** who attended TASIS from 1972-76 passed away in 1998. Her son, Chris, is a freshman at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He wrote to TT asking if anyone who knew his mom would share their memories, impressions, stories or photos with him. He can be reached at [christopher.shwayka@colorado.edu](mailto:christopher.shwayka@colorado.edu)

**MacRae A. Ross '65**, of McLean, Va.; April 28, of pancreatic cancer. A former publishing executive, he owned and operated Ross & Co., a direct-marketing firm. He spoke at business-development seminars worldwide. One of his frequent lecture topics was? Twelve Ways to Kill Your Business? He was earlier a senior editor of financial newsletters at Phillips International, where he also developed marketing strategies. He had also been an editor at Harcourt Brace Jovanovich in New York City. Early in his career he taught literature and history at the American School in Lugano, Switzerland, and ran a printing and publishing business focused on poetry and educational books. He played rugby and coached a youth soccer team. A U.S. Army Signal Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, he served in Thailand. He is survived by his wife, Marji, three daughters, a brother, and two sisters.

## Live Today. Plan for Tomorrow.

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Making a planned gift to TASIS through your will or estate provides a future source of support for students, faculty, and programs, and helps sustain all aspects of the School's outstanding educational program.

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Contact: Director of Development and Alumni Relations  
The American School in Switzerland  
CH 6926 Lugano, Switzerland  
[hans.figi@tasis.ch](mailto:hans.figi@tasis.ch)

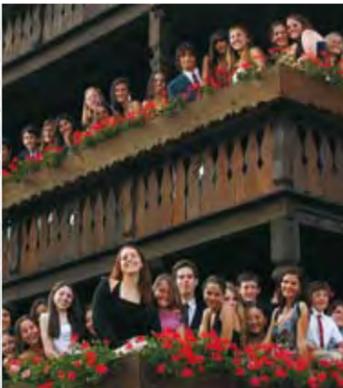
# TASIS Summer Programs



**TASIS The American School in Switzerland** offers a challenging college-preparatory academic year program on its Lugano campus to day students grades Pre-K-13 and boarding students grades 7-13. Boasting over 50 nationalities, TASIS takes advantage of its location in the heart of Europe to provide an outstanding educational program with an international dimension.

In addition to a strong American college-preparatory curriculum, TASIS offers the International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and EAL courses, along with many travel opportunities. A winter highlight is the annual January Ski Week when the School relocates for skiing, snowboarding, and ice-skating to Crans-Montana, Switzerland.

**TASIS The American School in England**, frequently cited as the premier American school in the UK, offers an American college-preparatory curriculum to day students from Pre-K through 12 and to boarding students from grades 9 through 12. Located 18 miles southwest of London on a beautiful 35-acre estate of Georgian mansions and 17th-century cottages, TASIS England combines an excellent academic program with exceptional facilities for art, drama, music, computers, and sports. TASIS also offers the International Baccalaureate, a full ESL course of study, and Advanced Placement courses in all disciplines.



**The TASIS French Language Program (TFLP)** offers an intensive four-week session for students aged 13 to 17. The Program is based in Château d'Oex, one of the most scenic alpine regions of French-speaking Switzerland. During an optional fifth week students and teachers relocate to Nice to explore the French Riviera.



**The TASIS Spanish Summer Program (TSSP)** is an intensive one-month Spanish course for high-school students ages 13 to 17. The Program is based in the beautiful city of Salamanca, center of the historic kingdom of Castile and home of one of Europe's oldest universities. Six levels of Spanish are offered from beginning to advanced, and all classes have a small student/teacher ratio. The Program includes travel to Madrid, Granada, Toledo, and the Alhambra. All students and teachers relocate to the Costa del Sol for the Program's final week.

**Have your children or grandchildren live the dream of attending school or a special TASIS summer program in beautiful Europe. . . .**



**The Middle School Program (MSP)**, on the Lugano campus, is specifically designed for students aged 11 to 13 to study English as an Additional Language or French. The program provides appropriate academic challenges and recreational activities for this transitional age group within a warm and caring community. Students choose special workshops to attend two afternoons a week from Music and Drama,

Art, Special Sports, or Tennis. During the remaining afternoons, students participate in other activities, sports, and excursions. Four-week and three-week sessions.



**Le Château des Enfants (CDE)** is a summer program of learning and fun for 6 to 10 year olds. Sharing the Lugano campus with TSP and MSP, but with its own separate living and dining facilities, the Program teaches English or French through lessons, games, activities, sports, and art in a close-knit, caring, family-style community specifically tailored to younger children. Picnics, excursions, and camping trips are also offered. Four-week and three-week sessions.



**The TASIS England Summer School (TESS)**, based on the TASIS England campus, offers courses for students ages 12 to 18 in English Literature and Composition, Biology, Chemistry, SAT and TOEFL Review, High School Skills, Middle School Skills, and most high school mathematics courses which include IB Preparation components. Samples of course titles are: ShakespeareXperience,

Architecture & Archaeology, Art Portfolio, Speed Reading, Musical Theater, Theater in London, Ensemble Theater, Movie Animation, and Lights Camera Action. Sports take place every afternoon, and weekends include trips to Wales, Edinburgh, and Paris. Six-week, four-week, and three-week sessions with an optional week at the Edinburgh Festival are offered.



**Les Tapies Arts & Architecture Program** offers an intensive 3-week design and cultural experience for students ages 16 to 19. It is a hands-on study of French vernacular architecture and the functional / aesthetic relationship it shares with the landscape. The Program is for mature students who have a strong interest in

the arts or who are considering a career in architecture, art, or design. Les Tapies' ideal location just north of Provence provides extensive opportunities for excursions which draw on the cultural richness of this fascinating area.



**TASIS Summer Program (TSP)** The TASIS Summer Program for Languages, Arts, and Outdoor Pursuits, based on the campus of The American School in Switzerland in Lugano, offers intensive language courses in English as an Additional Language, French, and Italian for 14 to 18 year olds. Students studying Italian may choose to spend an extra week at the home of an Italian host family. Besides language courses, the program offers courses in Engineering, Digital Photography, Painting Ticino,

and a new course in Art History. The Program includes artistic activities, a wide choice of sports, alpine activities, and weekend excursions in Switzerland and Italy. Four-week and three-week sessions.



**TASIS English Language Program (TELP)** is based on the TASIS England campus. It offers intensive English as a Second Language for students ages 12 to 18 along with sports every afternoon, and optional weekend trips to Wales, Edinburgh, and Paris. Students share accommodation with TESS students and consequently have many opportunities to develop their English-language skills in a relaxed setting as well as in the classroom. Four-week, three-week, and seven-week sessions with an optional week at the Edinburgh Festival are offered.

## Application Procedure

To obtain a catalog with application materials or for more information, please contact:

**TASIS The American School in Switzerland**, Admissions Office  
 CH-6926 Montagnola-Lugano, Switzerland  
 Tel: +41 91 960 51 51 - Fax: +41 91 993 16 47  
 e-mail: summer@tasis.ch  
 or: admissions@tasis.ch for academic year applicants or  
**TASIS Schools and Programs**  
 1640 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20007, USA  
 Tel: +1 202 965 5800 Fax: +1 202 965 5816  
 e-mail: usadmissions@tasis.com  
[www.tasis.com](http://www.tasis.com)

*TASIS admits qualified students of any race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin in its admissions policies and practices.*

# The TISIS Travel Connection

## Badrutt's Palace Hotel, St. Moritz, Switzerland

Badrutt's Palace Hotel, situated amidst breathtakingly beautiful and unspoiled scenery, has long been hailed as a landmark in the center of St. Moritz and is the ultimate expression of the Swiss Alps region. A favorite of celebrities and royalty alike since its opening in 1896, the Palace Hotel offers 165 guestrooms and 30 suites with stunning views of the Swiss Alps.

Operated by TISIS parent, Hans Wiedemann, the 5-star Badrutt's Palace Hotel heartily welcomes TISIS friends and alumni.

Awards

- 2005 Best Resort Hotel from World Travel Awards
- 2005 Condé Nast Traveler Gold List, Best places to stay in the world.
- 2006 PATWA, Hans Wiedemann - Hotelier of the Year

For more information, visit [www.badruttspalace.com](http://www.badruttspalace.com)



## Intercontinental Hotel, Aqaba, Jordan

TISIS parent and supporter, Christopher Moloney of Intercontinental Hotels is pleased to cater to TISIS family and friends.

Intercontinental Aqaba offers 255 luxurious bedrooms and suites and is situated on a private beach on the shores of the Red Sea. The hotel is 15 minutes away from King Hussein International Airport and a 10-minute walk from downtown Aqaba. Famous for its coral reefs, the Red Sea offers excellent sites for scuba diving and snorkeling.

## Intercontinental Hotel, Amman, Jordan

Winner of Best Business Hotel in Amman Award of the Business Traveler Magazine, Hotel Intercontinental Jordan enjoys a prime location at the heart of the business & diplomatic area of Amman. Located within walking distance of the city centre, Intercontinental Jordan is only a 30-minute drive from Queen Alia International Airport.

For more information, visit [www.intercontinental.com](http://www.intercontinental.com)



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Parting Shots

# Summer Break: Destination Africa

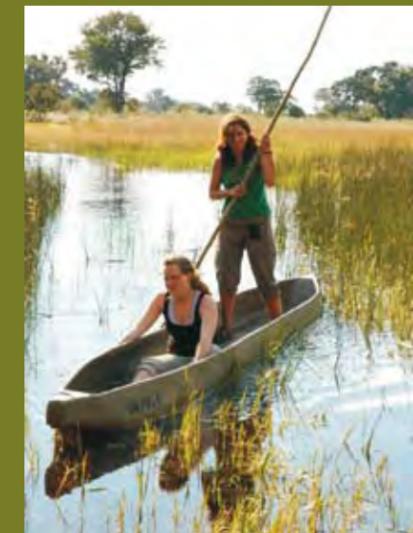
*Laura Ruzzante '07, from Padua, Italy, recounts her trip with nine other TISIS students and teachers Howard Stickley and Angela Broeckel.*

This summer I had the fortune of being able to go to Africa for six weeks, and I have to say it turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life. I really enjoyed my stay in Zambia and working at the primary school. Most of the students at the primary school did not speak English, but we were able to communicate otherwise. We had a great time playing games with them, and being introduced to their games. We taught classes, painted classrooms, donated mosquito nets to local villagers and money for a local clinic and land conservation. We also gave school supplies, bought by TISIS students, to a secondary school.

After a week in Zambia's Western Province, we then moved to Botswana, for the safari part of our trip. We saw an amazing variety of animals, and it was wonderful to be able to admire these creatures in their natural habitat rather than in cages in a zoo.

We then went overland by truck all the way from Livingstone, in Southern Zambia, through Malawi and finally to Moshi, in Northern Tanzania.

My favorite part of the trip was most certainly climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro. There are no words to express the feeling of reaching the summit, as the joy and sense of achievement are mixed with utter exhaustion. Our adventure to "the Roof of Africa" lasted six days. We all kept on encouraging each other to not give up and were anxious to make it to the top. Our determination and high spirits paid off, as all of us were able to summit!



Photos:  
**Left:** Laura Ruzzante & Luca Stickley painting the primary school walls.  
**Middle up:** Group shot on the primary school entrance sign.  
**Middle down:** Julia Billings & Audrey Garber teaching class.  
**Right:** -Julia and Audrey in a makoro in Okavango Delta.