



# Athletics

## AT HORACE MANN SCHOOL

Where the Life of the Mind is  
strengthened by the significance of sports



Horace Mann alumni have opportunities to become active with their School and its students in many ways.

Last year alumni took part in life on campus as speakers and participants in such dynamic programs as HM's annual Book Day and Women's Issues Dinner, as volunteers at the School's Service Learning Day, as exhibitors in an alumni photography show, and in alumni athletic events and Theater Department productions.








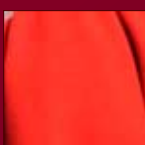





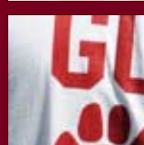




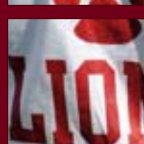









Alumni also support Horace Mann as participants in HM's Annual Fund campaign, and through the Alumni Council Annual Spring Benefit.

This year alumni are invited to participate in the Women's Issues Dinner on April 1, 2009 and Book Day, on April 2, 2009. Book Day is a day that engages the entire Upper Division in reading and discussing one literary work. This year's selection is *Ragtime*. The author, E.L. Doctorow, will be the keynote speaker.

For information about these and other events at Horace Mann, or about how to assist and support your School, and participate in planning events, please contact:

**Kristen Worrell,**  
Assistant Director of Development,  
Alumni Relations and Special Events  
(718) 432-4106 or  
[Kristen\\_Worrell@horacemannalumni.org](mailto:Kristen_Worrell@horacemannalumni.org)

## Upcoming Events

November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
	<b>5</b> Upper Division Band Concert				<b>1</b> Women's Issues Dinner		<b>3</b> HM Alumni Council Annual Spring Benefit
	<b>6-7</b> Middle Division Theater Production	<b>10</b> Robert Buzzell Memorial Games		<b>6</b> Upper Division Orchestra Concert	<b>2</b> Book Day, featuring E.L. Doctorow	<b>6</b> Bellet Teaching Award Dinner	<b>5-7</b> HM Theater Alumni Production
			<b>13</b> Urban Aid	<b>11</b> Lower Division Arts Festival Band Concert		<b>15</b> Upper Division Glee Club and Orchestra Concert	<b>10</b> Upper Division Graduation
	<b>19</b> Upper Division Glee Club and Orchestra Concert			<b>12</b> Lower Division Arts Festival Choral Concert	<b>19</b> Middle Division Art Show	<b>19</b> Middle Division Concert	
							
<b>26</b> Reunion, Class of 2008			<b>27</b> Upper Division Choral Concert		<b>30</b> Upper Division Art Show		

HM looks forward to seeing you!



# Contents

## 2 LETTERS

## 4 GREETINGS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

## 5 GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

## 6 **Physical Education and Athletics at Horace Mann, where the Life of the Mind is strengthened by the significance of sports**

Throughout its 121-year history Horace Mann School has emphasized excellence in teaching and learning in the physical as well as intellectual realms. From its physical education curriculum to the way the School weaves athletic participation within the academic sphere HM has inspired generations of alumni to incorporate fitness and physical pursuits into their lives long after graduation. For current students, physical education and athletic activities offer a myriad of benefits—from learning discipline and a sense of achievement, to having fun and creating lasting friendships. *Horace Mann Magazine* explores this aspect of the HM curriculum today, and also shares the stories of some notable alumni in sports—from Paul Zimmerman '49 (better known as Dr. Z of *Sports Illustrated* fame), to 92-year-old fitness guru Bonnie Prudden '33, to one of Major League Baseball's newest recruits, Pedro Alvarez '05. Suit up and read on.

## 30 Teaching for Life

**Amy Mojica Athletic Trainer, Teammate, "Coach"**  
The latest feature in an ongoing series on teaching at Horace Mann School today.



Teacher and coach Gregg Quilty



Teacher and coach Tim Sullivan

Cover photo inside and back cover photo © by James Levine. Inside back cover photo © by Bruce Fuller. Unless otherwise noted all articles and photographs are by Ruth Seligman, Director of Publications, Alumni House and Development Office



Physical education teacher and coach Caroline Surhoff gathers her students together on the Lower Division's "Grasshopper" field.

## horace mann school journal

### 31 NEWS OF THE SCHOOL

Kathy Spicer and Chris Jones are named "Bellet Award" finalists; HM graduates 173; Horace Mann embarks on a Strategic Planning phase; HM names six to Board of Trustees.

## horace mann alumni journal

### 43 ALUMNI COUNCIL CORNER

Alumni Council President Justin Lerer '95 reviews events of the year and invites alums to participate in more; HM draws over 800 alumni and families to Homecoming and Reunions.

### 48 BOOKSHELF

### 53 CLASS NOTES

### 60 MEMORIALS

### 64 PHILANTHROPY AND YOU

Wallace Chavkin, HM grandparent, tells why he worked hard on behalf of Horace Mann.

## A powerful HM memory

Thank you for your thoughtful and accurately written write-up in the Spring HM magazine.

With about 10 guys meeting at Saul's (Zabar's) '46 apartment, Mike Loeb '46, Bill Sarnoff '46, Bernard Futter '46, Alan Newmark '46, Jay Langsdorf '46, Maurice Solomon '46, Jack Richards '46, Alan Rosenberg '46 et alia, the conversation soon turned to nostalgia and the respect and courtesy we all accorded our teachers. Dress code then was jacket and tie and courtesy was Yes/sir, No/sir. We all allowed as how character was built and demonstrated by our teachers' steadfast devotion (yes, devotion) to their subject(s) and "we students."

Growing up in my Grandfather's house on Riverside Drive, with absent parents and my Grandfather mostly in Switzerland, HM became my surrogate family and a more important experience for me than perhaps for others. I shared with the group one occasion that was still in memory, vivid as yesterday and oft-called to mind at odd moments, often subliminally, but which always surfaces to reality.

It was the war years, '43 or '44, and the student body was in the auditorium engaged in our Wednesday morning sing... the likes of Lord Jeffery Amherst, Men of Harlech, Ivy League Football songs and the like.

In the student body was Andre Elkind, a French lad, among the hundreds of students in that assembly hall. By accident or design, on the projection screen, which served as our song guide, "The Marsellaise" was presented. Andre immediately arose, the wooden molded seat we all sat in resounded with the spring-loaded flat part hitting the backrest.

That was the first sound. Immediately, without a word or gesture, the whole assembly of students arose simultaneously. The seats all snapping up in a unified sound that I can still hear. The effect was electrifying. Not a word or sign was given... yet the immediacy and cohesiveness of the students was instantaneously communicated as though being given an unseen signal.

I think that was the spirit and unification that vivified for me the Horace Mann experience. It was the single most manifest and spontaneous event I have ever experienced and lives with me today. Nothing even comes close!

**Samuel Messiter '46**

## Former faculty members omitted

I was disappointed that *Horace Mann Magazine* omitted an influential science teacher and department chair in the recent article "Science Studies at Horace Mann School." Dr. Carole Stearns taught me AP chemistry during senior year, and is my mother. She worked at HM from 1979-1989 where she was a chemistry and physics teacher, chair of the science department (1982-1986) and head of the upper school (1986-1989). She was best known for challenging her AP chemistry and AP physics classes, and attracted the best and brightest students to her classes. She taught many of the students you interviewed, and was a colleague to many of the teachers. (In fact, she hired many of them.) She spent countless hours working to challenge her students and to develop a top notch science curriculum and department.

I wish you had recognized her contribution and dedication to making the HM science department world class. I believe she "modeled" much of what you described throughout the article.

**Susan Stearns '85**

*Editor's note: We regret that Horace Mann Magazine's article on science studies throughout the School (Vol. 1, 2008) did not include Dr. Carole Stearns and the significant contributions she made to HM and its science department during the years she taught here in. While the article did briefly look at how science was taught at HM in the past, and how the teaching of science has evolved at this School, the purpose of the piece was to focus on the science curriculum of today throughout all of HM's Divisions, and to demonstrate how learning in one Division leads to further exploration in the next. We were fortunate to be able to present the reflections of a handful of the many HM alumni whose studies at Horace Mann led to a continuing pursuit of science-related professions, but we did not have the space to write about the many exceptional teachers who influenced so many students. Dr. Stearns was one such teacher and role model. Another from recent memory was former Science Department Chair Dr. Fran Pearlmuter, who retired in 2006, but continued to pitch in as a chemistry teacher during the 2007-2008 school year.*

## HORACE MANN SCHOOL

Dr. Thomas M. Kelly  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dr. David Schiller  
HEAD OF UPPER DIVISION (9-12)

Robin Ingram  
HEAD OF MIDDLE DIVISION (6-8)

Wendy Steintal  
HEAD OF LOWER DIVISION (K(U) -5)

Patricia Zuroski  
HEAD OF NURSERY DIVISION (N, K(D))

Glenn Sherratt  
DIRECTOR OF JOHN DORR NATURE  
LABORATORY

## THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2008-2009

### OFFICERS

Steven M. Friedman '72  
CHAIR

Deborah S. Cogut  
VICE CHAIR

Carolyn Okin  
VICE CHAIR

Lawrence Shelley  
TREASURER

Robert Heidenberg '76  
SECRETARY

### TRUSTEES

Frederick Adler  
Steven Bussey '85  
Nathaniel Christian, III '79  
Michael Colacino '75  
Jamshid Ehsani  
Richard Friedman '75  
Catherine Goodstein Wallace '87  
Laurence Grafstein  
Lawrence Otis Graham  
Theresa Havell  
Mindy Heyer  
Elliot Konopko '71  
Justin Lerer '95  
Edward Levy  
Andrea Baumann Lustig  
Howard Lutnick  
Eric Mindich  
William Montgomery  
David Parker  
Michael Pruzan '83  
Joseph Rose '77  
Richard Ruben '72  
Usha Saxena  
Regina Kulik Scully '81  
Beth Kobliner Shaw  
Silda Wall Spitzer  
Thomas Stern  
Samona Tait Johnson '86  
**CHAIR EMERITI**  
Richard Eisner '52  
Peter Gross '55  
Michael Hess '58

Robert Katz '65  
Alan Locker '57  
Michael Loeb '46  
Carl Pforzheimer, III '54  
Daniel Rose '47

### TRUSTEES EMERITI

William Aaron  
Susan Baldwin  
Tina Bellet  
Bruce Brickman '70  
Kai Chan  
Donald Jonas '47  
Dayna Langfan, '79  
Bert Lewen  
Herbert Neuman  
Morton L. Olshan  
Gideon Rose '81  
Jordan Roth '93  
Miles Stuchin, '70  
Elliott Summers  
David Tillinghast '47  
Neil Underberg

## PARENTS ASSOCIATION 2008-2009 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Andrea Baumann Lustig  
PRESIDENT

Cindy Scheinfeld  
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Corinne Spurrier  
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

Lisa Noble  
SECRETARY

Julie Chen Hosaido  
TREASURER

Daryl Eisenberg  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

Barbara Goldman  
Linda Winikoff-Kreisler  
CO-CHAIRS — UPPER DIVISION

Cathy Gollub  
VICE-CHAIR — UPPER DIVISION

Lynette Federer  
SECRETARY — UPPER DIVISION

Ellen Hefter  
Farrah Kleiner  
CO-CHAIRS — MIDDLE DIVISION

Amy Gibbons  
SECRETARY — MIDDLE DIVISION

Staci Barber  
Allison Essner  
CO-CHAIRS — LOWER DIVISION

Ida Parks  
VICE-CHAIR — LOWER DIVISION

Susan Kane  
SECRETARY — LOWER DIVISION

Elizabeth Sloan  
CHAIR — NURSERY DIVISION

Bari Goldmacher '90  
VICE-CHAIR — NURSERY DIVISION

Timothy Brown  
SECRETARY — NURSERY DIVISION

## ALUMNI COUNCIL 2008-2009 OFFICERS

Justin Lerer '95  
PRESIDENT

Sari Mayer '84  
VICE-PRESIDENT

Wesley Mittman LePatner '99  
SECRETARY

### MEMBERS

Michael Barr '81  
Sharon Bazbaz '92  
Ronald Blum '79  
Jeffrey Brosk '65  
Anthony Brown '76  
Louise Elton '80  
Randy Fields '94  
Paul Getzels '81  
Cortnee Glasser '92  
Cary Sidlett Gunther '93  
Donald Hillman '42  
William Irwin '74  
Samantha Kleier Forbes '90  
Sabrina Kleier Morgenstern '94  
Mark Langfan '78  
Noah Leichtling '92  
Elisabeth Lerner '86  
Mickey Littmann '52  
Ephram Lustgarten '96  
Peter Mandelstam '79  
Jeffrey Margolis '63  
Herbert Nass '77  
William Nightingale '49  
Daniel Pianko '94  
Jason Polevoy '90  
Wendy Elias Sassower '90  
Andrew Schoenthal '91  
Daniel Silvers '94  
John Sorkin '86  
Joelle Tisch '95  
Daniel Turkewitz '91  
Lisa Braunstein Zola '83

### EMERITI

Alli Baron '89  
Peter Brown '53  
David Jacoby '72  
Robert Judell '41  
Ronald Katter '78  
Michael Katz '56  
Dayna Langfan '79  
Jodi Grossman Nass '78  
Suzanne Sloan '77

### FRIENDS

Samantha Cooper Brand '01  
Marc Cornstein '88  
Loren Easton '97  
Robin Fisher '00  
Amy Gold '98  
Blake Indursky '90

William Kuhn '99  
Peter Levine '93  
Mark Littmann '02  
Franklin Lowe '70  
Hayley Friedman Morrison '92  
Daniel Rosenberg '92  
Sara Roby Wiener '97

## PUBLISHED BY THE ALUMNI HOUSE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Horace Mann School  
231 W. 246<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bronx, NY 10471  
Phone: 718.432.3450  
Fax: 718.432.3010  
[www.horacemannalumni.org](http://www.horacemannalumni.org)  
© 2008

## ALUMNI HOUSE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Nurie Hasandjekaj  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE AND  
DATABASE MANAGER

Eleni Jiavaras  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE,  
ALUMNI RELATIONS

Barbara Melamed  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE,  
GIFT PROCESSING

Melissa Parento '90  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Kristen Pietraszek  
DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING

Amy Reinharz  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF  
DEVELOPMENT FOR ALUMNI GIVING

Ruth Seligman  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS/EDITOR

Kristen Worrell  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF  
DEVELOPMENT, ALUMNI RELATIONS  
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## DESIGN

RE:CREATIVE

## PRIMARY PHOTOGRAPHY

James Levine  
Ruth Seligman

## PRINTING

Capital Offset Company, Inc.



# head of school School



**T**his is a special time of year at Horace Mann School. Students are settled in to their studies, and are well past those back-to-school-jitter days. They've adjusted to their classes, gotten to know their teachers, and made new friends. Mid-terms are over, but final exams are not yet underway. This is a time to think and learn, to paint and to practice for sports teams or performances. In short, this is the time to indulge in the experience of education at Horace Mann. The golden days of autumn on our beautiful campus offer a perfect metaphor for the glow of fulfillment one feels in just being here.

It's a peaceful time, but hardly routine, for no day ever is at Horace Mann. Not when each is a day for discovery, as students seek, and are provided with, the opportunity to explore new subjects, or delve more deeply into favorite ones, under the direction of teachers who relish nothing more than guiding this pursuit. In the Upper, Middle, Lower and Nursery Divisions, and at our magnificent John Dorr Nature Center, these are days of pure enchantment.

As one walks this campus framed these days by leaves ablaze in fall color, it's a unique pleasure to stop for a moment to gaze across our lawns. During lunchtimes and after school our fields are dotted with young men and women running, tossing, passing, and hitting—footballs, soccer and tennis balls, in scenes punctuated by sounds of field hockey sticks clicking, of friends cheering. Come game time, a deep maroon adds to the color, as our Lions teams don their HM jerseys and go out to play.

There's something unique even in this. For, in looking at our players dressed in their Horace Mann uniforms one notes that they wear only numbers on their shirts. No names, but that of Horace Mann. That's a policy of our athletic department—to single no one player out, for all the athletes are playing for the School.

In this issue of *Horace Mann Magazine* you'll learn what it means to be part of a sports team at this School, as well as how important we believe an athletic education is, as we examine the role of physical education and athletic participation within our academic core. You'll read about students who have learned the discipline of balancing studies with sport, and about teachers and coaches whose dedication make them mentors. You'll also read of many alums who have paved exciting paths in the world of sports—through playing, writing about, or managing teams—or by using sports to serve their communities. For, the ultimate goal of an athletic education at Horace Mann is to foster in students a passion for fitness, and to incorporate physical pursuit within "The Life of the Mind", while they are here, and for the rest of their lives.

And, what of that "no names on uniforms" policy? It's a significant statement to each one of us at Horace Mann that says though we act, teach, learn and play as individuals, we are, above all, a community. This year, perhaps more than ever before, we are empowered by the strength of our community. For, in uncertain times we rely on *this* certainty: that each of us is able to support one another.

We are also optimistic, for in our students and in the education they receive in our classrooms and on our playing fields lies the hope and promise for the future.

With best wishes always,

**Dr. Thomas M. Kelly P '18**  
**Head of School**

# Director of Development



**A**mong my fondest memories of my student years at Horace Mann School are my experiences in athletics here. I was fortunate to have been able to play JV and Varsity sports throughout my high school years. Countless images come to mind as I reflect on pre-season, practices, wins, and losses. But, strongest are the memories of friendships made and fulfillment found through the help and guidance of incredible teammates and coaches, whose influence and inspiration lasted long after the last game's final whistle.

The current issue of *Horace Mann Magazine* explores the world of physical education and athletics at Horace Mann today. It also introduces readers to several HM alumni who have made sports a focus of their lives, both by pursuing athletics themselves, or by turning to sports as a means for service. Sports and athletics also continue to provide a way for many HM alumni to remain involved with their School. Horace Mann recently celebrated Homecoming and Reunions, on September 20, 2008. A record-breaking 800 plus alumni and their families returned for luncheons, dinners and tours of the campus, or gathered at reunion dinners in Manhattan. Those on campus stopped to watch soccer, field hockey, tennis, volleyball, water polo and football games and matches that day, visiting their former coaches on the sidelines. Many others even played themselves—in the annual Dan Alexander '49 Alumni Soccer Game. And, the "Halftime Happenings" during the football game was an "Alumni vs. student" tug-of-war.

Athletics is only one way through which alumni have the opportunity to connect with their School. Throughout the year there are many more: theater and concert performances, community service efforts, or volunteering for the Annual Fund that helps maintain the strength of this School. The HM Alumni Council (HMAC), together with The Alumni House and Development Office, organizes special events specifically for alumni, including museum tours, lectures, and a favorite—the Annual HMAC Spring Benefit, a terrific casino-night party in Manhattan that raises funds for current students. You're invited to be a part of these events, both by attending and by helping in their planning.

Life at Horace Mann is as stimulating as it ever was. Many have come to think of the HM campus as an extension of their intellectual and cultural life today, as it was back when. Where else, after all, can one indulge in an entire day's examination of a book that has influenced society but on a "Book Day" devoted to a single work? At Horace Mann, Book Days have galvanized an entire Division—its faculty and students—in reading one title, and devoting workshops and seminars to related subjects. *Ragtime* is this year's Book Day choice, with none other than its author, E.L. Doctorow presenting his work. Alumni are encouraged to participate as guests, or by presenting workshops, on April 2, 2008.

In this magazine we feature a list of some of the activities you are invited to attend. Sharing knowledge and expertise first nurtured at Horace Mann is another way to both serve your School and continue reaping the lifelong benefits of a Horace Mann education. Our office and our Alumni representatives are accessible to you as never before. Please stay in touch. We look forward to seeing you at this, your past and current home.

**Melissa Murphy Parento '90**  
**Director of Development**



# Athletics

## AT HORACE MANN SCHOOL

Where the Life of the Mind is strengthened  
by the significance of sports

### June 5, 2008.

For those who follow baseball the date was long-awaited.

For devotees of Horace Mann School, and those who track the accomplishments of its students and alumni, the day was destined to be Pedro's.

Pedro Alvarez, that is—a graduate of the HM Class of 2005 and a pivotal member of the 2004 HM Varsity Baseball team—the first in a decade to capture the Ivy League Championship.

This was the day of Major League Baseball's annual draft of new talent. Everyone knew Alvarez would be drafted. Which team would grasp the chance to invite this all-star high-school and college slugger to play was one detail not yet settled.

What *was* certain was that Alvarez would be among the top picks in the first round of the MLB draft—a true distinction.

Surrounded this day by his family and friends who crowded into the Alvarez' apartment, Pedro was also joined by his HM varsity baseball coach Matt Russo. All had come to await "the call." It came via cell phone from the Pittsburgh Pirates who asked the HM alum if he would be part of the team. In the private of his bedroom decorated with mementos of his achievements, from magazine cover portraits to his HM varsity letter plaque, Pedro answered "Thank You." Returning quickly to the crowd watching the live

TV broadcast Pedro heard his name announced by MLB Commissioner Bud Selig as the nation's number *two* draft pick.

As the living room erupted in cheers Pedro himself appeared to be taking the news in stride. "People were surprised because I didn't look that excited. I was just letting it sink in," he recalled. "But, I'd have to say that *was* the best day of my life, because it was the reward for all the years of work, and all the years of sacrifice my family put in. It was also the start of something new, a career in baseball, something I'd always worked for and dreamed of."

That same week, only a few miles from the Alvarez' Washington Heights apartment, the first graders in HM Lower Division teacher Jean Eifert's class recounted the many things they had learned and experienced throughout the school year. The Arts Festival! Earth Day! Watching chicks hatch in their classroom's incubators... and Field Day! "That was the best!" enthused several of the students. "Yeah, it was the best day of my life," chimed in others.

Field Day is a close-to-40-year-old tradition that marks the culmination of a school year's worth of participation in physical education classes, and learning a variety of skills. The most important of these, for HM's young students, may be learning to listen to instruction, and to cheer one another on.



The students in Ms. Eifert's class, and in the other Kindergarten and Lower Division classes who took part in a series of Field Days during their last week of school last spring, all shared something in common with their fellow HMer Pedro Alvarez. They had all worked, played, and cheered hard, at games they loved. They had all been rewarded by the great time they had together, and by earning a feeling of accomplishment. And, like Pedro, they had something "HM" to hang on their wall—a white satin ribbon bearing the School's insignia with the words "GOOD SPORT" emphasized by the ribbon's most prominent letters.

## Linking the Lessons of Classroom and Field

For both the newest professional player in the history of "America's Sport" and for the youngest athletes at Horace Mann, the experiences leading to this day brought into focus a philosophy that characterizes the place of sports and physical education at this School—a philosophy that aligns academic and physical education in common purpose, and links lessons learned in the classroom with those of the playing field.

Media coverage surrounding the Pedro pick recalled how, as a student entering high school, Alvarez had chosen Horace Mann over a powerhouse baseball school because of HM's more powerful academic program. Repeated as often was the story of how the ballplayer had turned down a post-high school draft offer from the Boston Red Sox, choosing, instead, to pursue his college education at Vanderbilt University.

While a future in baseball was his focus, the academic life Alvarez experienced at Horace Mann is one he values deeply. And, while Pedro's stats speak of his skills, to his friends and former HM teammates and teachers he was a player who brought his sense of fun to each bus ride, a national prospect who demonstrated humility and sportsmanship in his commitment to his Lions team.

For students at every HM grade level the School's physical education and athletic programs provide a focus that is part and parcel of the HM experience—not simply a "subject" added on. Indeed, discussions with physical education teachers throughout every



photo © Jana Crawford/MLB.com

*HM Teacher and coach Matt Russo (near window) joined Pedro Alvarez '05 and his family and friends at the MLB draft celebration.*

Division at Horace Mann highlight how thoroughly this curriculum is considered. "Horace Mann School takes physical education very seriously," said HM Director of Athletics and Physical Education Robert Annunziata.

While New York State requires four years of physical education through high school, at Horace Mann the physical education program does not merely fulfill that requirement, but does so as thoroughly as any discipline at this School. "Students in the Lower and Middle Divisions have gym five days a week, and most Upper Division students have it three days a week," said Annunziata. "We also have 14 fulltime physical education teachers. That is rare for a school, but it shows HM's commitment to the program."

Horace Mann considers physical education and athletics, or team participation, to be two distinct areas, however Annunziata notes that "All of our teachers also coach." By having responsibilities in both areas "coaches gain a perspective on the kinds of skills students need to learn if they would like to participate in team sports, as well as the kind of sports they are interested in."

The department's vigilance in regularly reevaluating course offerings, particularly in relation to students' changing interests in various activities, has resulted in interdisciplinary efforts within the School, Annunziata said. For example, the HM theater department, in cooperation with the physical education department now offers three sections of dance. Students earn physical education credit.

The department also faces challenges ranging from assuring the availability of facilities to accommodate the nearly 700 students in HM's Upper and Middle Divisions involved in sports today, to the need to balance athletic participation within a rigorous academic setting. But, it works, Annunziata said, because of the dedication of the physical education faculty, and its adherence to a common goal of instilling in students the desire to incorporate physical activity into their lives long after they leave Horace Mann.

Horace Mann is a School that manages to mix physical and intellectual activity well, with one area of the educational experience here not only complementing but inspiring the other. Thus, an an-



*HM's Lower Division students learn fitness and good sportsmanship during Field Day.*

nual “Excellence in Teaching Award” (The Tina and David Bellet Award for Teaching Excellence) has recognized physical education teacher-coaches among its finalists and semifinalists, for the rigor of their instruction, and the care, concern and positive influence students experience under their guidance.

In 2007, the “Bellet Award” served as a means for students, parents, and alumni to express their appreciation for nine-time Ivy and State Championship-winning wrestling coach Gregg Quilty, who they described as a patient-yet-firm, soft-spoken-yet-demanding role model. And, for student athletes Horace Mann proves again and again to be a school where they can pursue academic and athletic aspirations.

Renee McDougall '08, perhaps the most celebrated sprinter to come out of Horace Mann, enrolled here in tenth grade. A strong student and already a proven runner, she chose to attend HM because she knew that the coaching would serve her aspirations, both as a student and a nationally-ranked track star. Citing Track and Cross Country (and Middle Division English teacher) Coach Kevin Nicholas the current University of Pennsylvania freshman said that she was able to stop training “outside of school because our team had such good coaching and talented runners.” McDougall's legacy lives on in the girls she ran and broke records with, especially in 4 X 4 relays—where her sister Jackie McDougall '09

... at this School that places nurturing “The Life of the Mind” at its intellectual core, strengthening the physical aspect of an enriched education deepens the Horace Mann spirit and soul.

excels, as well as in the encouragement and inspiration Coach Nicholas said she brought to the team.

For current students, and for one after another HM alumnus, the experience of participating on teams, or of learning a sport through a gym class and continuing to “play” as an adult for fun or fitness, continues to reward in meaningful ways. Some alumni have built careers around athletics—as administrators, sports agents, reporters or producers. Others have turned their sports skills into the key to new friendships and experiences. Some incorporate athletics into volunteer activities. Still others have maintained HM ties forged on the School's playing fields by reuniting for alumni games, or shooting hoops together in the city or even back on campus. And a few have made their mark through athletic prowess.

The roster of HMers who have contributed to the world of sports is significant. *Horace Mann Magazine* invites you to look at their names in a sidebar to this article, and to read the brief profiles presented in these pages. Then, follow their stories in greater depth on the Horace Mann Alumni webpage feature “Alumni Interactive” on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

But first, we invite you to journey through the gyms and courts, the tracks, fields, and training rooms, as well as the “front offices” of each Division of Horace Mann School, to experience the role that physical education and athletics play within a Horace Mann education today.

To understand the depth of the program is to learn about HM itself. For, at this School that places nurturing “The Life of the Mind” at its intellectual core, strengthening the physical aspect of an enriched education deepens the Horace Mann spirit and soul.

## An Athletic Tradition

It was education pioneer Horace Mann himself who, in promoting the cause of universal education in this country in the 1840s, gave equal attention “to the methods of teaching spelling and arithmetic, the importance of music in schools, and the content of physical education to promote healthy living habits.” In his Sixth Report to the Massachusetts Board of Education (1842) the educator described the need to train teachers of physical education, and outlined the necessity of breaking up the school day with periods of play in the fresh air, or by creating gymnasiums within the buildings of his “common school” ideal.

Horace Mann also wrote of the need to devise what would today be called “health and wellness” courses. Thus, in a school bearing this visionary's name, it is not surprising that the earliest curricula included time for outdoor play for boys and girls.

Over the years legendary physical education teachers and coaches have held court in HM's gyms and fields—including Charles Athans, Chester “Chet” Slaybaugh, Gordon “Moose” Miller, Bill Quinn '62, and Julius “Butch” Chemka Jr. in the Lower Division—a beloved

### Bonnie Prudden '33



In 2007, at the age of 93, Bonnie Prudden '33 was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports (PCPFS). And, what a lifetime it's been. The fitness specialist, mountain climber, healer and advocate for sports was one of the founders of the PCPFS, which was established in 1956 as the “President's

Council on Youth Fitness.” Prudden began delivering her fitness message in 1945 when she taught an exercise conditioning class to her daughter's friends after school, using a test developed to evaluate the fitness of children in the U.S., Europe and Central America. Her experiment led to a report presented to President Dwight Eisenhower and ultimately to the establishment of the President's Council. Prudden has authored 19 books on fitness and has developed numerous physical fitness programs for schools, hospitals, camps, factories and other institutions. Renowned in the pain management field, through her myotherapy technique that incorporates physical activity with healing, she was inducted into the National Fitness Hall of Fame in 2006, has dedicated more than 60 years to improving health—and she's still working. None of this would have been possible without the encouragement of Horace Mann, says Prudden. “I was what people called a Tomboy back then, and that was alright with the School,” she recalled. “I played every sport I could there, and they let us girls know that was fine.” Read more at “Alumni Interactive” on

[WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

teacher for whom Field Day is named. There are generations of men and women who learned to play a mean tennis from Coach Doty DiCintio or Peggy Hartmann, and still do. There are those from the 1960s who return to Horace Mann at Homecoming to play in the annual Dan Alexander '49 Alumni Soccer Game, which was named in honor of this alumnus and former teacher, coach and dean. And, one legendary HM coach is still very active here. Now in his 46th year of coaching and teaching at Horace Mann Neil Berniker teaches physical education and runs the sixth-graders' Challenge Cup series, along with his duties coaching Boys' Varsity Soccer, and MD Baseball.

Throughout its history Horace Mann's Heads of School have also championed sports and athletics as a way to both temper and enhance a rigorous course of studies, and, as many alumni remember, as a way to build character. HM's Heads of School were also deeply involved in promoting sports. Virgil Prettyman saw moving Horace Mann's boys to the School's newly-acquired Riverdale campus in 1914 as an opportunity to provide them with the space to run and participate in athletics. The Horace Mann School that remained on the Columbia University Teachers College campus became the HM School for Girls. Many an alumna remembers the School as one that encouraged and empowered girls' athleticism, and launched them on the way to a lifelong participation in sports. At a Girls' School reunion Ellen Evelyn Brock '36 reintroduced herself to classmates she had not seen in 60 years as: "Class of '36, center forward, center half-back—Field Hockey," adding, "sports have always been a part of my life, ever since Horace Mann."

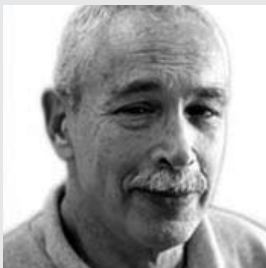
Years later, in the 1970s and 80s Head of School R. Inslee "Ink" Clark Jr. would become known as a "headmaster" who was also a devoted baseball coach. Responsible for returning HM to its original co-ed status in 1976, at the request of those pioneering first girl students he worked with the Athletics Department to create women's teams, despite the fact that there were as yet no girls' bathroom, let alone locker rooms, on campus. One of the first of these lady Lions teams was Girls' Cross Country. Today's Cross Country teammates are reaching out to alumnae of their sport asking them to participate in observing the 30th anniversary of Girls' Cross Country at HM, according to Coach Nicholas.



Teacher and coach Neil Berniker recently celebrated 45 years at HM.


HM Alumni include students who came to this School as athletes, and were enriched by its academics—alums like Jack Kerouac '40. A football recruit who was not expected to become involved with other school activities, Kerouac worked on *The Record* and published his first short stories in HM literary journals. Another alumnus, violin virtuoso Gil Shaham '83, recalled being helped achieve a passing gym grade by an understanding coach. The HM Distinguished Alumnus tells this tale: When it became clear that his growing concert travel schedule, coupled with some school days out sick, left him short of the physical education credit he needed to graduate, Coach Berniker invited him to bring his "fiddle" to gym and do his part by playing "Turkey in the Straw" for square dance classes.

## Paul Zimmerman—Dr. Z '49



He is at once the most anger-provoking and most revered of sports writers, depending from which yard (line) you view him. He's also one of the most read. Paul Zimmerman '49—or Dr. Z as he is known to fans and fanatics alike—is the dean of American football writers, holding court on the pages of *Sports Illustrated* since 1979. Today he can also be read in his blog on the web and seen on cable TV. Dr. Z was the columnist

who picked the Giants over the Patriots in the Super Bowl last winter, in the latest of thousands of correct calls over the years. If his detractors have choice words to say about Dr. Z, this alumnus has plenty to share on subjects ranging from college

"student-athletes" to good and bad writing, to editors, former HM teachers ("most were great" he said), and even fellow writers from Horace Mann. One thing is certain—Dr. Z's writing is backed by experience. He played football at Stanford and Columbia, was a member of an Army football team, and a four-year player in New Jersey semi-pro football leagues. A writer for the *Columbia Daily Spectator*, Paul Zimmerman came up through the ranks of New York City beat reporting on the *New York Journal-American* and the *New York World-Telegram and Sun* in the days when over half-a-dozen daily papers fueled a scrapping local press and the energy of its reporters. Dr. Z settled in at the *New York Post* in 1966, and stayed there until taking up residence at SI. Is it that lifetime in the trenches both on the football field and behind a typewriter that makes Dr. Z's copy so compelling? Or, is it the vestiges of the lessons of HM teachers William Blake and Al Baruth? "I had Mr. Blake in Sixth form. He was inspirational. Al Baruth—he saw something in me others didn't see. I came to Horace Mann to play football, and he just encouraged us to write." There's at least a column's worth of memories on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG). 



“What we do in the classroom is enhanced by what we do on the playing field, whether we are teaching critical thinking, or whether we are addressing questions of ethics.”

—HM HEAD OF SCHOOL DR. TOM KELLY

## The Field of the Physical

The field of physical education at Horace Mann today reflects this long history. As Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly, a former high school athlete himself, said, “What we do in the classroom is enhanced by what we do on the playing field, whether we are teaching critical thinking, or whether we are addressing questions of ethics. Critical thinking can be applied in completing a physics problem. It can also be used by a player who needs to judge the timing it takes to make a play at first. Questions of ethics are traditionally thought to involve reading and discussion of texts in literature and philosophy. They can also be applied to challenges encountered in a competitive situation, whether as part of a team, or in striving to achieve one’s personal best.”

This idea was reinforced for HM’s physical education teachers and coaches early in the 2008-2009 school year when the entire faculty participated in a series of lectures by noted psychologist Dr. Michael Thompson, an expert on boys and their development, especially in the context of education.

In a special session Dr. Thompson conducted for coaches and physical education teachers he described how the value of athletic participation during the school years for both boys and

girls is beyond measure. Dr. Thompson also noted how his studies show how coaches have access to students in ways their other teachers might not. Because coaches see these students many hours after school and on weekends in practices and at games,

and in settings less formal than the classroom, strong relationships develop between athlete and coach, with coaches often serving a counseling role in a student’s life.

To his findings Dr. Thompson added those described in the recently-published *SPARK: the Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain* by Harvard neuro-psychiatrist Dr. John J. Ratey. The book powerfully documents the effect of exercise on improved academic performance, alertness, attention, motivation—and emotions.

Bob Annunziata includes all of these positive effects of athletic participation as reasons that Horace Mann sees physical activity to be so significant an aspect of the School’s mission.

“We firmly believe that knowing a sport or learning a fitness skill is an essential part of a student’s education,” Annunziata said. “It is important during the time a student is in school here—to keep them healthy and fit, both physically and emotionally. Activity helps students blow off steam and reduce stress, as well as for the lasting effect that appreciating the need for an active lifestyle will have throughout a person’s lifetime.”

Annunziata came to Horace Mann in 1988 as Director of Athletics and head football coach. Over the years he has come to deeply understand the effects of a rich athletic experience within the academic context of a Nursery-through-high-school institution. Today he oversees physical education and an athletics program that has grown to include nearly 700 students who participate intramural, club, Middle Division, junior varsity and varsity sports.

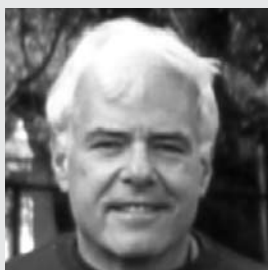
“For some students a high school gym requirement may mean the last time they see the inside of a gymnasium, or play a sport,” Annunziata said. “We don’t want that to happen, so we work to make our program fun and stimulating enough to create an interest in remaining physically active. We also recognize that students come to this School with different abilities, skill levels, and interests, so we try to make sure that our program has enough variety, from team sports to individual fitness opportunities, to enable every student to gain a sense of accomplishment from the physical education experience.”

Annunziata and HM’s teachers and coaches are also aware that intramural and club sports are becoming increasingly popular at colleges today, with club sport teams even competing against other schools. Exposing students to a broad spectrum of sports may pave the way for HM graduates to enhance their undergraduate experience by playing at the intramural or club level in college.

Equally significant to the physical education program, Annunziata said, are courses in CPR, sports medicine, and fitness training that have become part of the HM physical education curriculum in recent years. These emphasize the importance of a well body—just as the educator Horace Mann called for in his manifestos more than a century-and-a-half ago.

“We want people to understand the importance of taking care of themselves, and teach them to be able to take care of others, if need be.”

### Burt Haimes '61



Burton K. Haimes '61 played soccer as a student at Horace Mann, but, he said he wasn't a great player. Nevertheless, his team won an Ivy League title under the tutelage of economics teacher and Coach Dan Alexander '49—whose instruction to the team was “pivot and kick.” Haimes went on to Yale, and then law school at the University of

Pennsylvania, and, after a prestigious clerkship, he ended up working as an attorney in London for about two-and-a-half years. There he began watching soccer, and playing again, with “all the Americans who lived in London.” A partner today at the New York office of the law firm Orrick, Haimes is deeply involved in soccer internationally. Chairman of the Board of the American Youth Soccer Organization he is also a member of the Youth Council of the United States Soccer Federation; the Board of Directors of the National Soccer Hall of Fame; a member of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Ethics Committee; and Chairman of CONCACAF Youth Competitions Committee. Haimes is also international chairman of Action Contre La Faim, an international famine relief organization. An advocate for women's soccer, and one of the most prominent faces of soccer internationally, Burt Haimes is one of the first inductees to the soccer Hall of Fame.

## The “Life of the Body” Grade by Grade

Bob Annunziata is in the unique position of serving as administrator of a discipline that runs from the Nursery Division through the Upper Division. He is the only department head at HM with school-wide responsibilities for his area of study. A daunting task, the position offers the advantage of allowing this department head to oversee a curriculum that introduces students to the “subject” of sport at a young age, and helps them build the skills that will foster their success in its continued pursuit. In this role, he works with the physical education chairs in each Division, as well as the Division heads, to tailor each program to the age group’s immediate needs, and make sure that subsequent levels of physical education build upon previous learning.

With this perspective Annunziata noted, “The importance of the way in which children are introduced to physical activity cannot be emphasized enough. It might determine how they will relate to athletics for the rest of their lives.

“I have seen very young children playing team sports, or being asked to do things in sports they are not physically ready to do. When things are too hard, when they are not experiencing success, and not enjoying themselves, the result is that many children become discouraged from pursuing sports. They burn out before they even reach an age when they can experience meaningful competition.”

Horace Mann’s physical education program has always addressed this philosophy—by introducing fitness education through a focus on movement rather than specific skills, and by instructing children in the use of sports equipment for fun rather than for competition. Over the years “gym class” for Nursery Division children was taught through a variety of appealing activities by the School’s experienced physical education teachers and coaches who would travel to the Nursery Division in Manhattan transporting colorful balls, parachutes and other entrancing equipment. They also brought with them the enthusiasm of dedicated teachers enjoying the opportunity to help children discover new skills for the very first time.



*HM Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly congratulates Physical Education Department Chair and Athletics Director Robert Annunziata on 20 years of teaching at Horace Mann.*

In 2008 the Nursery Division added “Movement” to its curriculum, as an area holistically integrated into its early childhood instruction, bringing to HM movement and curriculum development specialist Cathy McKay as a full time faculty member. The world of education is increasingly attuned to the significance of movement and the importance of incorporating physical skills into a critical period of cognitive acquisition and the curriculum McKay has developed complements learning within the Nursery Division and enables faculty members to reinforce their teaching by including a related movement component.

“I’m enthusiastic about the steps the Nursery Division has taken to make movement a full part of the Nursery curriculum. This indicates to both children and their parents that physical activity is an essential part of education,” said Annunziata.

## Sports at HM: A Subject Under Constant Study, with Innovations, and Challenges to Face

“We are always re-examining our program to make sure we’re serving our students in the best way we can. We also always analyze what we do well, and what we need to change as we plan for the future,” Annunziata said.

“We take this process very seriously. We’re looking at every aspect of our program, and tweaking the program according to what we believe is essential for students to learn.

“Our new FitLinxx system is an example of that. It’s a computer system linked to our training equipment (Cybex machines and three cardio machines—treadmills and ellipticals). The machines are networked into a central database. Physical education students’ records are uploaded into the system, and their personal settings for each machine are stored. Those settings include how they have been advised to use each machine, their goals for their workouts, and the progress they’ve made,” Annunziata explained. Small touch screens, called “training partners” are attached to each piece of exercise equipment for students to log in. The FitLinxx system ensures that students are using the equipment properly by displaying their personal seat settings, current weight levels and prescribed programs of repetitions. Exercise is monitored by indicating incorrect form or speed, and showing student progress. The program is also able to prevent injuries from improper equipment use.

“The students have the opportunity to design their own personal workout with the help of a physical education teacher,” said Annunziata. In terms of athletics, sport-specific exercise programs allow coaches to prescribe certain kinds and amounts of exercise related to skills and levels of fitness team members need to develop for a particular sport.

Since the department initiated FitLinxx more students are using HM’s fitness center, attracted by the program’s fun and motivational features. “This is one of the most exciting things we’ve added to our program. FitLinxx offers quantifiable results. Students who use it learn to be accountable to themselves and their own fitness goals. More and more our focus here is on life skills to encourage students

toward fitness,” Annunziata said.

Sports Medicine is a relatively new discipline for Middle Division students. At a period of life when students are particularly active, learning the proper way to temporarily tape a fellow students’ bruised thumb, or apply ice to their own bumps, provides helpful preventive medicine. Taught by athletic trainer Amy Mojica, the course covers the anatomy of feet and ankles, knees, and elbows as well as how to treat and rehabilitate injuries. Sports psychology is an aspect of the course that teaches students the affect of the mind on sports performance, and helps them identify strategies to deal with pressure in sports. Offering students such insights during that sensitive time of adolescent growth is particularly beneficial.

Another expected addition in the works is a small media room carved out of one of the gym offices, with a smart board and editing equipment that allow teams to record, review and study their game, and individual players to have a visual record of their achievements. While “varsity athlete” is not the first description ascribed to most college applicants hailing from Horace Mann, over the years this School has sent its share of graduates off to contribute significantly to university varsity athletics, or the intense college club-level sports. From Kim Belton ’76 to Bethany Donaphin ’98 and Meg Curtin ’01, HM top scorers in basketball who went on to contribute greatly to their college teams, to Charles Altcheck ’03, who led Harvard to its first Ivy League soccer title in years, to top-flight tennis players from HM’s perennial Ivy League and Mayor’s Cup title-winning teams. Add Female Athlete-of-the-Year Renee McDougall ’08, or nationally-ranked squash player Alexander Ma ’09 who is being recruited by top colleges today and the precedent continues. Having “tape” to show to college coaches enhances the already solid application of an HM candidate.

The athletics department has been assisting HM seniors create these tapes for years, as an informal benefit to its dedicated athletes, and as another voluntary effort by the department on the students’ behalf.

Having a sports media center available in the future would formalize that effort.

Community First Aid, CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED, or Automatic External Defibrillator training—known informally at HM as “CPR class” is another aspect of the physical education curriculum. Physical education teacher and coach Ray Barile began offering CPR to HM faculty members

and students in 1993, and it is now a graduation requirement. A swimming component assures that each student can pass a water-safety test. “We were at the forefront of teaching CPR in schools. Many other schools have now added it to the curriculum. We see CPR as part of making our community a safer community. At first students complained about having to take CPR, but I can tell you a lot of them have used it, and told me about times when they were the only person around who could help out in an emergency,” said Barile. “They thank us.”

## The Challenges

In examining the physical education and athletics program at Horace Mann Annunziata and his fellow faculty members and coaches also confront issues that have evolved along with their program.

“In this department we try to respond to our students, first.

One way is by offering new sports as interest in a particular sport increases. But, we also weigh if the number of athletic opportunities we offer has us spreading ourselves too thin,” Annunziata said. “When I first came to Horace Mann we had 40 athletic teams. Today there are 78. This is one example of our department’s self-examination—of what we’re looking at in terms of what works and what needs to be reconsidered in every grade level.”

## From Facilities to Families: Confronting the Issues

With so many students participating in sports, and so many different physical education offerings available throughout the curriculum, the School’s athletic facilities are often stretched to the limit. In the Lower Division students from one grade can be found during their gym time divided between the gym and “the grasshopper” playing field outside, as long as weather permits. Lower Division students also visit the Upper Division campus for gym classes, tennis and swimming. But when the weather is raw, and a physical education class may be even more essential for the younger students to burn off steam when recess can’t be held outside, the Lower Division gym bursts at the seams.

In the Upper Division, it is not uncommon to see students from a single grade divided up for gym period between the Prettyman gym complex, the fitness center, and two groups playing on Clark Field. In terms of athletics, teams are effected because they often have to practice on half a field, while the other half is used for a different sport—a disadvantage to all the players who have not had a chance to practice on a full field come game-time.

R.J. Harmon, Associate Director, Middle Division Athletics and Middle Division Physical Education Chair, noted that the addition of classes like sports medicine relieves some of the overcrowding in the gym. “Our number of kids in physical education classes has gone up, but our space hasn’t increased,” he said. “We’ve been very creative in finding space, including rotating Middle Division students between gym classes and sports medicine class. In winter and spring 15 or 20 students go into the training room for those classes.” However, while sports medicine is an important class,



*Students use the Fitness Center.*



Bob Annunziata notes, it does not fulfill the role of an “active” class much needed for these students during the school day.

Such space arrangements are significant in the Middle Division, which hosts intramurals, and a sixth-grade “Challenge Cup” program of competitions. Both take place during the school day, when available gym space is limited. In the Upper Division some of the space issues are alleviated when students gather for CPR classes or use the fitness center.

Student participation on teams is another area of self-examination for the department, and for the families of those student-athletes. Participating in a sport requires a great deal of commitment, from coming to pre-season practices in mid-August before other students return to campus, to fitting stringent academic demands into an athletic schedule that requires attendance at both practices and games.

Families *are* affected by their children’s desire to participate in sports. With many of Horace Mann’s Middle and Upper Division students spending summer weeks away at camps, jobs, internships or travel study, those last two weeks of summer may be the only opportunity for family time. If the student spends those days at Horace Mann practicing or trying out for a team, the choice can be difficult. And, then, if the student doesn’t make the team...

Annunziata and HM’s coaches understand the sacrifices families make to enable their children to pursue an activity they love. They also note that parents are supportive of their children, and the teams they play on, getting to know other team members and team parents, and providing rides to and from games and practices,

along with snacks or team photographs. “Being on a team requires commitment. There are areas that parents of athletes learn about as they go along,” said Annunziata. It is equal to term papers or tests, or even SATs. By senior year, when students are doing their college applications, and going away on weekends to visit colleges, they have to understand that college visits can’t be made on game days at the expense of their team responsibilities.”

The HM Parents Association maintains an Athletics Committee, with its Chair as a member of the PA Executive Board. “Our purpose is to serve as a means of communication with the athletic department,” explained Susan Erani, mother of recently-graduated top tennis player Robbie Erani ’08 and Emily Erani ’12, a current contributor to HM’s women’s tennis.

Coach Annunziata sees the committee as being able to provide parent-to-parent communication as well. “We hope to develop programs to help orient parents to athletics at Horace Mann, to learn what it means to be the parent of an athlete here, what is expected and how parents can support one another. This is particularly important for the parents of fifth-graders so they can learn what they can expect in the Middle Division, and for eighth-grade parents to learn about Upper Division physical education and sports. We would welcome an organized evening, for instance, for parents to hear from other parents of athletes, and from the athletes themselves.”

## Balancing the Popularity of Sports with Participation

The concern over the number of sports that have evolved into HM’s athletic offerings is a major one that coaches and other HM administrators consider continually.

“Some sports come in and out of popularity, and we find ourselves asking if some newer sports are not taking athletes away from some of the traditional sports. Tennis is always strong, because many students come here already knowing how to play well, and we have the coaching and facilities to bring these players to a higher level. There’s always been a strong interest in track and cross country. That’s true now more than ever. Wrestling has become very popular, buoyed by its tradition at HM of team bonding and success.

Today, Horace Mann also fields Crew, Skiing, and Fencing teams, Gymnastics, Ultimate Frisbee, Golf, Water Polo and more. Men’s volleyball—in its first year as a club sport in 2008—is being considered as a possible team sport in 2009. “There is an upside to having so many sports, and there is a downside. On one hand, we have to ask—is skiing take a potential player away from basketball in the winter? On the other hand, having both sports gives different students a chance to be involved in team sports.”

Fall sports offer a particular challenge. For many students, particularly those new to the Upper Division, adjusting to their increased academic demands is a concern for themselves or their parents, despite the fact that HM’s Middle Division prepares them for the transition. Another challenge to the number of players available is the intense first trimester of senior year, when students are applying to colleges and are focused both on maintaining

### Harvey Greene ’71



A chemistry major at Penn, after graduating from Horace Mann School, Harvey Greene ’71 did not believe he had much of a future in the field—not as long as he kept blowing up his lab experiments. He fared better as Sports Director for WXPB, the student radio station, also serving as the play-by-play broadcaster for Penn football, basketball, and hockey during

his last two years at the University. Figuring that with his thick New York accent he had no future in announcing, Greene graduated with honors in chemistry, and then pursued a degree in sports management. Greene’s career has taken him from the NBA, to the MLB, and finally to the NFL where he is Senior Vice President for Media Relations with the Miami Dolphins. A two-time winner of the McHugh/Splaver Award (1984, 1985) as the outstanding PR Director in the NBA, he has also served as Director of Media Relations for the New York Yankees before joining the Dolphins 15 years ago. During his tenure with the Dolphins, Greene and his staff twice were recipients of the Pete Rozelle Award (1993, 1999), an annual honor awarded by the Professional Football Writers of America to the NFL’s best PR department. Greene also has worked on the NFL public relations staff at 13 of the past 14 Super Bowls. To read about Harvey Greene’s journey from Horace Mann to the current football season go to [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).



Football co-captains Jordan Taylor '09 and Kenny Thompson '09

high grade-point-averages, and on the application process.

By pre-season 2008 it was clear that football would be one of those sports experiencing a decline in players. Only one freshman tried out. However, it was encouraging that several new sophomores and juniors came out for the team. Beginning its season with only 26 players Head Coach Annunziata, and Coaches Matt Russo, Ray Barile and Dan Hannon, focused on condition-

ing and held fewer contact scrimmages, in order to build up team members' strength and prevent injuries among each valued player.

Still, no one is giving up on this traditional sport that enhances the end of summer and the fall season for so many students. Jordan Taylor '09, one of football's five captains, is hoping to bring "the pride back to Lions football," a job he's sees as a primary responsibility in his team leader role.

Taylor was off to a good start on the Friday before Homecoming, when he and the fellow football captains Louis Solmonson '09, Kenny Thompson '09, Charles Sadaka '10, and Darian Amirsaleh '09, along with other representatives of all of HM's fall sports teams, visited the Lower Division for its annual pre-Homecoming Maroon and White Day pep rally.

With all good humor the football captains announced "We all know that football is the coolest sport," and then led their younger peers in a rousing cheer. When Taylor's name was announced and the tall lineman stepped forward teachers who had known him since kindergarten smiled in surprise at his transformation, and then cheered along. For the kindergarten-through-fifth-graders who Taylor and the other captains high-fived, there could have been no better ambassadors for the future of HM football.

"I have been working hard for three years to get to this point. We have great team chemistry, and we really feel like we are going to do big things for the program," said Taylor, an HM "survivor". "Win or lose we are always looking toward the future. I want nothing more than to come back in a few years and see another 50-man-team. Just like old times."

No doubt, many among the elementary-age pep-rally audience could see themselves wearing those maroon football helmets with their interlocking HM logo one day.

## A Uniform Spirit— Where the Only Name is HM's

For the Athletics Department the issue comes down to weighing the sacrifice of fielding smaller teams against the opportunity that a full complement of athletics offerings provides students. "Having this great variety enables so many more students to play a sport or participate on a team. What if someone feels he or she isn't strong at hitting or fielding a ball? That student might find a true calling in running or fencing."

The philosophy of athletics at Horace Mann speaks to the issue of encouraging students toward team participation, and to the significance of the lessons this School hopes students will glean from the experience. Staying true to tradition, under Annunziata's administration the only name on any uniform is Horace Mann. "Our athletes are very aware of the legacy they are privileged to honor each time they wear the Maroon and White," said the athletic director.

### ALUMNI IN SPORTS

## David Cornstein '56 and Marc Cornstein '88



When Marc Cornstein '88 launched his sports agent and management venture Pinnacle Management Corp. (PMC) 11 years ago in his early 20s he took a leap worthy of the high-flying NBA players and other athletes he would soon represent. But, if he had a moment of doubt about making it in the fast-paced world of professional sports, he knew

he had someone to turn to: David Cornstein '56—a veteran of the sports world Marc named as his company's senior advisor, and happens to be Marc's Dad. Headquartered in New York City PMC is a rising star in the industry, with a track record in handling all aspects of its athlete's careers. It's also unique as a firm that represents athletes hailing from Belgrade to the Bronx, from Israel to Serbia. Despite his father's expertise in sports negotiations, learned, particularly in the intense world of horse racing, Marc has forged his own path in the industry. He's had to, given his international travel schedule, to say nothing of his father's very active life. A leader in the private and public sectors for over 40 years, David Cornstein is perhaps best known for his work with the New York City Off-Track Betting Corporation. In June 2008 he was named Board Chair after successfully saving OTB from extinction. David is also a dedicated public servant who is active on numerous civic and philanthropic boards. Marc is following suit with the founding of Courts of Dreams, a Pinnacle initiative that seeks to restore and maintain outdoor basketball courts for children in NYC neighborhoods and around the world, with programs to foster healthy, safe communities while promoting the values of basketball such as team work, mutual respect and leadership. In the case of the Cornsteins "Like father, like son"—or like father and son alums—are words of a hearty compliment.

It's clear from the experience of many HM athletes that "playing for the school does not diminish a student's sense of individual fulfillment, but rather enhances it. Ultimate frisbee is a sport-case-in-point. Now in its 11th year at HM "ultimate's" former captains and team members keep in touch with one another and with their coach, math department Chair Chris Jones through a Facebook group, and return to campus each year to play an alumni game. Over the years, friendships have formed between different generations of ultimate frisbee alums—with Horace Mann as the connective tissue.

## Top Athletes at the Top of the Class

While the coaches acknowledge student and parents' concerns that team participation cuts into academics, homework, and study time as a reason for a drop in team participation, Annunziata noted "It is interesting that year after year our top athletes are also among the top in their class. Some of these students are even three-semester athletes. For so many students athletics helps them discipline themselves, and organize their study time most efficiently."

Indeed, this year, one student athlete is turning the HM athletic experience, itself, into an academic pursuit. Catie Barile '09, who plays soccer, basketball, and pitches for the Lions softball team, has devised an Independent Study project that traces sports injuries among HM's athletes. Involving study with her adviser, HM athletic trainer and sports medicine teacher Amy Mojica, as well as studies in biology and medicine, Barile is working on producing a DVD/handbook educating athletes to prevent and recover from injuries.

"We have seen how very important participation in athletics can be for students in so many ways," said Annunziata. "It's not just about playing a sport or learning a skill. It's about learning the discipline it takes to balance studies with athletics—or with any other extracurricular activity. So much of being involved in athletics is about developing responsibility."

"We are in touch with many students from over the years after they've left Horace Mann. They all tell us they learned how to organize their schedules and their study time because of being on a team—both when they were at Horace Mann and in college. Some students tell us sports helped them develop another side to their personality and built up their confidence when they were young teens. And, a lot of them remain close friends with their HM teammates. We would never want to deprive a student of the chance to have that experience."

Ari Hest '97 is one alumnus who agrees. A singer/songwriter, when he's not on tour Hest stops in to the Horace Mann gym to play basketball with other alums. He returned to HM in spring 2008 as the guest speaker at the Senior Sports Banquet. Describing himself as very shy during his elementary and middle school years Hest said that joining the basketball team marked a turning point in his life. A talented player, he became a team captain. Forcing himself out of his shyness for the benefit of the team, he told his soon-to-be fellow alums that he finally learned to "open my mouth. I talked all the time, to encourage the team. I cheered and shouted," Hest related. Once intimidated by his coach, Ray Barile, the two developed mutual respect, and a friendship that lasts today. The result? The team won a championship that year, and the future performer

learned to speak up. "That was one of the most important skills I learned and use today. I have to connect with an audience, and sometimes I have to shout from the stage. Mainly, I have to communicate. I learned that from basketball."

## A Foundation for Friendships

Rebecca Moses '08 and Naomi Riemer '08 are among the many HM students who can attest to how their intense schedule of practices and competitions as members of HM's Ivy League championship-winning volleyball team helped each organize academic and extracurricular schedules. They also describe how being part of the team enhanced their entire experience at Horace Mann—from easing their transition into the School, to contributing to their mutual friendship, and to other strong friendships athletics helped them forge here.

Both entered Horace Mann as ninth graders, not knowing any other students. Both decided to try out for volleyball. "My brother went to Horace Mann. He ran cross country," Riemer said of Nathan Riemer '06. "I knew from him that pre-season would be a good way to meet people, whether I made the team or not."

Riemer did make the team, but she attributes being selected to a decision by her JV volleyball Coach R.J. Harmon. "There were four of us on 'the bubble,'" said Riemer. "Each of us might have made the team at a different time, but there were enough good players that Coach Harmon had to decide who to take. He ended up taking us all. I think a lot of the reason he took me was because he realized I was new at the School, and he wanted my experience to start out positive. He realized what it would mean to a new student to be cut. Coach Harmon is a great coach because he always sees the bigger picture. During pre-season that first year he was very aware of the new kids, and made sure we had someone to eat lunch with every day. Another coach could have cut me, but instead, I made it to starting center by senior year. I think that says something."

Moses had played volleyball at her former school, and "fell in love with the sport." Nevertheless, she recalled being very nervous when she went out for pre-season. "But then, everyone on the team made me feel welcome right away. Right before school started



Former HM volleyball co-captains Naomi Riemer '08 and Rebecca Moses '08



the incoming ninth-graders went up to Dorr for orientation. My Dorr mentor was a member of the volleyball team, and there were people I recognized from other sports who I'd seen on campus during pre-season. I made the team and by the first day of school I had 15 people I could call friends. Just walking into class for the first time I'd had someone I knew from the team to sit next to."

Throughout their years on the volleyball team both students juggled their athletic and academic responsibilities. "I was worried school would be very hard," said Riemer, a future engineering student who was also active in HM's Theater Company as an actor, crew member, and director. "It probably would have been nice to have two more hours a day to do homework, but the team was such a great community, it was worth it. Being on a sport teaches you to do more work in less time."

"There were plenty of times I just wanted to get home and do my homework, especially first trimester of senior year, when there is so much to do, but blowing off all that school energy helped me focus when I did get down to work. I might have just spent that time some other way, instead of doing the thing I loved," said Moses.

For these recent HM grads, volleyball will continue to be part of their lives—as they pursue club sports in college, or by bringing their ability to any pick-up game at a park or beach. Their volleyball record at Horace Mann tells a more involved story. During these students' tenure on Junior Varsity their team never lost a game. In

their senior year HM won its first Ivy League volleyball title in 30 years. Moses, who became co-captain of the team, also assisted in coaching HM's first-ever men's volleyball team, a club sport that she helped nurture for her Senior Initiative project, under the guidance of varsity Coach Jason Torres, who is also Chair of HM's Computing and Communications Department.

In the fall of 2008, before heading off to a gap-year program, Riemer returned to HM as an assistant volleyball coach working with the girls' varsity volleyball team and with boys' varsity volleyball club coach Jason Torres. The 2007-2008 volleyball team also earned an Academic Excellence award from the American Volleyball Coaches Association, honoring teams whose members display excellence in the classroom.

"Another exciting part of this story is that in the last few years volleyball has had a rebirth at HM as a strong team with a winning record," said Annunziata.

"We made it to the State tournament our senior year," said Riemer. "So many of our friends came out to support us, I don't think you could have put another person in the gym. We even heard from girls in college who were on the team over the years before. A lot of HM athletes come back to visit. Once you're on a team you're always part of the team," said Riemer.

"Even if we hadn't won all those games, volleyball would have been an amazing experience."

## Teaching Team Sports—the Question of When

Participation in organized sports among young students is a subject of serious consideration for physical education teachers in the Lower Division, and for teachers and coaches in the Middle and Upper Division. The issue is another of the challenges Bob Annunziata describes when he speaks of constantly reviewing the nature of the sports program at Horace Mann. It's also a reminder of how interconnected the School is as a whole—with learning in one Division truly relating to another.

One aspect of competition involves turning physical education classes into game situations that match one team against another. Horace Mann's teachers across each grade level value these experiences as a chance for all students to experience the fun of competition, and to learn from the experience of both winning and losing.

"Our gym classes give kids a chance to let loose. Aside from learning a sport or activity, they get to unwind in the middle of the day. In the Upper Division the classes are made up of a really mixed group of students—boys and girls, kids from different grades, 9 through 12, all with different levels of athletic ability," explained Matt Russo, Upper Division Physical Education Chair. "Sometimes you will have a varsity athlete playing on the same team with someone who has never done any sports outside of gym class. We try to make sure no one takes the games too seriously, and that everyone has a chance to play. Sometimes our top athletes from winning teams learn what it means to lose, and sometimes a person who believes they can't catch or throw or run gets the chance to make a winning play."

### Richard (Dick) Traum '58



Many a Horace Mann alumnus recalls the words of Horace Mann himself they used to read on the Tillinghast library wall. "Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity." Fewer have had the opportunity to act on them. Those words came back to Dick Traum '58 at a critical point in his life. As a young able-bodied man, he had been an

athlete at Horace Mann and in college, particularly focusing on track and field events. In 1965 he was rammed by a car at a gasoline station, and became an above-the-knee amputee. Lying in the hospital, Traum remembered the quote. Eventually becoming the president of Personnelmetrics, a computer applications company, he involved himself in his work. But, the passing of a colleague in 1975 brought the quote back to mind, and he decided to take action. In 1976 Traum became the first-ever amputee to complete or even attempt, the Boston Marathon, paving the way for thousands of disabled to compete in marathons worldwide ever since. Becoming a force for changing the way the world looks at disability in 1983 he founded the Achilles Track Club to encourage disabled people to participate in long-distance running with the general public. Dick is president of this international, nonprofit organization that provides support, training, and technical expertise to runners at all levels. A Horace Mann connection continues—as students here host an annual Kids-for-Kids para-olympics style carnival with Achilles. Track Traum's story of triumph on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

Varsity athletes, and some of HM's elite athletes—students who compete in sports at a high level outside of school and train on a regular basis—have the opportunity to sign a contract to opt out of gym class, but only for one trimester. These athletes will at some point be playing with peers from across the spectrum of athletic skills, Russo explained.

"What's also important is that some kids might never see one another by the later years in high school, when many of them are taking most of their classes in only a few subjects. They get to be together for this one period at least, and reconnect," Russo said.

"By high school they have all had enough gym classes here to have learned a good skill base so that each student can do well enough in enough sports to make the experience fun and not discouraging." Team competition in gym class is, thus, a win-win situation for all, Russo believes.

## Starting Sports Young, and Sticking with the Team

Consideration of HM's athletic teams raises questions about playing team sports as young children—whether in the Nursery Division, or on teams outside of school.

Bob Annunziata and his colleagues throughout the School are concerned that after participating in team sports from a young age a noticeable number of students opt out of the experience of being part of a team in their high school years. "Many have been on teams since they were little. There are soccer leagues all over the city and suburbs. There's Little League, and more kids are on more traveling teams than ever before. Either they burn out by the time they get to high school, or they feel they have had the experience of playing a competitive sport and being on a team when they were younger and that high school is the time to put all their focus on their school work, instead of taking time after school or on week-ends for practice and games," Annunziata said.

The loss is apparent to Horace Mann, as it witnesses fewer athletes coming out to play a sport. But, more important, the coaches

believe, the choice deprives some young athletes of experiencing the valuable character-building side of sports.

Students who have been involved with a sport from a young age relate that how and why they continue in the sport, or participate on a related team at school, depends upon how that sport was introduced to them. Tennis player Haig Schneiderman '08 was named an All American in his senior year at HM. One of only 40 tennis players around the country to be thus recognized, the honor is voted on by coaches from around the country who are aware of each candidate's record.

It was the first-ever All American distinction for a member of the School's tennis team, which boasted a roster of players who dominated the Ivy League and captured the Mayor's Cup title during their years at Horace Mann. Perhaps more important was that the team was noted within and outside of Horace Mann for the closeness of its members, for the good character and sportsmanship players demonstrated individually and as a team, and for its players' mutual support for one another. "Wherever we went, from our first meets in California during pre-season other coaches singled out the HM team for its good sportsmanship. Throughout the season, I heard from other schools what an inspiring team we were," said Coach Chris Lacopo '80, a Middle Division English teacher and Dean.

Playing today for Columbia, on a team that includes fellow tennis star Rajiv Deb-Sen '08 (who was honored, as a sophomore, with a sportsmanship award by coaches from competing schools) Schneiderman said the experience of learning tennis was never one of pressure, despite the fact that he began playing at a very young age.

"I think it was the way tennis was introduced to me. My dad started taking me out to hit balls when I was 3 years old. He would work with me on eye-hand coordination. Was I too young for that? It didn't feel that way. I liked it. If I got tired he never forced me. We might toss around a baseball instead, or just stop practicing for the day. I never felt any pressure about playing tennis."

Schneiderman began competing outside of school when he was 11, acknowledging that he was "pretty good" in the 12-year-old category, "but not so good in 14s. I had more of a long-term mindset as far as building myself as a tennis player for the future." Playing baseball and tennis in his middle school years before coming to Horace Mann, by the time Haig arrived here in ninth grade, he decided to focus on tennis, and made the varsity team in his first year. Practicing with the team, and with his own coach, Schneiderman agreed with the HM coaches and other athletes who say that sports helped them organize their study time. "One thing that's misunderstood about sports is the amount of time needed to go into it. Putting in a few good hours of focused practice a few times a week is as good as putting in more hours every day. Being an athlete you learn a lot about being a student too. You learn time management skills, and how to compartmentalize."

Schneiderman, the number-one ranked player in New York State and number 60 in the nation, might have opted out of school athletics and still excelled on the US Tennis Association circuit, as well as in international competitions he has been in over the years, but, he says, being part of the team was something he would not have missed. "I was really fortunate to be on the best team at Horace Mann ever. I would not have improved as I did if I had not had Rajiv,



*All-American tennis player Haig Schneiderman '08*

and David Orbach '08 (a team captain, known for his exciting style of play, and the chant of "D.O." that followed him everywhere), or Robbie Erani '08." Each was recruited to play tennis in college. "We've been competing against one another and playing with each other for years. We've all become good friends."

Regarding being named an All American, Schneiderman said he probably would not have even been considered for the award "had Coach Lacopo not made the opportunity for all of us, so that other coaches see us play." Each year the team goes to California during spring break to begin practices in a warm climate, and to compete with other teams from around the country. The alumnus also credits Coach Lacopo with the respectful way with which he works with each player's personal coach. Schneiderman's coach, Chris Pucci, has become a great friend of HM tennis.

"Coach Lacopo is the best tennis coach in the country," Schneiderman said. "He has the right feel for all of us. He doesn't clamp down on the team. He always knew the right time to approach me during a match, and when not to. He always coached keeping in mind what was good for the team, and what was good for each player. That kind of understanding on the part of a coach was invaluable."



Rebecca Hirschfeld '08 a top U.S. fencer also co-captained HM's varsity fencing team. Today she fences for Cornell.



her talent suggested she enter a local competition. She placed third in her first meet. "I got a medal, and it was cool." Before long she was entering more serious competitions, and began traveling to national meets at the age of 10. By her junior year at Horace Mann she ranked in the top 200 among young women fencers worldwide. By this time she was also a key member of the Horace Mann team.

HM's previous fencing coach, Lower Division science teacher Jim Gross, spoke with Hirschfeld about trying out for the team "when I was in seventh or eighth grade" she recalled. "He knew me because I had him as a teacher in the Lower Division. My parents and I thought it would be better if I waited for my freshman year. I played volleyball and lacrosse in the Middle Division. When I got to high school I wanted to continue doing volleyball, but it was too much."

Though "Reebee" had amassed a great deal of experience as a competitor by the time she joined the team, she said she did not feel

## Incorporating Top Athletes Into the Program

Throughout its years Horace Mann has been the academic home for elite athletes in a variety of sports, from equestrians to archers, skaters and more. The Class of 2008 boasted several such students, and both they and HM had to balance the demands of their training schedules and individual needs with the opportunity to include them among HM's representative competitors.

Record-breaking runner Renee MacDougal '08 contributed greatly to HM's track and field teams, inspiring both younger students and her grade peers. Rebecca (Reebee) Hirschfeld '08 and Emily Park '08 (see Alumni Interactive) were two athletes who balanced their life as competitors outside of Horace Mann with responsibilities to their teams.

Hirschfeld, a Horace Mann "survivor" began fencing as an 8-year-old because her family thought it was important for her to have a hobby outside of school. Her father had fenced, so she decided to try the sport. "I took a lesson and I thought it was fun, like in the movies." Before long teachers and coaches who spotted

### ALUMNI IN SPORTS

#### Paul M. Juris '75



Dr. Paul M. Juris earned his Doctorate in Motor Learning from Columbia University in 1993, and then pursued a variety of positions in higher education, rehabilitative medicine, professional sports, and fitness. He is a renowned expert in motor skill development, and former Director of the Equinox Fitness Training Institute. Co-author of *The Rider's Fitness*

Program, he is also a co-founder of SOLOTHREE, an organization to enhance human performance through the science of optimal movement. In January 2007 Dr. Juris was named Executive Director of the Cybex Institute, Cybex International, Inc. which serves as a resource for research, exercise methodology, education programs, and a variety of performance-related protocols. To gain some insight into the field of fitness, and to learn more about this alumnus please go to [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).



it was her place to offer suggestions to her teammates in the early years. "I didn't want to come in with an attitude. I just thought it was fun to fence in a Horace Mann setting, and be able to help the team."

Eventually becoming team captain Hirschfeld acknowledges that her teammates "enjoyed having someone with experience help them out," along with HM's fencing Coach Tim Delanty. Her contributions to the team were immeasurable, her teammates say. Amassing a high school record of 140 wins and 8 losses she also led the Girls Varsity Fencing Team to three Independent School Fencing League championships during her four years on the team.

Hirschfeld's teammates also greatly appreciated her input. Said Zoe Egelman '09, "Rebecca helped us realize that fencing is in part a psychological sport. She would tell us to keep our confidence levels up, because that would help us beat fencers who had really intimidating reputations. With her motivation, our team was ultimately really successful."

By her senior year Rebecca decided to take time off from international competition to focus on her HM courses and the HM team, while continuing to compete nationally. A feat that involved going to practices with her private coaches after HM team practices, and cramming both studies and meets into tight weekends, she described this schedule as a reason to decide to "take a step back, and enjoy my senior year." Relaxing by comparison to a year that saw her ranked number 16 in the U.S. among women under 17, last year Hirschfeld still managed to earn the number 51 national ranking among women under 20.

But, she said, academics were always her first priority. A freshman and fencer this year at Cornell, she believes that combining her young years as a fencer with her studies throughout Horace Mann gave the experience an added dimension. "I began taking French and Spanish here when I was in first grade. That really helped me feel comfortable with other fencers, especially when I traveled. Fencing is an international community, and I have friends from all over the world," she said. "Maybe it's because of this, and because of some of the classes I took at Horace Mann, I'm interested in studying international relations."

For Haig Schneiderman the role of mentor was also a significant part of the team experience. "One thing I really took pride in was our team's approach to the younger players. I really care about the School's tennis program, and I wanted to create an atmosphere where the players coming up can be part of its tradition. Being accessible to the JV players, or even the younger players in varsity was important to me," he said. "What was really great was seeing them in the hall and saying hello, making them feel comfortable and excited about tennis even off the court."

## Service Through Sports

If assisting teammates is a gratifying aspect of participating in Horace Mann athletics for athletes like Haig Schneiderman and Rebecca Hirschfeld, the HM sports program provides several ways for students to serve the outside community as well. Both athletes and non-athletes participate annually in a roster of community service activities along with their scheduled games. In October 2008 Horace Mann, along with neighboring Manhattan College, hosted the Mayor's Cup

## Dr. Glenn Fleisig '80



Athletes of today and tomorrow have a hero in Dr. Glenn Fleisig '80, Smith + Nephew Chair of Research at the American Sports Medicine Institute in Birmingham, Al., a biomedical engineer whose research is aimed at protecting athletes from injury. Dr. Fleisig serves on USA Baseball's Medical and Safety Committee, and is pitching safety consultant for Little

League baseball and softball. Says Dr. Fleisig, "Like many people out there, I had dreams of being a major league player as a kid. After a while it became apparent that I was stronger in the classroom than on the baseball field. I went to MIT, majored in mechanical engineering, and figured I'd devote my life to being a mechanical engineer, building cars and playing softball on the weekend with friends. This was 1983, and at that time MIT had a biomechanics lab in the mechanical engineering department. I had to do my senior engineering project, and my friends were working on fluid dynamics, heat transfer, things like that. I walk into the biomechanics lab, and I see someone working on breaking down a golf swing. I didn't know you could use these principles to apply to sports and people's movements playing sports. For my senior paper I worked on the mechanics of the golf swing." Today, Fleisig is back to baseball as his focus, and is the nationally-acclaimed go-to-guy for questions like "How many pitches should I allow my son to throw?"

Wheelchair Basketball Tournament. It was the third time that HM served as a venue for this event that brought 14 teams from throughout the U.S. to Riverdale—with HM students assisting in the program.

A related event for youngsters from throughout New York City has taken place at HM for most of the past 13 years. The Achilles Kids-for-Kids Day brings physically and mentally disabled children to campus for games and para-Olympic-type activities, conducted in a carnival-like atmosphere. Students from every walk of HM life organize the event and lead the activities. Throughout the year, students raise funds for the organization, which was founded by HM alumnus Dick Traum '58 (see Alumni Interactive), through such events as a 24-hour marathon softball game that takes place at the end of classes in May of each year.

The softball game was a Horace Mann tradition that was revived in recent years by Ray Barile, whose personal history of combining philanthropy with physical activity inspired his efforts to encourage HM students to apply their athletic involvement to the public good.

Barile began teaching and coaching at Horace Mann shortly after graduating from Manhattan College in 1982. But, as a student, and during summers, he also coordinated recreational programs at a pool and park near his Rockland County home. There he ran events such as a swim-a-thon to raise money for cystic fibrosis research, and other causes. The HM setting seemed a perfect place to continue this work—and to encourage students already engaged in pursuing an activity together as a team to translate additional energy into community service. The result: His innovation of bringing

the annual Coaches vs. Cancer basketball tournament to the high school Ivy League. The tournament is a nationwide collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches, and a tradition at many colleges. Barile connected with the college program to initiate what has become a two-day event for boys' and girls' independent school- basketball teams, launching the HM program in 1999.

"I brought it up and the kids jumped on board. The parents thought it was a great idea. That first year we had three games and raised \$2,900," said Barile.

Now approaching its 10th anniversary, last year the HM program featured 16 games among eight schools, and netted over \$38,500 for the American Cancer Society through ticket sales and program ads—with \$7,000 coming from Horace Mann alone. HM's was one of the top 20 Coaches vs. Cancer fundraising events in the country.

A cherished athletic tradition among students and alumni alike are the annual Buzzell Games founded in memory of Horace Mann athlete Robert Buzzell, who would have graduated in 1951 but fell victim to the polio epidemic in 1950. Drawing over 700 fans the games are played in the Manhattan College gym where HM's mens' and womens' teams play Riverdale Country Day School, the game

has put Horace Mann on the map as one of the country's largest high-school contributors to the March of Dimes. The 58th-annual Robert Buzzell Memorial Games are scheduled for January 10, 2009.

HM's tennis teams have also scored points—literally—on behalf of their chosen charity. Supporting the AIDS Orphans Scholarship Fund for a school in Botswana run by former HM teacher and tennis coach Andrew Taylor, tennis players collect pledges for each set won by their team. With HM's tennis record, the fund has gained through the team's support. Among HM clubs not specifically linked to athletics The Sports Equipment Foundation club collects used equipment for the Police Athletic League's programs, and funds for new equipment.

## Seven Hundred Student Athletes; 1,600 Physical Education Students = Nearly as Many Issues

The history of sports and athletics at Horace Mann is as old as the School itself. Yet, as Bob Annunziata notes, it is always a work in

### Alumni in Sports

The roster of Horace Mann alumni who are or have been involved in sports and athletics over the years includes people in professions and pursuits as distinctive as these individuals themselves. From the top of Mt. Everest to the top of Major League Baseball management, from the background of NBA contract negotiations to the back and front courts of the WNBA, and from the race track to track and field, one can find a Horace Mann alumnus.

They've written about, filmed and broadcast sports, medically treated and pioneered fitness programs for athletes, participated in college and amateur athletics, and turned their involvement with sports into significant philanthropic endeavors. Some of these alumni have always been involved in athletics, or have returned to sports upon retirement, when time permitted, and have achieved distinction and great satisfaction from this pursuit. Brief profiles of just a few of these alums appear in this magazine issue, and continue on our [www.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://www.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG) website feature Alumni Interactive. The list below offers only a representation of the many ways Horace Mann alumni have added the pursuit of the physical to "The Life of the Mind." It's a roster worth perusing, for the very richness of the experience.

In near alphabetical order we start at the "top of the world" with Horace Mann Distinguished Alumnus **Peter Athans '75**. Known as "Mr. Everest" for his seven successful ascents of Mt. Everest, and for his heroic rescue of stranded climbers, Athans today devotes much of his attention to his own Himalayan Cataract Project, to relieve snow and sun blindness among the Sherpa population at the mountain's base. Backing up a bit on the "A" list there's **Bill Abramson '78**, a former international league rugby player, and former executive at Chelsea Piers, and **Dr. Robert Ackerman '53**, a neurologist and neuro-radiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital (and writer of the Horace Mann *alma mater*) who is an avid rower and racer with the Cambridge and Union boat clubs. **Charles Altchek '02** led Harvard to its first soccer title in years in 2007 when he was named Ivy League Player of the Year. **Amie Becker '94** is a former manager of the San Diego Sockers, and **Kim Belton**

**'78**, a star Stanford hoops player-turned NBA draft pick-turned Emmy-winning sports programming producer for ESPN and others. **Seth Berger '85** and **Jay Gilbert '85** co-founded AND 1, the basketball footwear and apparel company with stellar street cred. Berger is still involved in "the game"—as head boys' varsity basketball coach at the Westtown School in Westtown, Pa. Gilbert is co-founder of B Lab, a nonprofit organization that certifies and promotes B corporations (B for beneficial) or companies that meet exacting standards for environmental and social performance. **Adriane Berman '01** is another sports-connected media person as a producer with NBC Sports. Among the deans of today's sports press is **Ron Blum '79**, senior sports writer and baseball specialist for the Associated Press. **Dan Brent '63**, a nationally prominent arbitrator of labor-management and employment disputes, was named by the International Council of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland as an Arbitrator of the Court. He is one of approximately 20 American arbitrators selected to serve on the Court, which is the pre-eminent organization with responsibility for settling legal disputes involving international sports. Media consultant **Karen Davis '77** was co-chair of the Olympics Task Force (2004) Telemundo Network and worked with the NBA. **Bethany Donaphin '98**, a former WNBA player who has played internationally from 2004-2008, led Italy's Famila Schio team to a Eurocup championship in Moscow in April 2008 before retiring last Spring. **Jeffrey Dumansky '69**, a college tennis star, is a long-time tennis pro in Florida. **Harry Einbinder '98** works for the Toronto Blue Jays. **Jonathan Frankel '82**, of HBO's "Real Sports With Bryant Gumbel" wrote and produced the football documentary "Hellfighters." **Alan Freedman '74**, is Founder and Director, the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. **Howard Garfinkel '47** founded the prestigious Five Star Basketball Camp, and is co-author of *Five Star Basketball Drills*. **Josh Getzler '86**, former owner of the Staten Island Yankees, is now a book agent. **Noah Goldman '71** is a veteran sports management, event production and marketing executive who was a founder, president and CEO of Fantasy Sports and Entertainment, Inc. He was a driving force in marketing and representing professional athletes from professional tennis, Major League Baseball, the National Football League and other professional leagues, and was recently president and CEO of Big Boy Productions,

progress. While he and HM's teachers coaches are involved in examining and reevaluating the physical education curriculum, space concerns, and the philosophical approaches to HM's studies in movement, sports, fitness, sports medicine and CPR only scratch the surface of the scope of the issues.

The teacher/coaches who define the HM physical education experience are a case in point. Horace Mann's physical education faculty members also have the added responsibility of being expert at teaching students of all grade levels, switching psychologically on any given day from the focus needed to address a Lower Division student during one period, to coaching a varsity player the next. Logistics is another issue altogether. Watching a first-grade class trail after 6-foot 4-inch Jonathan Eshoo to Four Acres for an event like Field Day, or seeing girls' varsity soccer and boys' varsity basketball Coach Tim Sullivan shepherding a group of third graders across 246th Street toward the Upper Division pool is a common sight on the HM campus. But what does it mean to these educators themselves?

"I keep one perspective in mind. It's important to relate to each student as an individual, and on his or her level. We never underestimate our younger students, but we also try not to put too harsh a demand on our older students. There is a transition each of us



Teacher and coach Jon Eshoo led students in a race during Field Day for the HM Lower Division.

LLC, a N.Y.-based sports and entertainment production company created to produce and promote world-class professional Sumo in the U.S. and abroad.

**Richard Grossinger '62**, is author of nearly 30 books, including *The Temple of Baseball* and *The New York Mets, Ethnography, Myth and Subtext*. **Jacqueline Jeanne Haft '81**, co-founder of Ride & Shine Stables, a center for therapeutic riding in Vermont, has mentored many other equestrians who have gone on to start their own therapeutic riding programs, and is today developing new approaches to healing and sportsmanship. **Marcus Henderson '07** who won letters in track, football and his most successful sport, wrestling at HM, has begun a varsity wrestling career at Stanford. **Christopher Hutson '74**, a veteran marketing and sales executive with 25 years in the sports industry is co-founder and co-CEO of Turnstyles Ticketing, responsible for directing sales and marketing initiatives of this company that supports professional, collegiate and minor league sports teams. **David Itskowitch '92** is COO of Oscar De La Hoya's Golden Boy Promotions, one of the most successful names in the boxing industry. **Fred Jacobson '56** is the first American to climb all 4,000-meter peaks of the Swiss Valais and the first American to be awarded a gold medal for lifetime achievement by the Swiss Guides. Since 1973 he has been running Alpine Trails, which leads hiking and trekking tours of the Swiss and Italian Alps—with Jacobson leading each tour, thus adding to the over 30,000 miles of Alps he has hiked over the last 45 years. **Peter Kleinhans '82** studied creative writing at Carnegie-Mellon, pursued a Masters in English Literature at NYU, and earned his law degree from the University of Michigan. But his main focus is horse racing—namely as an owner and trainer of harness racers.

A varsity tennis star at HM **Jay Datheus Lee '92** began working at PGA National in Florida in 2002 as a tennis pro and stringer. Experienced as a physical trainer in tennis, basketball, and track, and an expert stroke teacher, he is also a web developer and international computer/Internet consultant through Datheus Intl. **Judah Levine '04**, a former HM baseball and soccer varsity star recently became Special Assistant to the CEO, Keystone Sports and Entertainment, LLC, and is working on developing a Major League soccer team for Philadelphia, to be based in nearby Chester, PA. **Jason Malefakis '07** made the cut for University of Michigan baseball as a walk-on, and

now plays outfield. At age 80 **Samuel Messiter '46**, a pilot, is also a world-class competitor in the implements divisions of track and field, holding records in shot put and javelin competitions. His advice: "stay vertical." **Jeffrey Mohl '99** is marketing director for the New York City Sport Commission, which works to attract athletic events to the Big Apple, among many other civic activities.

**Michael Margolis '92** turned a post-college internship with the New York Yankees into the position of Media Relations Manager for the Bronx Bombers. **Lynn Novick '79** was a co-producer with Ken Burns of the Emmy-award-winning "Baseball" series on PBS, the most highly-watched series in the network's history. **Paul Novograd '61** gave generations of New Yorkers a chance to learn to ride at his Claremont Stables. **Alexander Roy '89** is an international race-car driver. **Kevin '90** and **Kirk '91 Roberts** run Lucille Roberts fitness centers worldwide. **Seth Rosenfeld '84** made a name for himself as a sports wunderkind in 1990 with his Horse-of-the-Year Beach Towel. An owner, breeder, and better he is a member of the Hambletonian Society Board and is active in trying to draw younger fans into the sport.

**Eliot Shimer '42** proudly proclaims, "Still vertical and healthy at 83. I play tennis, ski, hike mountains, ride my bike 50 miles each week, and ran the Los Angeles marathon at 80." **William (Bill) Squadron '73** was co-founder, Chair and CEO of Sportsvision, Inc. the premier provider of technologies that enrich sports telecasts. An attorney, Squadron served as Commissioner of the NYC Department of Telecommunications under Mayor David Dinkins, and recently served as President of the IP PRIME division of SES AMERICOM, which worked on wireless programming for Tiger Woods and Maria Sharapova, among others. **Margot Stuchin '07**, a sophomore at Columbia, holds the 2008 U.S. Intercollegiate Archery Championships Women Recurve title. **Dan Tischler '03** starred as a starting pitcher at Franklin & Marshall, and was on the All-Centennial Conference First Team. **W. William Winokur '78**, signed copies of his newly-released *The Perfect Game* about a 1950s Little League ball team at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA in August, 2008, and looks forward to the release of a feature film he wrote and produced based on the book.



## David Samson '86



September 28, 2008 notwithstanding, David Samson '86 is exemplary in the world of sports, in part, for having turned a lesson he learned at Horace Mann into a road to success for himself and his team. Samson is president of the Florida Marlins, and he applies that HM lesson to the way he runs the baseball team. "It was in Mr. Soma's math class. I was fooling

around, and I just went too far. That day, I learned the difference between going to the limit, and pushing it. I run my team out-of-the-box, but I always know how far I can go, and how far is too far," Samson said. An ironman competitor himself, this athlete goes the distance in his own sport, just as he asks his players to, but always keeps in mind the respect for himself and others that he learned at Horace Mann. Oh, and that September 28 date? It's one Mets fans will remember as the day the Marlins handed the New York team a final loss on the last day of play at their original stadium. Read more on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

needs to make as we switch from grade to grade and sport to sport," said Eshoo, the teacher who also coaches boys' varsity cross country, co-ed Middle Division cross country and varsity squash. "But, that's what keeps it fresh for all of us, and one of the reasons we love teaching here. It's also great to watch the kids grow, to teach them in first grade and then coach them in ninth and beyond."

On any given day each coach is at once guidance counselor, transportation supervisor, and weather forecaster, as students, teams, coaches and parents try to accommodate athletic participation within the context of an intense academic life.

For over 20 years, most of these responsibilities fell into the hands of Athletic Director Annunziata, who served as coach, scheduler, administrator, liaison to the HM faculty, its administrators, and to competitors within the Ivy and other leagues, and uniform supplier, as well as sports spokesman, and weather forecaster. This year Rawley Troop, a longtime Lower Division science teacher and coach to the ski team, has joined the department to become involved in some of those efforts.

To Annunziata, and to all of HM's teacher-coaches, guiding students through the adventure that is athletics at this School is indeed challenging, but its rewards are great. For one thing, Annunziata says, "Being in contact with all the students, not only the ones I coach, is what I love about working at Horace Mann. This is a great department. We're doing so many things, but it works, because we all get along, and have a common goal."

The kind of fulfillment HM's physical education teachers and

coaches experience may not come measured in the form of a winning season, but sometimes in the sense of success of a single student—such as one who grows from a hesitant player into a serious athlete.

Dexter Richard '08 was one of those students. The new HM grad pitched for the Horace Mann Lions' varsity baseball team in the spring of 2007 and 2008, and became known among his coaches and peers as one of the hardest working athletes in the School's program. "There's a guy who just gave everything to the team," mused Neil Berniker, as he watched Richard lug equipment down the gym hallway one afternoon last spring.

Well—not *exactly* everything. Now at Brandeis, Dexter is continuing his pursuit of computer science and game programming courses at the university, after taking AP courses and earning academic honors in these. He also plans to continue the kind of community service work for which he was honored with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. And, he hopes to one day play for Brandeis' Division III University Athletic Association baseball team.

"When I was a kid I was never remotely athletic. I wasn't even into athletics," Richard recalled. Instead, riding the train with his father through Boston was a favorite activity for the boy who spent his early childhood in that city. On one of those rides Richard's father asked his son if he would like to get off at the Fenway Park stop and go to a game. "I wanted to stay on the train. But, by the time we got to the next station I was so sorry I'd said 'no' that my father took me back to the stadium. In those days you could just walk up and get a ticket. We got there in the third inning, and I saw Mo Vaughn hit a grand slam. That was it. I instantly fell in love with the game."

Richard started playing Little League in Boston, and, although he loved baseball, he admits, "I wasn't that good, and I wasn't that serious."

When Richard's family moved to Ardsley he entered Horace Mann, and started to play baseball in the Middle Division. He also began wrestling in seventh grade. "I began to take wrestling really seriously. There was an ethic, a mentality that the wrestling team had and that I learned from Coach Quilty that I then applied to all sports," Richard recalled.

"In ninth grade I made the JV baseball team. Coach Berniker was the first coach to put me in a game. I always liked pitching, but for a long time I played third base. Finally, I got the chance to pitch in my junior year. I even started thinking about playing after high school, because at Horace Mann, no one said I couldn't." By the 2008 baseball season Richard had turned his work ethic and love of the game into a 2.6 ERA.

"My Coach, Matt Russo, said if an athlete gets to play even one semester of baseball on a varsity college team, he should consider that a success. There's nothing I like better than being out on the mound. Thanks to Horace Mann, I might get that chance." In the future, Richard said he is "definitely interested in coaching. I was an eighth-grade homeroom mentor, and a health peer. I also worked

"Coaches play a very important role in the lives of the kids. They put their talent and a huge amount of effort and hard work into being a benevolent and important influence on the lives of our students. With full hearts they provide the right kind of framework for our students to grow."

— HM UPPER DIVISION HEAD DR. DAVID SCHILLER

with the girls' softball team. I loved working with the younger students, and after all those years watching Coach Russo, I think it would be wonderful to coach."

Stories symbolized by Dexter Richard's work ethic, or Jordan Taylor's enthusiasm, Renee McDougal's inspiration and Ari Hest's fond memories—or by MLB player Pedro Alvarez' gratitude to Horace Mann—speak to an experience in sports at this School that will influence a lifetime.

For HM Upper Division Head Dr. David Schiller "That's what sports can teach a kid. Part is developmental, part is emotional, and part is moral," he said. Reflecting on how important physical activity has been throughout his own life, as he tempered his scholarship in English literature and pedagogy with a powerful tennis game, Dr. Schiller said, "Coaches play a very important role in the lives of the kids. They put their talent and a huge amount of effort and hard work into being a benevolent and important influence on the lives of our students. With full hearts they provide the right kind of framework for our students to grow."

## Moving Through the HM Physical Education Curriculum, Movement First

Movement education in the Nursery Division is a significant pursuit. It's guided today by Cathy McKay who came to Horace Mann in January 2008 as a member of the ND faculty, rather than as a physical education teacher visiting from HM's Riverdale campus. Experienced teaching physical education and health subjects at the elementary and middle school levels, she earned a BS in kinesiology with an emphasis on teacher education. McKay holds a masters degree in personal and community health, and is completing her dissertation for her doctorate in education.

Cathy McKay notes that she was attracted to Horace Mann because of the opportunity the newly-instituted teaching position offered her to develop curriculum in a subject that can "build a



The Nursery Division's movement teacher Cathy McKay taught students rolling techniques.

### ALUMNI IN SPORTS

## Ron Blum '79 and Mike Margolis '92



George Costanza ended up working for the New York Yankees by parking his car in the lot in the Bronx long enough for him to enter the stadium. Ron Blum '79 and Mike Margolis '92 got to the Yankees through a more skilled route, albeit to divergent ends. In 2005 Blum was named primary national baseball writer at the Associated Press, where he has

worked since 1986. The Yankees are just one of the teams he covers. Margolis began working for the Yankees as an intern, served as an editor of *Yankees Magazine*, and was appointed, in 2007, as Media Relations Manager—or spokesman for the New York Yankees. Thus, when Blum wants to talk Yankees to an official it's likely that Margolis will take the call, and if Margolis has a story to spin, it's likely to land on Ron Blum's desk. What brings the two alums together professionally in the hyper-charged world of NY sports media is a love of baseball, and some terrific writing skills.

bridge to physical education throughout the rest of the Horace Mann School experience."

"The ultimate goal of an early childhood movement program is to provide children the opportunity to develop physical skills. Children develop fundamental motor patterns between the ages of 2 and 7. This makes the preschool years an ideal time for successful, developmentally-appropriate instruction through movement."

"Movement" for the "3's" focuses on the development of large muscle or gross motor skills necessary to perform a variety of physical activities. In this age group the children are also introduced to concepts of body awareness, space awareness, and relationships," McKay explained.

The natural curiosity of young children offers opportunities for creativity in devising activities that encourage them to explore the space around them, particularly as they are becoming aware of their own place within the world. At the same time, McKay emphasized, "it's essential to provide a structured movement experience to allow each child to become familiar with the body's movement potential."

McKay taps into her students' creativity to link movement education to the ND's curriculum. A class unit on animals, for example, presents opportunities for children to imitate hopping and jumping—using both dramatic play and building gross motor skills. During the Kindergarten's study of butterflies the subject of metamorphosis offered a way to introduce tumbling skills, as McKay has the children roll from their imagined "egg stage," practice straight log rolls as an "emerging chrysalis," and "transform" into butterflies by rolling into a standing position. The children also learn body awareness and space relationships through such manipulative skills as tossing and catching a beanbag.

For McKay, it is important that children experience success while building their skills, so the confidence they gain will encourage them to adopt attitudes necessary to leading healthy and active lives. "The

message we hope to get across to the 3's, 4's and 5's, and sometimes, to the parents, is that you don't have to be athletic to enjoy movement."

The "4's" curriculum builds upon the foundation set in the "3's" while increasing ties to grade studies. Last year a "Signs of Spring" unit in nature studies brought movement classes outside into Central Park and the grade's "Patterns" unit benefited from the "human loom" exercise and "hand-jive" dance the children practiced. It is in the "4's" that ND teachers introduce the topic of the human body. Physical fitness concepts McKay presents in relation to this unit give children a perspective on how physical activity helps maintain a healthy heart, lungs and muscles. "Seamless" is a word (Nursery Division Head) Patricia Zuroski uses a lot when she speaks of relating different parts of the Nursery Division's learning experience to other parts," McKay said. "I always think of how I can combine learning experiences seamlessly."

As the children's social growth and awareness increases the movement curriculum responds by introducing dance. A large-muscle activity that combines loco-motor skills and movement concepts dance also exposes children to different types of music and encourages their interaction with their peers.

"By the end of Kindergarten children are able to move using

body and space awareness. We emphasize the value and enjoyment of physical activity," said McKay.

For HM's kindergarteners McKay continued to tie the movement curriculum to the grade's studies in a unique way. "During the unit on animals the students examined peacocks—their habitat, colors, diet, and social structure. So, we used peacock feathers in movement to explore body awareness, space awareness, relationships, and manipulative balance." With the feathers poised on their fingertips, palms and even their noses, the children moved around the classroom in apparent delight over mastering the skills of balancing while moving through space.

A brightly-colored parachute is another piece of "equipment" the Nursery and Lower Divisions have used for years in movement, music, gym classes, and more. McKay incorporates the parachute into activities modeled around increasingly involved movement skills of stretching, curling, twisting and turning, and concepts of up-down, right-left, fast-slow, and over and under.

Toward the end of the school year kindergarteners prepare to leave behind the insulated world of the Nursery Division and enter the larger universe of Lower, where they will meet children from different classes and grades in the lunchroom, the playground, and at assemblies. Learning how the body moves—and how it moves in relation to others—will help as the children venture into larger worlds and more extended interaction with others. Dance is an activity that becomes especially important, and McKay extends its interactive use to having the children develop and teach fitness routines to their own classmates.

Cathy McKay believes that introducing competition into the Nursery Division's movement curriculum must be done with great consideration. For kindergarteners about to enter a Lower Division where good citizenship is a strong focus it's not "who won," or "which team was better" that counts, but "whether we had fun as a community—among students and teachers alike," she said.

"Kids need to learn skills, of course. But, when we use a soccer ball I don't say we are playing soccer. We're just learning to kick. At this point a lot of children don't think about what it means to be 'athletic' or who is skilled and who is not. It is essential that we take advantage of this precious time before children begin to apply labels to one another, to help them absorb the idea that, for the rest of their lives, playing still means having fun."

## Learning Life Skills in the Lower Division

For Robert (Bob) Forcelli, Lower Division Physical Education Chair, the key to helping children benefit from and enjoy athletics is to introduce them to a range of activities, and to the skills involved.

"We try to touch on every sport in our program," said Forcelli, who also coaches Middle Division football, boys' (grade 7) Middle Division basketball and girls' Middle Division softball. "We start with cooperative games, and by the end of the kids' time in the Lower Division we have team sports groups for field hockey, football, soccer, and baseball. We've also become increasingly fitness-aware and teach more lifetime sports, such as tennis. Of course, many of the

### Jacqueline Lowenfels '91



Back when she was a student at Horace Mann School Jacqueline (Jackie) Lowenfels '91 divided her time between campus life where she focused on academics and athletics, and her life away from New York as an expert equestrian specializing in Dressage. Over the years, including during her time as a student at Mt. Holyoke, Lowenfels' accomplishments

in the equestrian world took her around the country as a competitor, a rider sought after by owners to present their horses in shows, and as a trainer of some of the best-bred steeds in the world, from some of the finest stables. Today Lowenfels' life still revolves around riding, but she's working with horses of steady, patient stock at a stable that welcomes the least experienced, and perhaps least likely of riders. In fact that's why this stable exists. Jackie is equine manager and program coordinator at the Winslow Therapeutic Center in Warwick, New York, an internationally-known leader in therapeutic riding and equine-assisted therapy. Riders here range from wheelchair-bound youngsters and adults who achieve a fulfilling sense of mobility on the back of a horse, as well as people of all ages with emotional issues. Said Lowenfels, "Once I became a mother I began to look at the horse world differently. I wanted to do something positive with riding." At Winslow she is doing just that—not only with the riders but with volunteers, including some teens who are fulfilling court-ordered community service by helping at the stable. One of Lowenfels' most gratifying experiences was seeing an autistic rider patting and speaking to his mount. Winslow is also reaching out to injured Iraq war veterans whose rehabilitation Lowenfels believes will hasten on horseback. Read more on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).



kids do these sports outside of the school, but we want to make sure all of our students have a chance to be exposed to these activities.

"We introduce each sport in a progressive way, first teaching the skills that will allow the children to get the most out of their experience. For instance, in first and second grades, we teach them how to throw and hit a ball. That way, by the time we are ready to get them into an actual game *they* are ready to enjoy it, and not be overwhelmed. Eventually, as the kids get closer to playing games, we teach them the rules, and how to play a game—the right way to play. We also make sure kids are enjoying themselves. That way, they learn without the stress."

Bob Forcelli has been teaching at Horace Mann for 34 years, coming to the Lower Division campus, which was then Barnard School, in September 1974, as a newly-minted Phys Ed graduate of Manhattan College. "I haven't left this street in 40 years," said Forcelli. "I came here and fell in love with the place. I have kids in my classes today whose parents I taught 25 years ago."

Forcelli has thus had ample time to learn that, with guidance, every child can find a niche in athletics. "I wish I had a film showing how the kids grow and improve. You can see that growth when you look at the kids in fifth grade, and remember how they were in first grade. When you have 40 to 45 minutes of Phys Ed four days a week, you *do* learn something."

Grade One is the year that the concept of playing a game is introduced in the Lower Division, said Forcelli, when the LD physical education teachers introduce cooperative games, taught within the four main components of the gym curriculum—including gymnastics, lifetime sports, and swimming. During the games and team sports unit students apply the skills they have learned, and work together as part of a team to reach a common goal, Forcelli explained.

"Cooperative games include dodge ball, or 'Dr. Dodgeball.' It's a Horace Mann invention. Four kids are 'The Doctor' who has to 'rescue' the others. Kickball is another game that requires the added skills of concentration and cooperation. You have to remember who you got out, for instance," said Forcelli. First graders also learn to move to different rhythms and types of music through units on gymnastics, movement, and dance. Swimming classes are held at the Upper Division campus pool and focus on essential skills and water safety.



Teacher and coach Bob Forcelli directs the Lower Division physical education program.

## ALUMNI IN SPORTS

### Olivia Mauro '03



MVP in both softball and volleyball in her days at Horace Mann Olivia Mauro '03 was also a three-time-all-Ivy-League first team member, and was named Horace Mann scholar athlete and Female Athlete-of-the-year in 2003. She also led her Lions teams to three NY Independent School state championships and two Ivy League titles. But, it turns out that, back in high school, Mauro was just getting started. From HM she went on to the University of Pennsylvania, and was twice named to ESPN the Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All America. Among her credits? Pitching a perfect game against Princeton. Working today in finance, Mauro hasn't hung up her cleats. She pitched for New York City at the Empire State Games in July 2008.

Second grade sees a continuation of skill development, with increased emphasis on learning to work as a team. Simple tumbling is introduced as part of the gymnastics program. "In first and second grades we also introduce kids to skills leading up to playing a game, like the correct way to hold a bat or dribble a soccer ball.

"By third grade kids are ready to play on a team. Many are already playing soccer in their neighborhoods, or beginning Little League. But, unlike in organized out-of-school competitive sports at HM students don't play designated positions. We play a wide variety of games, and stress team effort and sportsmanship. We also make sure everyone gets a chance to try out different positions so they can learn what's involved in each sport, and so they don't get pigeon-holed into what they think they are good at. In fourth grade we start working on sharpening skills and game-playing concepts."

Fitness is a part of the curriculum in each grade. "It's an actual unit," Forcelli said. "We have kids jump rope, skip, hop, and run around the gym. We time them for two and three minutes, but we don't keep track of how many times they've jumped rope or skipped. If you embarrass a child, he or she is never going to come back to a sport. Our job is to make sure a child never feels self-conscious."

Fifth grade marks a turning point for the Lower Division students, Forcelli explained. "You can really see a difference in the kids by this age. They are really starting to mature, and we address that by asking them to take more responsibility and initiative in organizing games and on the playing field. But we also emphasize cooperation, respect, and safety, particularly in terms of risk-taking.

"We introduce the kids to a full-fledged team experience, and expose them to an increased variety of sports, as well as to more specific skills needed for different sports." The students also rotate seasonally through many sports offerings, with football, soccer, swimming, gymnastics, and field hockey taught in the fall, fitness, basketball, dance, volleyball, track and field in the winter, and softball, baseball, and lacrosse in the spring," Forcelli said, adding that as the Division's gym teachers introduce team sports into the curriculum they adhere to one more adage: "Never let a kid be picked last."

When it gets down to the last kids, we stop choosing up. The teacher will just go out and say—"you go there, you play on that team."

For the busy Lower Division physical education faculty bringing that kind of team ethic to their teaching comes naturally. Teaching a combined total of between 18 to 22 gym classes a week, each teacher also has responsibilities as a Lions team coach: Caroline Surhoff coaches Junior Varsity and Middle Division soccer, and girls' junior varsity lacrosse. She also coaches HM's seven-time AAIS (Independent School) title-winning gymnastics team. Tim Sullivan coaches girls' varsity soccer and will coach boys' varsity basketball in 2008-2009. Jon Eshoo also coaches boys varsity cross country, co-ed Middle Division cross country, and varsity squash. "For these kids we're role models, and we have to act that way. I always have kids coming back from the Upper Division telling me how they still remember what I taught them," said Forcelli.

Each teacher/coach is thus also deeply conscious of imbuing in young athletes a sense of respect for one another, as well as for sports. Coach Surhoff's experience teaching physical education to students in every Lower Division grade, and coaching at the Middle and Upper Division levels, has enabled her to observe student development, and see how some of the same issues progress as students mature. "Our young students are developing a sense of themselves, of who they are in the world. Physical education is very important to them at this age because it can help them develop with self confidence," said Coach Surhoff.

"With our youngest students we start by teaching them to be aware of one another, to respect each other's space. Bragging is one way kids react at this age. One of the things we do in the Lower Division is try to find activities all the students can do and enjoy. Our fitness circuit is one of these, for second, third and fourth-graders. I'll pump up the music, and kids go from one exercise activity to another. No one stands out. The kids love it.

"This School is a competitive place. Students are competitive with one another, and we recognize that," Surhoff said. As coach of HM's gymnastics team—a team that hosts athletes who arrive at this School as accomplished gymnasts, Coach Surhoff works with team members on melding individual achievement with team goals. She also has the experience, as JV lacrosse coach, of building teams of young players just learning a sport. In each case students learn how athletes with natural talent and those who bring drive and commitment are both necessary for a team's success.

Herself a former student athlete, Coach Surhoff believes that a comfortable kind of competition is something athletics can teach. "In life you have to work with people. Sport forces you to do that. In the long run we reiterate to the students, 'We have a team goal here. We have to get everyone on board.' Sometimes I'll have to tell an athlete, 'I have to sit you in the second half. Are you OK with that? If I explain to the student that our team strategy means that we need to have something happen at a certain position at a certain time, the athlete understands.

"What the coaches love about Horace Mann is that we get to teach in this way. We love coaching intellectual kids and kids who are driven. The groundwork is there. The excitement comes from bringing it all together. For instance, in teaching commitment to the team, I give out a schedule of games and practices a month in

## Pedro Alvarez '05



Before the summer of 2008, and the long road to officially sign with the Pittsburgh Pirates and the MLB, the hardest decision Pedro Alvarez '05 ever faced was whether to take a draft offer from the Boston Red Sox upon graduation, or accept a full scholarship to Vanderbilt University to play baseball. Not many HM graduates have that kind of choice before them,

but for Pedro Horace Mann School's faculty and coaches were there to guide and support him. From Coach Matt Russo whose sidewalk Alvarez wore out pacing back and forth before making his decision, to the third-baseman's religion teacher Pasquale DeVito, who advised Alvarez to "go with his gut" the Rookie says he will always be grateful to Horace Mann for helping with his decision, and for his education here. Fellow alums who played Lions' baseball in Pedro's days at the School have a great friendship with the player to look back on. "He was the biggest joker on the bus to games, trying to get everyone loosened up. And then we'd start playing and he'd get serious," recalled Ezra Levine '06. "He's just a great guy, and we're so happy for him." Read more on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

advance, so they know what's involved."

For Bob Forcelli keeping a commitment to being part of the "team" of Horace Mann is equally important. "I go to all the faculty meetings," he said. "If I can't go Caroline Surhoff goes, to make sure we are represented. We want everyone to know this isn't *our* gym. It's the School's gym, and we're all part of one School."

## Navigating the Transition, from Middle Division and Beyond

There is perhaps no more challenging era in the life of a student, and one that requires more care on the part of a teacher, than the middle school years. A time when class work covers more advanced material, and assignments become more involved, these are the years that students experience the transformation from childhood to young adult. Physical and emotional changes occur at a pace that can blindside both student and faculty member. Social issues are part of the territory. Athletics so often become a focus for how students both learning and working to define themselves add to that definition.

Formally, the Athletics Department at Horace Mann describes physical education in grades six-through-eight as "a life-management course that is designed to teach young people about positive behaviors and attitudes that will impact on total development: physical, social, and emotional." Physical education is thus not seen only as athletic activity but a part of the overall Middle Division curriculum that aims to prepare students "to reach goals, develop effective personal management skills, improve self-esteem,

maintain positive relationships, and live healthy and productive lives” through acquiring “the knowledge and skills necessary to perform basic motor and manipulative skills and attaining competency in a variety of physical activities and proficiency in a few select complex motor and sport activities; recognize the benefits of engaging in regular physical activity; and demonstrating responsible personal and social behavior while engaged in physical activity... that promotes inclusion of diverse people, and understanding that physical activity provides the opportunity for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and communication.”

How do these goals translate into reality? By turning these teaching and learning exercises into fun, explains Middle Division Chair for Physical Education and Associate Director for MD Athletics R.J. Harmon. “One way is through team participation. In the Middle Division everyone, whether or not they are involved in athletics, has a chance to be part of a team. In sixth grade, students have a year-long competition known as The Challenge Cup, which Coach Berniker coordinates. Challenge Cup takes place one day out of the gym week, on Wednesdays. The homerooms compete against each other. That way the kids get to put the skills they learn in physical education into practice. We teach them to throw a ball, how to field, how to hold a bat, and how to kick. We also emphasize good sportsmanship, because, especially at this age, there is a big difference in skill levels. When everyone is playing using different skills, it’s harder to single out someone for not having success with any skills. During Challenge Cup, students get to put these skills to use in an actual game. We rotate activities between kickball, dodge ball, relay races, baseball, tennis, so that every student will get a chance to do what they are good at or like best,” Harmon explained.

In seventh and eighth grade students have a chance to try out for an interscholastic team. However, if they don’t go out for athletics, they will be on an intramural team. All the games take place during one period, and we do the sports in a round robin, with maybe volleyball, soccer and flag football in the fall, and basketball, softball and baseball in the spring. The kids organize the teams, and decide



*Middle Division Chair for Physical Education and Associate Director for MD Athletics R.J. Harmon talks softball with Emma Frankel '08.*

what they want to play. Boys play the boys and girls play the girls. We have playoffs until a final competition,” said Harmon.

“In the Middle Division we really focus on keeping kids physically active. They go through rotations in sixth grade from softball for the girls, a fitness unit, swimming and lacrosse, baseball, sports medicine, and tennis. We try to introduce them to the various sports we offer in athletics, so as seventh graders, if a student wants to they can try out for a sport they found they liked. We have a lot of options for teams for these grades, and we try to maximize our rosters so we can give everyone who wants to a chance to participate. I can’t think of an athlete who might not make it onto a team.”

Some students opt out of interscholastic team competition at this age because intramurals are fun and fulfilling, and they may decide to pursue team sports when they get to the Upper Division.

A former math teacher in HM’s Lower Division who holds masters degrees in math and education, and whose experience in different HM Divisions gives him a keen understanding of the progression students make through this School, Harmon sees the entire enterprise of both physical education and athletics in the Middle Division as a teaching process. “Students are getting their first taste of real competition. Kids who are on inter-scholastic teams have practice during a double period of gym class and lunch. This helps them learn about commitment to the team. If they don’t come to practices, we put them back into the regular physical education class,” said Harmon.

“My philosophy is that physical education is a necessity and athletics is a privilege. I try to relate that to the students in the most positive way—that when we play we are representing Horace Mann.”

Coach Harmon, who coaches seventh-grade girls’ basketball and seventh-grade volleyball and JV volleyball considers the same concerns Bob Annunziata expressed about athletic participation at HM. “By offering a lot of sports, we give students the opportunity to try a lot of sports. Or, are we taking some opportunity away? Sometimes it’s cyclical, and more kids come out for a certain sport. A few years ago, when I coached JV volleyball I didn’t have to make any cuts. Last year, 24 kids came out and I did have to make cuts. We

## Emily Park '08



From the minute she stepped onto a squash court at the age of 8 Emily Park had found a home. With a slew of titles earned internationally for girls under 13 Park came to Horace Mann and earned MVP titles in squash, and was part of the tennis team. In 2006 she was the number one U.S. player among girls under 17, and then she eased up a bit during her senior year, focusing on

enjoying her studies during her last year at Horace Mann, and preparing to go on to Harvard where this former president of the HM psychology club, and volunteer at City Squash summer camp is already playing varsity squash. How did she balance a lifetime of competition with her intense HM studies? The story on [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG) explains.





*The 2008 Horace Mann Wrestling team won the Mayor's Cup, making it the winning team each of the first three years of the tournament's existence. The team has also won the NY State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS) Championships seven of the last eight years.*

try to work on ways for students to be part of a team if they want to, in manager positions, for instance. I believe it's important for a student to try to be part of a team. A percentage of students will drop out, because they will have played sports in middle school and they want to concentrate on their studies.

"We try to make participating in sports at this age a really fun experience so that students *will* try out for a team." A coach whose bulletin board and desk drawers are packed with notes and pictures from current students and alums, Harmon located one picture he loves. It's of a seventh-grade volleyball team after they won a game. "They look so happy you'd think they'd won a championship. It was just that this was the first game they'd ever won. For students who have the team experience it's something they remember forever."

Another bulletin board memento attests to Harmon's point. It's a note from a team member that reads, in part, "I want to thank you so much for these last two years of JV volleyball... you know exactly how to motivate us when we're not playing our best, and you always know how to balance instruction with just letting us play. I really owe my improvements to you... Thank you for being a wonderful and unforgettable coach."

## The Experience of Athletics at Horace Mann

Neil Berniker may be the best person to sum up the experience of physical education and athletics at Horace Mann. He arrived in Riverdale to teach at the Barnard School over 45 years ago. When Barnard became part of Horace Mann Berniker stayed on the Barnard side of campus to teach in what became HM's Lower Division. He has since been Director of Physical Education in the Lower Division, a teacher and coordinator of the program in the Middle Division, and more. Getting to know students of every age group he has coached varsity and junior varsity-level baseball, and boys' varsity soccer, winning five Ivy League titles and three state championships. Today he also organizes Friendship Games with neighboring Riverdale and Fieldston for Middle Division students. "The kids compete in a variety of sports, and the games are con-

ducted in a very social environment."

For all the years he has been at Horace Mann School Berniker says each one "is special, because every year I have a new crop of students. Whether they're in the Lower Division or Middle or Upper, these kids are great to work with."

There is one difficult part of the job he otherwise loves, says Berniker: "Having to cut a student from a team he or she has tried out for. It's very difficult to cut someone and suppress their passion for a sport. The hardest part of coaching is speaking to an athlete and saying 'you won't make the team this year.' Sometimes I try to work with those kids, and discuss what they need to work on. They might devote more time before the season to practicing for tryouts. Or, they may find their niche in a different sport."

"The expanse of athletic offerings gives our students the opportunity to participate in sports, and not just a few sports. My two sons went to Horace Mann," said Coach Berniker of his sons Scott '87 and Eric '90. "What made this School so special then and now is that it was always a great place for opportunities. With my sons—Scott was on the track and wrestling teams. Eric played soccer and basketball. They found their niche in four different sports. All of us see the kids at this School from the time they are young to when they grow into athletes, and when they come back and visit after they've graduated. We get to enjoy that kind of long term relationship because of the involvement we have with the students."

Beginning his teaching career just after completing a degree in physical education at NYU for Neil Berniker coaching and teaching sports "was always going to be the career for me. I loved working with athletes, and developing them. All of this prepared me, I believe, for working with students in the Middle Division. You need to be very sensitive to their needs, and deal with the positive, to help build them up for what they will meet in the Upper Division."

Horace Mann, said Berniker, has also always been a great place to teach and improve his own coaching skills "because of the support this School has given me." In turn, he offered his support to HM in the form of these words of advice to parents and teachers of athletes. To a parent he advised, "Let your child enjoy his athletic experience without undo stress or pressure. Take a step back and enjoy watching them play. Don't put them in a position of having to decide whether to listen to mom and dad or to the coach. They will navigate their own path."

To a new teacher he suggested, "Love what you are doing. Put your time and energy into growing with the position, and be sensitive to all your students and your athletes so that they can imagine themselves to be the best they can be at whatever level of play." ■

**The HM winter sports season begins on November 17, 2008. Spring sports begin April 1, 2009. To see the schedule for all winter sports teams, including wrestling, girls' and boys' basketball, swimming, indoor track, gymnastics and fencing please visit [www.horacemann.org](http://www.horacemann.org), click on athletics, then "select a sport" and come out to cheer! Schedules for spring sports, including baseball, softball, boys' tennis, track, crew, golf, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee will be posted soon.**

## An Athlete's Journal

By Vanessa Constant '10

Participation in athletics is a seminal experience for many Horace Mann students, and one long-remembered by many of the School's alumni. To learn just how such a powerful experience develops *Horace Mann Magazine* asked current student-athlete Vanessa Constant '10 to share excerpts from the journal she kept during her season on the varsity lacrosse team in spring 2008. The team's experience began with pre-season practice in Hilton Head, South Carolina where team members readied themselves for competition away from the winds of New York in March. The trip included members of the JV team coached by Caroline Surhoff, and the varsity team, coached by Keri Hall.

These entries from Vanessa's journal speak to the commitment, learning, and fun team members share with each other and with their coaches. It was a challenging season as Lady Lions Lacrosse lost ten players from the previous year's graduating class, and entered a rebuilding phase. But, as this journal shows, that didn't dampen team spirits.

Girls' varsity lacrosse played its final game on May 16, 2008, under Coach Hall, winning a tight, final match by a score of 13-12. The season's drama continued for the JV team as well, when two players were missing for the final match. "I asked the girls if they wanted to play with so few players, and no goalie," Coach Surhoff recalled. "Each girl said she would try to guard the goal and also cover her regular position." The match went off as scheduled, with the Lions victorious. "Because of the way all the girls stepped up and did what they had to do, this was one of my most satisfying games ever."



photo © James Levine Photography

### March 12: Thursday

Lacrosse starts tomorrow. There's been about a week of tryouts thus far and things are looking good. We've been doing drills and situational practices... but at the end of this one we hear, "OK ladies. Go to the end of the line, and you don't need your goggles!" This obviously meant sprints. Anyway, we were told we were running seven-up, which is more like 56 thirty-five-yard sprints, with a partner. We tried to argue for five-up... but, yeah, it didn't work.

### March 24:

We got to the airport at 7:39 a.m. to leave for Savannah, Georgia (then we will drive to Hilton Head Island). We just sat on the plane and made grocery lists and did easy-level Sudoku, because the medium level is pretty close to impossible—haha. Once we got there we unpacked and went to play. Very tired, we all went home and passed out.

### March 26:

Yay! Today we got to sleep in. From 10-2 we had team practice and did drills then we got to go to the beach to give us some relaxation time. We hung at after that at the houses, baking cookies and then eating them faster than anything. We also went to the Hilton Head store and ate some more. We did this until about 7:30 when we left for our games that started at 8:20. We played two 20-minute games vs. different teams. Then we drove home in the pony van (Coach Surhoff's) belting out pop/rap music. Aside from having a great time we are learning about the sport and how to play with one another. (We leave the 28th).

### April 6: Sunday

Mayor's Cup was today. It's an all day city tournament at Randall's Island, actually more of a jamboree. We played 20-minute games. About six of them, with time in between. But it was freezing today. We also played Riverdale Friday and lost by one. Not the best way to start the season, but I think we will be fine. Now that things have gotten started we have at least two games a week. Go Lions!

### May 13: Tuesday

Today was our last practice, leading to our three consecutive games coming up tomorrow, Thursday, and Friday. We played lacrosse baseball—amazing! And then we watched the boys' lacrosse team. I can't say we were the best cheerleaders, but it was fun regardless. With the end of the season around the corner we all start to look back and remember the place where we all started as individual players to where we are now as a team. Going through the sadness of losing or the excitement of winning our team has only gotten better, and seeing where we are now, I can only look forward to next season and the potential greatness we possess as lions. The '08 LAX team has been a learning, teaching, and bonding experience.





## AMY MOJICA

### Athletic Trainer, Teammate, “Coach”

**This feature is part of *Horace Mann Magazine*’s periodic “Teaching for Life” series**

**B**ack in the spring of 2006 an issue of *The Horace Mann Record* offered readers a list of sports statistics. One was neither a score, nor a sports fact, but it read like a record. In one half-hour of one spring afternoon (from 3:30 to 4 p.m.) 68 students entered the training room run by HM athletic trainer Amy (then Merrow) Mojica.

In fact, that wasn’t an outstanding number for an afternoon in this trainer’s “classroom.” It was typical. And that was in Mojica’s first year at Horace Mann, when the students were just getting to know her. In the two years since she joined the HM athletic department in 2005 year the number of students in and out of the training room throughout the day keeps multiplying.

Some of the visitors are athletes warming up before a practice or a game. Some come in for a dose of physical therapy or conditioning. Others are friends of those athletes, keeping them company while they rehab, though these days there’s hardly room or time for conversation here. Still others have become friends with the teacher-trainer herself, and just stop in for a flash of her ready smile, and the easy way of doling out encouragement that makes Mojica’s focus on physical health a boost to a student’s mental as well as physical well-being.

“Yes. It’s become a hang-out,” acknowledged Mojica of the training room. A former high school and college athlete herself, she was a student athletic trainer in her days at the University of New Hampshire. Mojica is also a second-generation physical trainer, following in the footsteps of her dad. Thus, she knows a thing about keeping kids healthy, both physically and emotionally.

“When I was in school I always found the people in the training room to be so caring. That was where an athlete could feel totally comfortable. My training room in college was ‘coach-free.’ It gave athletes a place to go to tell someone if they didn’t feel they were up to performing on a certain day. A lot of kids are stressed out. They feel they have to perform at the highest level academically all day, and then at a high level in practice. Sometimes a student will come in and say, ‘I haven’t slept,’ or ‘I haven’t eaten all day.’ If someone hasn’t eaten, I might recommend a light bike ride instead of a heavy work-out. If I see a student is really stressed I can sometimes suggest to a coach that so-and-so shouldn’t practice that day. Here is where a student can feel free to say ‘I don’t know if I can do this today,’”

Mojica says it’s a rare occasion when she has to assume that role, because the students who commit themselves to sports or other activities at Horace Mann commit deeply. In fact, says the trainer “These students become very upset if they are injured. They feel the team is depending on them. Sometimes I have to hold them back from returning to practice too quickly.

“In here, it’s all about trust. If students don’t communicate with me honestly I can’t fully understand the extent of their injuries. It could be dangerous if they don’t get the right treatment, or if they go back to practice or play in a game too soon. My job is about

keeping everyone physically fit—and mentally sane,” said Mojica.

Stress is a subject Mojica discusses in her sports medicine curriculum, touching on the increased pressure students feel from external society. “Steroid use is a big topic in class, especially with the sixth-graders. Guys want to gain weight, in the fastest, easiest way they can. Or, they’re into weight-loss plans. I tell them, if you’re looking to gain weight, eat healthy foods, with 500 extra calories. Kids don’t realize all the side-effects of those energy bars, so I break things down in a way that is meaningful to them: ‘You’re paying \$5.00 for something that gives you as much energy as some peanut butter and an apple!’

“I emphasize that sleep is important *every* day. I might recommend that a student take a nap instead of doing a last-minute practice before a game. Sleep is as important as stretching, drinking water, and warming up. I also emphasize eating right, not drinking a soda before going out to play,” Mojica said.

“Kids have a tendency to think outside of themselves—to think ‘this won’t happen to me.’ I want them to be aware of themselves.” Thus, a part of HM’s sports medicine curriculum focuses on what an injury is, how to prevent injuries, and “hands-on” ways to treat them. “We talk about safety, and equipment, the importance of using a helmet, so that the kids might think more in the future about trying to prevent an injury.”

At one of the first sports awards dinners she attended after coming to Horace Mann Mojica was surprised to hear coaches and athletes acknowledge her as an unofficial member of their teams, because of her presence at the games, her support, and her hands-on assistance. Having worked as an athletic trainer at the college level, then with a professional lacrosse team, and, finally, as head athletic trainer for an arena football team before coming to HM, Mojica quickly made the transition to focusing on the needs of the developing young athletes she works with here.

“It’s interesting to see how the students grow into themselves through their sports. I’m always busy with the Middle Division kids on their first game day. Some come in with an injury, but it’s never anything serious. Or, maybe it’s just ‘my stomach hurts.’ They need attention. It’s their first game. I just try to get them out on the field to play.

“The freshmen are still so young. They come in and say ‘I can’t do this today.’ I tell them ‘Yes you can.’ By the time students are sophomores, it’s just, ‘Hey. What’s going on?’ The juniors and seniors will come in and say ‘I’ve got to stretch.’ I say, ‘That’s good. Stretch.’ They still just need to stop in. This is a place where an ingrown toenail can turn into a crisis, but it’s where students can feel comfortable,” said the trainer.

“Sports should be a good time. The coaches at Horace Mann have the right mindset. I see so much *teaching* going on in practice and during a game, in *all* the sports, and with *all* the coaches. We have a lot of non-natural athletes who perform well because the teaching is so good. Even if a student isn’t naturally fast, for instance, we have a place for them because we have so many options that allow almost any student to become an athlete, from traditional school sports to skiing and rowing, to managing a team,” said Mojica.

“I absolutely love teaching here, especially after being in professional sports. When I worked for the arena team you *had* to win. The reward was the paycheck. Here, you see a student who hasn’t caught a ball in two years make a great play, and become a hero. The students’ enthusiasm is my biggest reward.” ■





photo by David Parker

*HM Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly with 2008 Tina and David Bellet Award for Teaching Excellence finalists, Kindergarten teacher Kathy Spicer, and Upper Division Math Department Chair Chris Jones, HM Board of Trustees Chair Steve Friedman '72, and Tina and David Bellet.*

## Kathy Spicer, Chris Jones Receive 2008 Bellet Teaching Excellence Award

The day began for kindergarten teacher Kathy Spicer as it always does: with warm greetings to and from the children who daily bound into her classroom and a discussion previewing the learning experiences they would share that day. For Upper Division Math Department Chair Chris Jones it was another day of teaching advanced math classes, managing schedules and student needs within his department, and beginning to prepare for the year ahead. But, for neither teacher were these common-place activities routine.

For Kathy Spicer, every day of teaching represents a new adventure, as she has so often stated, because, throughout her years in the classroom, she has learned that each student brings a new perspective to each and every class. In her words, "no child is the same and no day is the same." For Chris Jones every day of teaching is also a day to celebrate the dedication of his students and colleagues. It doesn't hurt if the day includes some one-on-one work with a student like his advisee, Krishanu Sankar '08, who would graduate from Horace Mann to a summer as part of the 2008 five-member U.S. Math Olympics team, and earn a gold medal in international competition.

But, this day—May 14, 2008—was exceptional for one more reason. Both teachers were being celebrated themselves—as the finalist recipients of the 2008 Tina and David Bellet Award for Teaching Excellence.

In many ways, the selection of these two teachers demonstrated the significance of the award that has been presented for the past seven years. Established in 2001 by Tina and David Bellet, parents of two HM alumnae, the award was designed to recognize and encourage outstanding teaching. With (Riverdale campus) Kindergarten Team Leader Kathy Spicer, and Upper Division Math Department Chair Jones as the honorees, it was abundantly clear that Horace Mann School deeply values the educational experiences of both its youngest learners and its most advanced students.

The Bellets, parents of Suzanne '96 and Stacey '00, endowed the Award at Horace Mann to recognize outstanding and innovative teaching. Candidates are nominated by former students and faculty colleagues. Tina Bellet, a former teacher, is a Trustee Emeritus at Horace Mann School who has chaired the Trustees' Education Committee. David Bellet is a Trustee of the Foundation for Teaching Economics. During the 2007-2008 school year eleven nominees prepared extensive portfolios that revealed their teaching philosophies. In a reflective process that one former recipient called "growthful," nominees reflect on their personal practice in the classroom and on their relationship to the HM community. A common quality of all Bellet awardees, past and present, is their commitment to ongoing learning as they continue to hone the craft of teaching.

Kathy Spicer was recognized for her energy and enthusiasm and the depth of her knowledge of and engagement with her young students. One colleague who wrote on her behalf to the Bellet Award Committee noted that Kathy's teaching is "alive with experimentation, both for herself and her students. Her belief that children learn through movement and hands-on experiences fills every corner of the kindergarten cottage." Another observed that older students frequently drop by the kindergarten cottage on their way to their current classrooms to reconnect with one of their first Horace Mann teachers.

Chris Jones, who, along with serving as chair of the Upper Division mathematics department, coaches the Ultimate Frisbee team, and is "commissioner" of intramural "Trashketball." He was praised for his love of mathematics, his ability to reach out to students at many levels of proficiency, and his leadership within his department. One person who wrote in support of Jones' nomination noted his dedication to "digging ever deeper into new mathematical territory, matching and engaging student ideas and inspiration" with resulting curricular ideas that benefit students and colleagues alike. Former students describe his teaching as "transformative."

Director of Curriculum and Professional Development Dr. Barbara Tischler, who chaired this year's Bellet Award Committee, noted that all of the nominees submitted "remarkable work that speaks to the excitement about teaching and learning in our community." This year's finalists, in addition to Spicer and Jones, were Middle Division history and English teacher Isaac Brooks, Upper Division English teacher and Dean Randal Castleman, Lower Division French and Spanish teacher Marielle Coadic, Middle Division Foreign Languages Department Chair, Jacqueline Friedman, Upper Division math teacher Linda Itani, Lower Division Publishing Center Coordinator and English and art teacher Louise Parmis, Middle and Upper Division math teacher and summer school director Dr. Annette Perez, Dr. Ilene Rothschild Learning Specialist, Counselor, and teacher, Counseling and Guidance Department, and longtime Upper Division art history teacher Don Yates, who retired last spring.

Letters from alumni, parents of current students, and colleagues written in support of these semi-finalists described how each went the extra mile for their students, serving as inspiring teachers with a breadth of knowledge to share. Each was also described as a stellar colleague who contributed greatly to the goals of their departments and to the life of Horace Mann School. Isaac Brooks was praised for his scholarship and ability to make his subjects come alive for his students; Castleman for inspiring his students to strive for perfection; Coadic for her ability to make learning a foreign language hardly foreign even to young students because of the ease and comfort she brings to her teaching. "Madamme" Friedman, or "Madamme" as she is known was noted to have groomed generations of national French competition winners in her years at Horace Mann; Itani was both an excellent teacher and supportive advisor to her students; Parmis was

recognized for numerous talents—as an artist, writer, and a person who always finds a way to make any teaching dream a reality for her students and for colleagues. To many students Dr. Perez is a teacher who makes math accessible; and Dr. Ilene Rothschild was recognized for her teaching, as well as for the care and professionalism she brings to the sensitive area of guidance for students and parents alike.

"We are all privileged to teach in such good company," Dr. Tischler said.

Thanking the Bellets, and all of his math department colleagues gathered at the elegant dinner in honor of the awardees, Chris Jones spoke of how deeply he values being part of a department populated by teachers devoted to their subject and craft. "One of the things that makes teaching great is that it is not a solitary profession. Interaction is what it's all about. My successes as a teacher, therefore, are not so much a reflection of me as a reflection of what happens in this special academic community when people get together. So I want to thank the people I've been getting together with for these 17 years... I would not be half the teacher I am without the support and encouragement I have received from you guys. We make each other better. I see it every day in the math office. The amount of formal and informal sharing of ideas that we do is what makes us successful!"

Jones also acknowledged the Bellets for "funding this award as a way of showing what we value at Horace Mann," and thanked the Bellet Committee for the hard work and time its members invest to evaluating the nominees, visiting their classrooms, and reviewing their curricula. Finally, the veteran teacher thanked his students, adding "the students at Horace Mann are spectacular. They challenge and inspire me every day that I am here."

It was a letter from a former student that Jones shared with the gathering that spoke to his influence as an educator. "While this is probably a little indulgent, I would like to read to you a letter written on my behalf by a former student, Olivia Billett '98. This letter fills me with happiness. It tells me I am in the right profession. It makes me

feel good about the kind of kids we send out into the world when they are done with our classrooms. It serves as a reminder to me that what we do makes a difference in the lives of our students," he said, introducing the letter, which began: "It is an impressive feat to make math fun for any age group, let alone high school students, but in Mr. Jones' class it was effortless. His was the class I looked forward to every day," wrote Billett, who went on to study physics at Yale. "Every professor I have had since Mr. Jones only makes me appreciate him more—appreciate the intuitive way he taught, the excitement he felt about math... and the attention he paid to his students. The best part about Mr. Jones, though, is that I'm not the only person with a story like this."

Kathy Spicer had been a fifth-grade teacher for eight years before the opportunity to help a colleague create a new kindergarten arose, and changed her life—into that of an



early childhood educator. This new direction in teaching that Spicer had embarked upon would one day bring the teacher to what she called "heaven."

That's how Spicer described her experience at Horace Mann in her reflective letter to the Bellet Committee, and it was this thought she shared with those at the Bellet Award Dinner in expressing her thanks. "Okay," said Spicer. "You are now saying this one's over the top. Not really, I say. Heaven is a place where a being is constantly evolving into something better. That's what I quickly learned in my little Tudor Cottage that sits on top of a hill in the middle of the Bronx. Heaven, A.K.A. Horace Mann, challenges, even requires, you to do just that. When I first got the job, I'll be honest, I thought two teachers, eighteen kids, I'm getting older, the job looks like it will be easier than my previous teaching job. Right? Wrong!

"What I didn't realize then was that having the opportunity to sit with six children for a lesson also provides you with windows that enable you to see more clearly the learning that is or is not taking place," said Spicer. "You have the opportunity to make sparks fly in each of your students. And you have every resource possible to make that happen. As a result of such advantages you are motivated to work harder, to get more done, to create even greater magic. Does it mean working longer hours. The answer is an absolute! 'Yes.' Is it worth it? Unequivocally, 'Yes.' Are you evolving into a better teacher each and every day because of it? Again, 'Yes!' Do you work in heaven? 'Yes.' It's also called Horace Mann."

For Kathy Spicer, the award represented an opportunity to individually thank many of her colleagues, including fellow honorees, and to especially acknowledge the Bellet family, not only for the award, but for the process it represents. In concluding she offered the toast her kindergarteners utter every day at snack time: "To Friendship." ■



*Barry Bienstock, Dr. Tom Kelly, Mark Langfan '78, Dr. Barbara Tischler, Dayna Langfan '79 and Dr. David Schiller celebrated the finalists and winner of the annual Langfan Oratorical Competition, Logan Langberg '10, Caroline Dean '10, Sally Homburger '10, Ben Levander '10, and winner Antonia Woodford '10.*

## History Students Debate the Electoral College at Annual Langfan Competition

By Dr. Barbara Tischler (courtesy of the HM PA Bulletin)

This year's William K. and Marion Langfan American Constitutional Oratorical Competition featured a spirited debate about the continuing viability and constitutional legitimacy of the Electoral College. For the past seven years, tenth-grade United States history students have been invited to consider a current topic related to the Constitution in a speech that is intended to express a point of view, and, in the spirit of traditional oratory, influence an audience to agree with the speaker.

The opportunity stems from the oratorical competition the Langfan family has endowed and supported for the past seven years. Designed to invigorate the craft of public speaking at Horace Mann and to give history students an opportunity to present a formal oration before an audience, the competition is one of several initiated by Mark '78 and Dayna Langfan '79. The event honors their father William, and their late mother Marion Langfan, parents whose love of the U.S. Constitution and of oratory serve as inspiration. The Langfans sponsor similar competitions at the University of South Carolina where William attended undergraduate school, and at Cardozo Law School of Yeshiva University.

The dinner, on April 8, featured five speakers whose orations had been heard in preliminary and semi-final competition. All of the speakers presented reasoned arguments supported by strong evidence that was also intended to convince a panel of judges and a lively audience of family members, teachers, and administrators. Mark Langfan praised



photo by David Parker

*The Tina and David Bellet Award for Teaching Excellence drew a record number of nominations in 2008, with finalists and semi-finalists hailing from a host of disciplines and from the Upper, Middle and Lower Divisions of the School.*



the quality of the speakers' arguments, while Dayna Langfan reminded the finalists of the importance of presence, diction, and poise in addition to the content of the argument.

Antonia Woodford '10, captured the first-place award with an address on the imperative to keep the Electoral College, citing its democratic qualities in presenting "51 direct elections" in the 50 states and the District of Columbia that represent the interests of the states, which the framers of the Constitution felt was essential to the new republic's survival.

Antonia was joined in her defense of the Electoral College by finalists Caroline Dean '10, Sally Homburger '10, and Ben Levander '10, while finalist Logan Langberg '10 dissented, arguing for a direct popular vote and a change in the Constitution that would eliminate the Electoral College. The event was sponsored by the office of Curriculum and Professional Development, in collaboration with the Upper Division History Department.

Each year, the Langfan Competition final round is judged by the previous year's finalists. This year's judges were Elizabeth Goodstein '09, Alice Kissilenko '09, Eleanor Lewis '09, Anna Ramos '09, and Alexa Zahl '09, joined by teachers Pasquale DeVito of the History Department and Rebecca Bahr of the English Department. The Langfan Dinner, now an annual event described as a "new Horace Mann tradition" celebrates the work of the finalists as well as their history classes. ■

## Reconstruction is Underway at Dorr

The John Dorr Nature Laboratory offers one of the most treasured aspects of the Horace Mann experience. Thus, its maintenance and development is undertaken with great care. Dorr is currently undergoing renovation, in a process that, in turn demonstrates the nature center's message of care to the community, and the world at large. Renovation includes construction of a new lodge, classroom, and faculty apartment. All are being undertaken with concern for the latest environmental standards, under the LEED Green Building Rating System instituted by the Green Building Council. Designed by Centerbrook Architects, the buildings, notes Dorr Director Glenn Sherratt, will themselves serve as educational tools, highlighting environmental efforts in a variety of ways. Incorporated into the design for example are solar collectors that can warm the building and also heat water for washing. John Yeager, HM Director of Facilities Management and Security, said that much of the construction will be completed by the end of this year, with the buildings available for use this summer. ■



*John Dorr Nature Laboratory Director Glenn Sherratt explains to HM students how the construction at Dorr will be environmentally friendly. Sherratt brought blueprints to the Lower Division's 2008 Earth Day observances.*

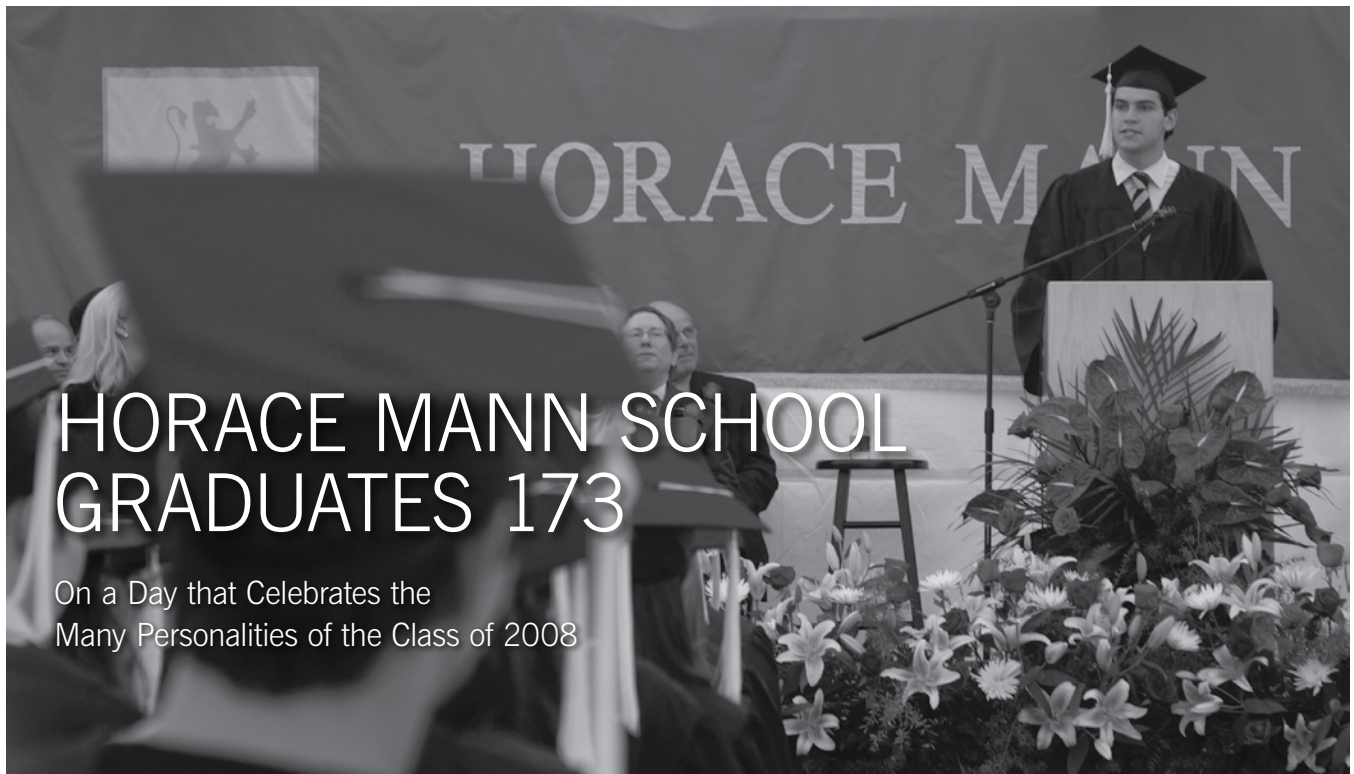
## Math Scholar Makes Horace Mann Proud

**Krishanu Sankar '08 Wins Gold in International Math Competition**



For those in the HM community who followed the student career of Krishanu Sankar '08 the current MIT freshman sailed through the tough nationwide competition to become a member of the six-person U.S. Math Olympic team. Representing the U.S. in international competition in Madrid in July 2008 Sankar earned a gold medal, and helped bring the U.S. to a number three ranking worldwide, percentage points behind Russia and China. A student dedicated to the HM community Krishanu also qualified for the U.S. physics team, but decided

to focus on math. Besides, he said of the testing that took place during events at HM surrounding graduation, "I didn't want to miss something like Class Day, and being with my friends." In discussing his accomplishment, Sankar gave all the credit to HM's math department, and especially department Chair Chris Jones—without whose encouragement and intellectual acumen the student said he would not have excelled. ■



# HORACE MANN SCHOOL GRADUATES 173

On a Day that Celebrates the Many Personalities of the Class of 2008

As Stephen Segal Elmore '08 climbed the steps to the stage at the Horace Mann School commencement ceremony on June 11, 2008 the applause rang out—and then rose to a crescendo.

A noted athlete and well-known member of his Class whose extended family members were there in force, on this special day Stephen also happened to be the last of the graduates to have his name announced, and to be handed his diploma. Thus, as his row of grads filed across the podium, the applause rang out—for him and for the *entire* Class of 2008.

As the 173 members of the Class of '08 walked out from under the tent erected for the ceremony and into the arms of beaming well wishers, they also stepped into the annals of HM history and into the ranks of the nearly 10,250 alumni who have graduated from Horace Mann School in its 121 years.

The moment shared by the graduates, their family members, and the faculty and administrators who had guided these students over the years also marked the conclusion of several weeks of ceremonies that bring the school year to a close at Horace Mann, for the senior class as well as others marking milestones throughout the School. From the senior

athlete's dinner, to "Class Day" recognizing student achievements, to the Prom's celebration of lasting friendships, the schedule for seniors is richly rewarding.

There are even events for parents of the grads—an end-of-the-year barbecue where families who have car-pooled together, cheered on one another's children from bleachers and orchestra seats, and formed friendships can say goodbye. And, before that point a "Letting Go" evening assists parents and their graduating seniors prepare for the separation to come with college in September. HM Assistant Director of Financial Aid Chrissalee Erriah, whose son Matthew Lowe '08 was among the graduates, expressed the emotion in a reflection she read to fellow parents on "Letting Go" night: "I am profoundly sad that this phase of my relationship... must end, but look forward to seeing them grow into the people they aspire to be."

In the Middle Division the traditional "Middle Memories" marks the move from Middle to Upper Division for rising freshmen. Each class shares its own special memories with the audience and their teachers, and, in a new tradition, ceremoniously adds something of its own selection to a time capsule.

The Lower Division's Fifth Grade Assembly of songs, poetry readings, and the handing of "diplomas" signals the significant transition from one side of HM's campus to the other, and even kindergarten marks its momentous move from the Nursery building in Manhattan or the cottages of Riverdale to the "big school" for first grade.

But the focus for so many who have taken the journey through Horace Mann, whether they've started in their threes or entered in grade nine, is the day that students, families, faculty, administrators and Trustees gather under the Clark Field tent and sing the *alma mater* one last time.

## A CLASS OF MANY PERSONALITIES

Athletes, actors, and artists, scientists and mathematicians, poets, playwrights and musicians, as well as volunteers dedicated to dozens of civic and community-service causes, in the words that HM Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly addressed to the graduates, "Every one of (the Class of 2008's) 173 students stands out on his or her own, in personality, penchants, prowess and possibilities. Yet, as a Class, they've also stood very much together in many remarkable ways."



photo by Eleni Javanas

Keeping comfortable through the benefit of a breeze circulated by powerful fans that HM's maintenance department had set up to subdue the effects of a heat-wave that had New Yorkers head-locked in the days before commencement, it was only through the hearty thanks that Dr. Kelly extended to "Maintenance" that the hundreds of graduation guests became aware of efforts made throughout the night to clear the area of fallen branches and to upright chairs tossed around the field by the previous evening's sudden violent storm.

Instead, those gathered were able to focus on the reflections offered by HM Trustee Board Chair Steven Friedman '72, Class of 2008 Dean Randall Castleman, Dr. Kelly, and by the uplifting sendoff of Benjamin Kirschenbaum's '08 valedictory speech.

For Dean Castleman, whose daughter Laura Castleman '08, was among the graduates, the day represented a culmination of the Class' serious dedication to its studies, their activities, and the friendships they had formed at Horace Mann. Above all, said the Dean, this Class had learned to be responsible—to themselves and to the world around them. He urged the graduates to take that sense of responsibility with them to the colleges and universities they would attend, and on throughout their lives.

#### PRIDE AND PASSION

For Steve Friedman '72 the day had a particular significance: He delivered his address to the Class both as HM's Trustee Board Chair and as the father of graduate Jennifer Friedman '08. The father/alumnus/Trustee had

thus come to know many graduates and their parents through Class friendships. Sharing deeply the experience of every parent under the tent concerning the emotional ups and downs of raising children and seeing them through the adolescent and teen years, Friedman spoke of the parallels between rearing and educating children.

"All graduating classes are special and this one is truly special to me as I have watched many of you grow throughout the last 15 years to make an indelible mark on this institution," Friedman said, going on to describe the journey from infancy to independence.

Thanking the Class for the "intellectual challenges, excitement, the energy, and spirit" its members brought to Horace Mann he urged them to use their "hard-earned autonomy wisely." Wishing them much success in their future endeavors he expressed the affection all at HM have for each graduate, and asked them to stay involved with their School.

For Dr. Kelly the occasion was one of great pride, a moment to not only acknowledge the unique personality and promise of this year's graduates, but to show them the strength and caliber of the support that Horace Mann will continue to extend to them—"for a lifetime."

Acknowledging the teachers, administrators, and staff members, the parents, grandparents, siblings and extended family members who had accompanied each graduate on their journey to this day Dr. Kelly recalled many of the memorable experiences the Class had created together—on their performance stages, athletic fields, in science labs, classrooms, art studios, and at Dorr. Acknowledging the uncertainty of the times he concluded, "Gloomy predictions aside, with the many challenges that await your concerns, you can, because of who you are, make significant contributions. Your sense of fairness, good citizenship, tolerance, compassion, and celebration of the quirk in all of us is a fine tonic for our world's ills."

#### A VALEDICTORY WISH

Finally, for the graduates, the day's most stirring moment was surely the march through memories along which valedictorian Benjamin Kirschenbaum guided his classmates. Horace Mann's valedictorians are selected by the vote of fellow classmates, and represent the Class'

choice of a peer they feel will best represent their ethos. Introducing Kirschenbaum Upper Division Head Dr. David Schiller described his many academic accomplishments, and the personality of all-around good character he embodies—with more than one nod to this grad's acute sense of humor. True to form, it was "Benji's" generosity of spirit that presented itself first, as he began by dedicating his address to Michael Fisher, a cherished member of the Class who became ill and passed away when the current graduates were middle schoolers.

"Although today is one of celebration, we also remember those who are not physically with us but who shaped our lives and are sorely missed," Kirschenbaum began. "This was also to have been the graduation day of our classmate, Michael Fisher, and I would like to dedicate my words to his memory."

Kirschenbaum concluded his speech, the full text of which follows, by recalling the compassion and passion that "no one brought to life more than Michael Fisher... Michael believed in this School.

"He believed in the potential of every one of its members. He was right. I leave here today with full confidence that each person on this stage can and will accomplish any major goal they mark for themselves, that they will continue to live a life centered on passion and compassion."

#### A HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

And for yet another commencement guest the day represented the culmination of one enriching Horace Mann experience—and the start of another. As a former HM parent, and as a member of Horace Mann's Board of Trustees, Mort Olshan has watched numerous HM graduations from a seat on the stage. Moving in June into the role of Trustee Emeritus he wrote of this transition: "My service to Horace Mann began in honor of my children and their wonderful experiences there. Through the years I have formed many dear and lifelong friendships with my fellow board members, faculty, staff and school leaders... This Wednesday, I will sit on the stage at Graduation and look out over the crowd of incredibly accomplished and promising graduates confident that Horace Mann is one of the finest schools in the nation with a beautiful campus, an exemplary faculty, and a wonderfully capable and dedicated staff. I hope to sit in the graduation tent again soon and watch my grandchildren cross that stage."





### Valedictory Speech, Benjamin Kirschenbaum '08

**G**ood morning, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Schiller, Faculty, family, and friends. It is my honor to address you today as a representative of the Horace Mann Graduating Class of 2008! Although today is one of

celebration, we also remember those who are not physically with us but who shaped our lives and are sorely missed. This was also to have been the graduation day of our classmate, Michael Fisher, and I would like to dedicate my words today to his memory.

When deciding what to say today, some people suggested that I should give advice to the class. But, I'm in no position to give advice because I'm your contemporary, and more importantly because I plan on making the same stupid mistakes the rest of you will make. And, to be clear, I'm looking forward to many of those mistakes. Instead, I am going to spend my precious few minutes with you, trying to describe why I am so proud to be a Horace Mann Graduate. First and foremost, as a Horace Mann Graduate I am in the same company as everyone in front of me. The class of 2008 is composed of 173 individuals all of whom bring something to the table. Each one of us is very different, but I think it's fair to connect us with a few common characteristics. Students and teachers at Horace Mann are passionate and compassionate. After those two traits, we all branch out in different directions, but this vague foundation unites us.

We are first marked by our passion. In fourth grade, Principal Tobolsky implemented a new rule: students were to be chaperoned by their teachers to the buses every afternoon. The principal created this policy because one student hurt himself in the free-for all that was the afternoon bus departure. When I heard, Dr. Tobolsky wanted teachers to take us to the buses I was infuriated. I believed this to be an infringement upon our natural rights as students. So, like many disillusioned citizens before me, I civilly disobeyed. On the first day of the law's ratification, I skipped homeroom and hid on my bus. Before leaving, I told my friend Sam to give my homeroom teacher a note. It read: Dear Mrs. Ryzak. I apologize but I simply cannot follow this rule. Benjamin Kirschenbaum.

This anecdote illustrates the compassion of a friend who didn't believe in my cause but was willing to help me anyway. It also

demonstrates the caring of teachers, who were looking out for our safety. But, most importantly, it underscores the ardor of a young Horace Mann student. I really seemed to care; about what—I have no idea. But you've got to admire the zeal.

We all have it. On Senior Absurdity Day just this past year, several students re-enacted the French Revolution with such passion that they actually constructed a guillotine. During the winter, the members of the girls' volleyball team could be found in team spirit attire at least twice a week with outfits ranging from cowboys to ballerinas. This same trait was on full display at a joint model U.N./JSA Assembly when nine students represented the Presidential Candidates that were still in contention at that time. I've never seen that kind of passion in the actual candidates. Kunal, as Ron Paul, convinced even the most authoritarian audience members that we need to do away with the Federal Reserve entirely.

Of course, this passion is not limited to the students. Horace Mann teachers are the best there are not only because they know what they're doing but also because they enjoy doing it. On my first day of high school, Mr. Worral introduced his Honors Geometry class. He told us that he was returning to the School that year after a five-year break because he loved the School, but more specifically, because he loved teaching that particular class. His enthusiasm rapidly made that my favorite class. Similarly, a few weeks ago Dr. Weitz sent his AP Physics students an e-mail. He ended the message by writing, "Why am I surfing around for physics websites on Sunday morning? Have you forgotten who I am? I like this." In tenth-grade Algebra, our class knew when we had correctly solved a proof by observing the large smile on Mr. Francis' face. I saw that same look on Mr. Renner's face in ceramics class whenever a student threw a creative pot. Our teachers have the means to help us succeed but more importantly, they genuinely want us to progress. Their hopes, their optimism, their passion is ultimately contagious.

Yet, Horace Manns aren't linked solely by an unstoppable will, but also by the mutual respect and kindness each member shows to each other and the greater community. In this School, I have seen students the day after getting rejected from a college genuinely congratulate someone else for getting in to that same school. I know students who have spent an hour in the cafeteria explaining a math, science, or history concept to someone else just to help that kid out. Now I'm not saying we're great all of the time. No, at times we're only good and maybe once or twice, just ok. But the



important thing is that we all have the capability to be great. I know it because I've seen it.

I've seen it from all ends of the Horace Mann community. Firstly from the teachers: When I was elected valedictorian, I got a letter from Mrs. Larkey, my seventh grade history teacher congratulating me. One of my other middle school history teachers, Mr. Taylor, left the school in order to be the headmaster of the Maru a Pula school in Botswana, thus bringing the Confucian ideal of "teaching by example" which he taught us to a whole new level. Tennis coach, Mr. Lacopo, practiced with me personally so that I could be a member of a team despite my shortcomings as an athlete.

It would be unfair to limit this natural good-heartedness to the students and the teachers. The cafeteria, security, and maintenance staff members all embody the same traits I have already mentioned. When Hilda is helping you clean the mess you've just made or Maria is completing an intricate-yet-organized sandwich, you know the Horace Mann community is much larger than the teacher-student circle.

It even extends past the people who are here on a day-to-day basis. Parents and friends are easily incorporated into the mix because they exhibit the same qualities found in the rest of the circuit. On one of the first days of middle school, the terrible events of September 11<sup>th</sup> occurred. On that day, my parents couldn't make it to Riverdale, so the Rutters and the Eranis brought me and ten other students to a relative's house in Westchester. I will never forget their unmitigated kindness that day and consider it a prime example of how people in this community take care of one another. We are undoubtedly linked to each other.

Horace Manners are passionate and compassionate; no one brought this fact to life more than Michael Fisher. In middle school, Michael kept a pad in his locker and would grade the day from A+ to F based on his classes, encounters, and meals. He always tried to give the day as high a rating as possible. He looked at this School through a very optimistic lens. In sixth grade he bought all of his best friends Horace Mann shirts and sweatshirts. Michael believed in this school. He believed in the endless potential of every one of its members. He was right. I leave here today with full confidence that each person on this stage can and will accomplish any major goal they mark for themselves; that they will continue to live a life centered on passion and compassion. It has been my privilege and my pleasure to be a member of this community for the past fifteen years. Thank you fellow graduates, for this incredible honor. ■



## Class of 2008 Honors and Awards

### Cum Laude Society

Katherine Busch  
Katherine Cagen  
Catherine Crowley  
Mark Dalessandro  
Austin Davis  
Malcolm-Wiley Floyd  
Emma Frankel  
Joshua Friedman  
Lindsay Gellman  
Sloane Heller  
Samuel Himel  
William Kalb  
Jeffrey Kandel  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Sophie Kramer  
Shira Laucharoen  
Sarah Lux  
Nicholas Makarov  
Nicole Marsh  
Rebecca Moses  
Miles Penn  
Maria Quincy  
Naomi Riemer  
Rachel Ruskin  
Krishanu Sankar  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Jenny Schiff  
Erica Seidel  
Tal Shachar  
Brittany Shaw  
Rachel Siegel  
Jake Sloane  
Daniel Sotsky  
Theodore Summers  
Benjamin van Buren  
Anoushka Vaswani

### HONORS

#### Computing & Communications

Katherine Busch  
Katherine Cagen  
David Chu  
Tyger Howell  
William Kalb  
Neal Poole  
Dexter Richard  
Lucas Whitestone  
Max Wittek

#### English

Lena Bell  
Katherine Busch  
Katherine Cagen  
Jesse Caro  
Anna Choi

Catherine Crowley  
Austin Davis  
Emma Frankel  
Jennifer Friedman  
Joshua Friedman  
Lindsay Gellman  
Melissa Goldstein  
Danielle Greenberg  
Sloane Heller  
Harris Heyer  
Samuel Himel  
Emily Ho  
Jeffrey Kandel  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Thomas Katzenbach  
Benjamin Kirschenbaum  
Sophie Kramer  
Shira Laucharoen  
Binchan Luo  
Sarah Lux  
Kunal Malkani  
Nicole Marsh  
Rebecca Moses  
Miles Penn  
Neale Poole  
Maria Quincy  
Naomi Riemer  
Peter Robertson  
Amanda Romero  
Rachel Ruskin  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Jenny Schiff  
Jessica Schleider  
Erica Seidel  
Tal Shachar  
Brittany Shaw  
Rachel Siegel  
Jake Sloane  
Sachi Sobti  
Daniel Sotsky  
Elyssa Spitzer  
Charles Stam  
Theodore Summers  
Benjamin van Buren  
Anoushka Vaswani  
Elizabeth Wintle

#### Paul Block Award for Creative Writing

Jesse Caro

#### Edward H. Simpson Essay Award

Jonathan Sarnoff  
RUNNER UP:  
Thomas Hwang '09

#### Alan Breckenridge Prize

Alexander Aciman  
RUNNER UP:  
William Dubbs '10

### English Department Prize

Laura Castleman  
Renee McDougall

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

#### Chinese

Samson Feldman  
Naomi Riemer

#### French

Joshua Friedman  
Lindsay Gellman  
Elizabeth Goodman  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Sophie Kramer  
Shira Laucharoen  
Nicholas Makarov  
Leah Mishkin  
Peter Richman  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Jenny Schiff  
Erica Seidel  
Brittany Shaw

#### Italian

Alyssa Leavy

#### Japanese

Katherine Cagen  
Anna Choi  
Mark Dalessandro  
Austin Davis  
Tyger Howell  
Thomas Katzenbach  
Maxwell Levine  
David Messenger  
Naomi Riemer  
Krishanu Sankar  
Jessica Schleider  
Jake Sloane  
Theodore Summers  
Pierre Viola  
Maxim Wittek

#### Latin

Samuel Himel  
Jack Marshall  
Daniel Perlin  
Rachel Siegel  
Anoushka Vaswani

#### Russian

Rebecca Hirschfeld

#### Spanish

Samson Feldman  
Sloane Heller  
Jeffrey Kandel

Alexandra Levine  
Binchan Luo  
Nicole Marsh  
David Orbuch  
Miles Penn  
Neal Poole  
Yalitza Rosario  
Daniel Watts

**Franca D'Amico Award  
for Dedication to Foreign  
Languages and Culture**  
Jared Eisenberg  
Alyssa Leavy

**Thomas P. Reilly Award  
for Excellence in  
Foreign Language**  
Jack Marshall

### History

Katherine Busch  
Jesse Caro  
Austin Davis  
George Embiricos  
Emma Frankel  
Joshua Friedman  
Melissa Goldstein  
Alexander Handler  
Samuel Himel  
Jeffrey Kandel  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Benjamin Kirschenbaum  
Sophie Kramer  
Shira Laucharoen  
Ruth Linehan  
Binchan Luo  
Kunal Malkani  
David Messenger  
Rebecca Moses  
Daniel Perlin  
Maria Quincy  
Peter Robertson  
Yalitza Rosario  
Rachel Ruskin  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Jenny Schiff  
Jessica Schleider  
Tal Shachar  
Brittany Shaw  
Rachel Siegel  
Jake Sloane  
Daniel Sotsky  
Elyssa Spitzer  
Theodore Sumers  
Andrew Tanger  
Benjamin van Buren  
Anoushka Vaswani

**Daniel Alexander Award for  
Excellence in Economics**  
Miles Penn  
Brittany Shaw

### Lewerth-Newcombe History Award

Samuel Himel  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Elyssa Spitzer

### Mathematics

Chidiebere Akusobi  
Eli Becker  
Katherine Busch  
Catherine Crowley  
Austin Davis  
Emma Frankel  
Joshua Friedman  
Lindsay Gellman  
Samuel Himel  
Hillary Janis  
William Kalb  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Benjamin Kirschenbaum  
Sophie Kramer  
Ruth Linehan  
Sarah Lux  
Nicholas Makarov  
Nicole Marsh  
Sunanda Nath  
David Orbuch  
Joshua Parker  
Miles Penn  
Naomi Riemer  
Rachel Ruskin  
Krishanu Sankar  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Erica Seidel  
Tal Shachar  
Brittany Shaw  
Rachel Siegel  
Jake Sloane  
Daniel Sotsky  
Theodore Sumers  
Andrew Tanger  
Anoushka Vaswani  
Pierre Viola  
Lucas Whitestone

**Joan Brady Bowen  
Award for Excellence  
in Interscholastic  
Mathematics Competitions**  
Krishanu Sankar

**Joseph Chase Award  
for Mathematics**  
Krishanu Sankar

**RUNNER UP:**  
Sarah Lux  
Miles Penn

### Psychology

John Katz  
Amanda McGrath  
Kelisha Menon  
Emily Park  
Shirin Rahmati  
Sarah Schoenthal

### Science

Chidiebere Akusobi  
Jennifer Barsky  
Eli Becker  
Lena Bell  
Katherine Busch  
Katherine Cagen  
Catherine Crowley  
Austin Davis  
Matthew Davidowicz  
Malcolm-Wiley Floyd  
Joshua Friedman  
Lindsay Gellman  
Danielle Greenberg  
Sloane Heller  
Samuel Himel  
Tyger Howell  
Hillary Janis  
William Kalb  
Jonathan Katiraei  
Benjamin Kirschenbaum  
Shira Laucharoen  
Sarah Lux  
Nicholas Makarov  
Rebecca Moses  
Joshua Parker  
Miles Penn  
Naomi Riemer  
William Rifkin  
Yalitza Rosario  
Rachel Ruskin  
Krishanu Sankar  
Jonathan Sarnoff  
Jenny Schiff  
Erica Seidel  
Tal Shachar  
Daniel Sotsky  
Benjamin van Buren  
Anoushka Vaswani  
Pierre Viola  
Lucas Whitestone

**American Chemical Society  
Award for Outstanding  
Achievement in Chemistry**  
Anna Chithelen '09

**Robert J. Cairo  
Science Award**  
Catherine Crowley  
Joshua Parker

### Science Research Award

Lena Bell  
Katherine Cagen  
Isaiah Einzig  
Lindsay Gellman  
Elizabeth Goodman  
Sloane Heller  
Thomas Hwang '09  
Matthew Jacobs '09  
Joshua Parker  
Maria Quincy  
William Rifkin

Jenny Schiff  
Jenny Schreiber '09

### ARTS

#### Special Recognition in Music

**ORCHESTRA:**  
Jenny Schiff

**GLEE CLUB:**  
Laura Castleman  
Sophia Costanzi  
**BAND:**  
Thomas Katzenbach

#### Glee Club Pins

Laura Castleman  
Sophia Costanzi  
Kevin Curran  
Simon Frisch  
Sarah Glaser  
Arnold Glick  
Elizabeth Goodman  
Ariel Kaye  
Shira Laucharoen  
Ruth Linehan  
Peter Robertson  
Madeline Wachtel

#### Orchestra Pins

Anna Choi  
Krishanu Sankar  
Jenny Schiff

#### Band Pins

Jeffrey Kandel  
Thomas Katzenbach

#### Theatre

##### Commendations

Chidiebere Akusobi  
Laura Castleman  
Sophia Costanzi  
Kevin Curran  
Matthew Dawidowicz  
Jesse Do  
Jed Feiman  
Malcolm-Wiley Floyd  
Sarah Glaser  
Sloane Heller  
Amanda Hill  
Tyger Howell  
Ariel Kaye  
Shira Laucharoen  
David Messenger  
Alexander Pon  
Naomi Riemer  
Peter Robertson  
Yalitza Rosario  
Cezara Russu  
Jessica Schleider  
Pierre Viola  
Max Wittek

### Frederick H. Little Theatre Award

**PERFORMANCE:**  
Shira Laucharoen  
Pierre Viola

**PRODUCTION:**  
Alexander Pon

**Anne Mackay Award  
in Playwriting**  
Jed Feiman  
Jessica Schleider

**Anne Mackay Award  
in Directing**  
Naomi Riemer  
Jessica Schleider

**Curtis Beech Award  
in Theatrical Design**  
Sophia Costanzi

**Arnold Cohen Dance Award**  
Peter Robertson  
Pierre Viola

#### Art History

Katherine Busch  
Malcolm-Wiley Floyd  
Amanda McGrath  
Elizabeth Melnitzky  
Sarah Miller  
Benjamin van Buren

#### Honors in Drawing & Painting

Andre Baum  
Anna Choi  
Sophie Fader  
Alexander Handler  
Alexandra Kaufman  
Yalitza Rosario  
Jane Salpeter  
Erica Seidel  
Rachel Williams

#### Honors in Photography

Alexander Aciman  
Kristina Bergess  
Austin Davis  
Isaiah Einzig  
Brian Feldman  
Melissa Goldstein  
Kelisha Menon  
Danielle Miller  
Joshua Parker  
Rachel Ruskin  
Molly Tarlofsky

#### Honors in Sculpture

Benjamin van Buren  
**Honors in Ceramics**  
Drew Foster  
Harris Heyer  
Ruth Linehan  
Jacqueline Perkins

### Donette Atiyah Award for Excellence in Ceramics

Sophie Fader  
Sarah Lux

### Ion Theodore Award for Excellence in Visual Arts

Sophie Fader  
**Henry Geldzahler Award  
in Art History**  
Benjamin van Buren

## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Alexander Capelluto Award**  
Lydia Singerman '09

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**  
Elizabeth Goodstein '09  
Jeremy Paduano '10  
Sung Min Ahn '09

**Gordon I. Newcombe  
Community Service Award**  
Sloane Heller  
Anoushka Vaswani

**Lizzie Koch Heart and  
Hand Award**  
Ian Konsker

**Allard Lowenstein  
Alumni Award**  
Isaiah Einzig

**Ariel Halpern Memorial  
Dartmouth College  
Book Award**  
Phoebe Brooks '09

**University of Pennsylvania  
Penn Book Award**  
Zoe Egelman '09

**Westchester County  
Yale University Alumni  
Book Award**  
Jackson Goodman '09

**Wellesley College  
Book Award**  
Gresa Matoshi '09

**Shelton Memorial  
Fellowship Award**  
Sophie Kramer  
Jake Sloane

**Lembo-Sperling Award**  
Mary Bauer

**Ambassador Maroon Key**  
Meisha Baker  
Kristina Bergess  
Anna Choi  
Kevin Curran  
Austin Davis  
Samson Feldman  
Michael Fife  
Malcolm-Wiley Floyd  
Drew Foster  
Emma Frankel  
Jennifer Friedman  
Joshua Friedman



Sarah Glaser Melissa Goldstein Jenny Halis Amanda Hill Tyger Howell Hillary Janis Alexandra Kaufman Sophie Kramer Alexandra Levine Alexis Lighten Matthew Lowe Binchan Luo Nicholas Makarov Kelisha Menon David Messenger Leah Mishkin Rebecca Moses David Orbuch Joshua Parker Amanda Romero Rachel Ruskin Erica Seidel Robin Shapiro Brittany Shaw Cassandra Siegel Rachel Siegel Jake Sloane Elyssa Spitzer Theodore Sumers Andrew Tanger Anoushka Vaswani Lucas Whitestone	<b>Award for Excellence in Middle School Mentoring</b> Nicole Lustig Sam Sudakoff  <b>Peer Leader Recognition Award</b> Austin Davis Rachel Ruskin  <b>Peer Tutoring Recognition Award</b> Lena Bell Joshua Parker  <b>Health Peer Leaders:</b> Isaiah Einzig Meredith Gabriel Alyssa Leavy Miles Penn  <b>Health Peer Teachers: Smoking Cessation Classes</b> Anna Choi Jenny Halis Russell Rutter  <b>Science Associates</b> Danielle Greenberg Sloane Heller Hillary Janis Benjamin van Buren  <b>Presidential Scholar Award—2008 Semifinalist</b> Rachel Siegel  <b>National Merit Scholarship</b> Austin Davis Lindsay Gellman Jonathan Sarnoff Theodore Sumers	<b>National Merit Special Scholarship provided by New York Life Foundation</b> Katherine Busch  <b>National Merit Special Scholarship provided by Pfizer Inc.</b> Jack Marshall  <b>National Merit Scholarship Finalists</b> Katherine Cagen Emma Frankel Harris Heyer Samuel Himel William Kalb Jeffrey Kandel Jonathan Katiraei Kunal Malkani Miles Penn Neal Poole Maria Quincy Rachel Ruskin Krishanu Sankar Rachel Siegel Anoushka Vaswani Daniel Watts  <b>National Achievement Scholarship</b> Renee McDougall Balfe Morrison, Jr. Daniel Watts  <b>National Achievement Scholarship Finalist</b> Tyger Howell  <b>American Association of Teachers of French—Outstanding High School Senior In French Award</b> Erica Seidel	<b>University Of Rochester—Bausch &amp; Lomb Honorary Science Award</b> Thomas Hwang '09  <b>University of Rochester—Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award</b> Stephanie Fortune '09  <b>University of Rochester—Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology</b> Julia Askin '09  <b>University Of Rochester—George Eastman Young Leaders Award</b> Rafael Castellanos '09  <b>2008 New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence</b> Laura Castleman Alyssa Leavy Binchan Luo Kelisha Menon Jacqueline Perkins Amanda Romero  <b>Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship sponsored by the New York State Lottery</b> Jacqueline Perkins  <b>Governor's Committee on Scholastic Achievement</b> Jed Feiman Jessica Schleider  <b>New York State Attorney General's Triple "C" Award For Character, Courage, and Commitment</b> Chidiebere Akusobi Sloane Heller	<b>Special Congressional Recognition Award, Representative Nita Lowy</b> Dexter Richard  <b>Congressional Certificate of Merit, Representative Eliot Engel</b> William Kalb Krishanu Sankar  <b>New York State Senate Student Leadership Award—Awarded by State Senator Jeffrey D. Klein</b> James Brachfeld Sophia Costanzi  <b>State Of New York Office of the State Comptroller Award</b> Ian Konsker  <b>Garden State Distinguished Scholars Edward J. Bloustein Award</b> Jonathan Katiraei Sophie Kramer Erica Seidel Brittany Shaw Rachel Siegel Daniel Sotsky	Joshua Parker Miles Penn Peter Richman Haig Schneiderman, Jr.  <b>Varsity Club—Girls</b> Emma Frankel Rebecca Hirshfeld Alexis Lighten Renee McDougall Jenny Schiff Remi Taibleson  <b>Walter Bernson Award—Athletes Of the Year</b> FEMALE: Renee McDougall MALE: Jesse Caro  <b>Sirena WuDunn Memorial Volleyball Award</b> Naomi Riemer  <b>Stanley Shier Memorial Baseball Award</b> Dexter Richard  <b>Robert Buzzell Medal</b> FOOTBALL: Arnold Glick TRACK & FIELD: David Chu  <b>Lud-Bock/Bill Rowley Award</b> Emma Frankel  <b>Thomason Cup</b> Tal Shachar  <b>William Quinn Wrestling Award</b> Jesse Caro
---	--	---	---	---	--

## Members of the HM Class of 2008 Are Attending the Following Colleges and Universities

Amherst College..... 1	Drexel University..... 3	New York University..... 2	University of Massachusetts..... 1
Arizona State University..... 1	Duke University..... 3	Northwestern University..... 3	University of Michigan..... 8
Babson College..... 1	Emerson College..... 1	Occidental College..... 1	University of Oregon..... 1
Barnard College..... 2	George Washington University..... 4	Ohio State University..... 1	University of Pennsylvania..... 12
Bates College..... 1	Georgetown University..... 6	Pitzer College..... 2	University of Rochester..... 2
Bennington College..... 1	Goucher College..... 1	Pomona College..... 1	University of Southern California..... 1
Binghamton University..... 1	Hamilton College..... 2	Princeton University..... 3	University of Wisconsin..... 2
Boston University..... 1	Harvard University..... 8	Reed College..... 1	Vanderbilt University..... 2
Brandeis University..... 2	Hunter College, CUNY Honors..... 1	Rutgers University..... 1	Washington University in St. Louis..... 7
Bryn Mawr College..... 1	Indiana University, Bloomington..... 3	Scripps College..... 1	Wesleyan University..... 2
Bucknell University..... 1	Julliard School..... 1	Stanford University..... 3	Wheaton College, Ill..... 1
Carnegie Mellon University..... 2	Kenyon..... 1	Swarthmore College..... 1	Williams College..... 1
Claremont McKenna College..... 3	Lehigh University..... 8	Syracuse University..... 1	Yale University..... 9
Colgate University..... 2	Macalester College..... 1	Trinity College..... 1	
Columbia University..... 12	Massachusetts Institute of Technology..... 2	Tufts University..... 1	
Cornell University..... 10		Tulane University..... 1	
Dartmouth College..... 7		Union College..... 1	
		University of Chicago..... 1	

# Horace Mann School Welcomes New Trustees

## Michael Colacino '75



Michael Colacino '75 is president of Studley, Inc., a national commercial real estate firm specializing in tenant representation. Michael

graduated from HM in 1975 and from Harvard College in 1979. He has been on the faculty of New York University, from which he has a M.S. in Real Estate. He has also studied operations research and statistics at the graduate level at NYU's Stern School. He is a trustee of the International Center of Photography, a member of the National Association of Realtors Commercial Advisory Board, the Real Estate Board of New York and the Advisory Board of the Zell-Lurie Real Estate Center at Wharton. He participates in a variety of non-profit activities, including New York Cares, Lee National Denim Day, the Partnership for Parks, Toys for Tots, and the Los Angeles Food Bank. Michael is married to Deborah Colacino and his twin daughters, Emma and Isabella, will attend pre-k at Horace Mann in the fall, joining the class of 2022.

## Laurence S. Grafstein



Laurence S. Grafstein is Managing Director and co-head of the global Technology, Media and Telecommunications Group at the investment bank Lazard

LLC. Previously he headed the global telecommunications practice at Credit Suisse First Boston and was head of the technology, media and telecommunications group at Wasserstein Perella & Co. Larry lives in New York with his spouse, Rebecca, and their sons Daniel '11, Edward '12, and Isaac '15. He is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the Wall Street Division of the United Jewish Appeal, co-chairman of the Harvard Class of 1982, a member of the advisory board of *The New Republic* magazine, a member of the U.S. campaign board of Balliol College (Oxford), a member of the Upper Canada College U.S. Foundation board, and a member of the board of Jabil Corporation. He has degrees from Harvard (A.B.), Oxford (M.Phil, Rhodes Scholarship) and the University of Toronto (J.D.).

## Lawrence Otis Graham



Lawrence Otis Graham is an attorney and *New York Times* bestselling author of 14 books on culture and politics. His newest book, *The Senator and*

*the Socialite*, is a biography of 19<sup>th</sup>-century U.S. Senator Blanche Bruce. A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, Larry is contributing editor at *Readers' Digest*, *Uptown* and *Westchester Magazine* and Chairman of the Westchester County Police Board and a SUNY Purchase trustee. He practiced corporate law at Weil, Gotshal & Manges and served on the boards of the Red Cross, Princeton Center for Leadership Training, and the Westchester Holocaust Commission. He has taught American Government, and African American Studies as an adjunct professor at Fordham University. A commentator for Cablevision News 12, Larry has written for *The New York Times* and *U.S. News & World Report*. At HM, he served as PA board representative to the Parents League, and on the Head of School Committee. Larry and Pamela live in Chappaqua and Manhattan with their children, Gordon '16, Lindsey '20 and Harrison '20.

## Samona Joe Tait Johnson '86



Dr. Samona Tait Johnson '86 became Head of School at the Bronx Preparatory Charter School, a public charter school serving students in grades 5-12

in the South Bronx, in July 2007. Prior to becoming Bronx Prep's Head of School, Samona served the children of New York City's public schools as a principal and local instructional superintendent. She is a proud alumna and Past Trustee of Prep for Prep and currently serves on the boards of Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America (LEDA) and Ananse Shield. Samona graduated from Horace Mann in 1986, holds a B.A. (1990) and M.S.E (1991) from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.Ed. and Ed.D. (2000) from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She has served on the 2007 and 2008 Tina and David Bellet Award for Teaching Excellence Committee and was also a featured speaker at the fall 2007 HM Alumni of Color event.

## Justin D. Lerer '95



Justin D. Lerer '95 received his BA from Harvard College in 1999 where he was graduated *magna cum laude* and his JD from Harvard Law School in

2002 where he served as executive editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. Upon graduating, Justin clerked with the Hon. Jon O. Newman, U.S. Court of Appeals, 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit as well as the Hon. Michael B. Mukasey, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. Justin has recently left his position at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP where he specialized in complex securities litigation and white collar criminal defense. While at Paul, Weiss, he also represented a prisoner on Alabama's death row on a pro bono basis. Justin now serves as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of New York. He is a member of the Board of the Harvard Alumni Association. At HM, he was Chair of the Governing Council and was elected to the Varsity Club for his accomplishments as captain of the cross country, wrestling, and spring track teams. Justin and his wife, Rachel Hannaford, live in Brooklyn.

## Catherine Goodstein Wallace '87



Dr. Catherine Goodstein Wallace '87 is a practicing Obstetrician and Gynecologist and is a partner of Downtown Women Ob/Gyn Associates in

Soho. She is also on the faculty of the New York University Medical Center. She is a graduate of Horace Mann (1987), Stanford University (1991), and New York University Medical School (1996), and completed her medical residency at Mount Sinai Hospital. At HM, she has served as a member of the Head of School Committee. Catherine is married to Ian Wallace and is the mother of Piper '22 and Nolan. ■

## HM's Service Learning Continues to Inspire

April 24, 2008 saw hundreds of members of the Horace Mann community working together in its first-ever Service Learning Day. Participating in dozens of service efforts at HM and in the community, the highlight of the day was the dedication of an amphitheater and garden at the nearby Kingsbridge Heights Community Center that many in the HM community worked on, alongside members of the Kingsbridge community. Painters and planters will be happy to know that over the past summer the amphitheater became a space for performances and community gatherings, and the garden yielded useful produce. The project, sponsored by the HM Center for Community Values and Action, was part of an ongoing cooperative effort with the Kingsbridge community. For information please contact CCVA Director Dr. Jeremy Leeds '72, at HM. ■



Members of the Horace Mann and Kingsbridge communities dedicated an amphitheater they built together at the Kingsbridge Community Center on "Service Learning Day." (photo by Bruce Fuller)

## Horace Mann Engages in Stimulating Strategic Planning

The notion of bringing a variety of people "into the tent" to exchange ideas was aptly applied at Horace Mann in May 2008 when Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly launched a Strategic Planning process toward determining priorities for the future of Horace Mann.

The Strategic Planning process began with a series of conversations among all members of the Horace Mann community, as HM's administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents, and members of the Alumni Council gathered for meetings held, most often and when weather permitted, under the tent on the patio outside of the Head of School's house.

The symbolism was significant, because the aim of the meetings was to cull and analyze the variety of experiences of each constituency



HM faculty members, administrators, students, trustees, and staff began a Strategic Planning process.

within the community, as well as thoughts on a future direction for the School—all geared toward achieving a common goal.

The immediate aim of the meetings was to determine the five or six major priorities of the School for the next five years, Dr. Kelly explained.

The meetings and subsequent discussions among administrators and others will culminate in a "strategic plan" outlining the steps to address each priority. Dr. Kelly explained that he initiated the process to allow members of the community the opportunity to express their thoughts regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the School.

With Middle Division Head Robin Ingram serving as facilitator those gathered at each meeting selected three topics to focus on, from a list including: HM's mission, vision statement and Core Values; school culture; curriculum; instructional methods; faculty professional development; leadership development; governance; student life; parent-school relationships; greater HM community relationships; diversity; technology; communication; an HM Student N-12; and college admissions and HM.

A general discussion opened each session before participants examined more closely their chosen topics, with Ingram asking participants to first think of and share thoughts about positive aspects of Horace Mann today, and then explore areas for improvement.

As Robin Ingram filled page after page of easel pads with thoughts and observations from the participants, it became clear that the process itself was having a positive effect. Some meetings gathered faculty from a single Division. Others brought together people from different departments and disciplines. Candid and illuminating, in all the meetings participants noted they had learned something new about other areas of Horace Mann, or about the responsibilities of their colleagues, and had begun thinking about the work and potential of this School in new ways.

The process continues with meetings scheduled for the coming months, and as Robin Ingram and others compile her copious note into a report that will serve as the basis for further examination, and finally, a directive for the future. The planning meetings also served as a lead into the School's decennial accrediting process required of the New York State Association of Independent Schools. ■





### Greetings from the Alumni Council:

As the newly elected President of the Alumni Council, I would like to introduce myself and Sari Mayer '84, who will be serving as Vice President. I hope you will join us in thanking Alli Baron '89, who completed six years of service as President. Under Alli's leadership, the Council has made enormous strides in increasing its activities and its ability to reach out to all alumni.

It is my privilege to let you know about the year full of great events that the Alumni Council has just completed. During the 2007-2008 school year, Alumni Council events brought together hundreds of alumni from across the generations, allowing them to reconnect with each other and with the School.

Highlights since the last issue of this magazine included our annual private museum tour—this year of the new Greek and Roman galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art—organized by Sari Mayer and Elisabeth Lerner '86, and an evening of musical theater, hosted by Bill Nightingale '49.

Our signature event of the spring was the Sixth Annual Alumni Association Benefit, a Casino Night at 26 + Helen Mills Theater. Over 150 alumni and guests chatted with old friends and new, enjoyed delicious *hors d'oeuvres*, and gambled away their play money at blackjack, craps, roulette, and Texas Hold 'Em poker. Guests won and bid for many exciting prizes from the worlds of fashion, sports, and fine dining, along with several personalized prizes provided by alumni. The Benefit raised more than \$37,000 for the Lynn and Lizzie Koch '05 Endowed Student Assistance Sunshine Fund. The fund provides financial assistance to Upper Division students so that they can take part in extracurricular school activities such as athletic teams, class and club trips, and the senior prom. Without our support, many students would be unable to participate in the activities that make the Horace Mann experience the great one we all remember. This year's Benefit was co-chaired by Samantha Kleier Forbes '90, Sabrina Kleier Morgenstern '94, Daniel Turkewitz '91, and myself, with Cortnee Glasser '92 serving as prize chair.

Another busy year for the Council kicked off with Homecoming on September 20. Other major events this year will include a private concert by soprano diva Renée Fleming and our Seventh Annual Benefit. We will also continue our partnership with the School's Women's Issues Club, continue to expand our community service activities, and sponsor speakers and activities designed to appeal to a broad range of alumni.

The Alumni Council exists to bring you closer to the School we all love, and I hope you will join us in planning these events, and as a guest. If you would like to become more involved with Horace Mann, or have any questions or concerns, please e-mail me at [justin\\_lerer@horacemann.org](mailto:justin_lerer@horacemann.org). I look forward to hearing from you.

There are also many other opportunities to become involved with Horace Mann. These include:

#### CLASS AGENT

Horace Mann relies on a strong network of graduate volunteers or Class Agents to act as liaisons between their classmates and the School. In this capacity, Class Agents act as both "friendraisers" and fundraisers. As friendraisers, Class Agents encourage their classmates

to stay involved with Horace Mann, attend reunions, Homecoming, or other campus activities that reflect the vitality of the School.

Class Agents are also responsible for fundraising within their class. This includes participating in the yearly Annual Fund campaign and in capital campaigns when they are in effect. Alumni support of the Annual Fund is critical to the strength and growth of Horace Mann. It has been shown that classes with active Class Agents have the best reunions, raise the most money for the School, and are, as a class, the best connected to their *alma mater*. Class Agents are supported by the Alumni and Development Office of the School.

#### CLASS CORRESPONDENT

Class Correspondents are also friendraisers and, as such, act as a conduit of information about their classmates to HM, keeping the school abreast of interesting news for *Horace Mann Magazine*, and of alum marriages, births, career changes, and more. The Class Correspondent may also help to reconnect two classmates who may have fallen out of touch, or help the School to find a "lost" alum. Several Class Correspondents make use of the Internet to report class news to their classmates as well as to the "Class Notes" section of this magazine.

#### SUMMER JOB/INTERNSHIP PROVIDER

The Horace Mann School Alumni House Summer Job/Internship Program depends on the interest and willingness of Horace Mann alumni and parents to offer our graduating seniors and college-age alumni opportunities to intern or work in their places of employment or businesses during the summer months. Students are increasingly interested in finding opportunities that will contribute to their education and further their understanding of possible careers or professions. In turn, you will benefit from the talents of a Horace Mann alum, capable of making real contributions to your place of work.

For more information on any of these opportunities, please contact Kristen Worrell, Assistant Director of Development for Alumni Relations at (718) 432-4106 or [kristen\\_worrell@horacemann.org](mailto:kristen_worrell@horacemann.org).

Remember to watch your mail, and keep informed about alumni activities by visiting our web site at [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG).

I look forward to seeing you soon!

**Justin Lerer '95**

**The Horace Mann Book Day Committee invites HM Alumni to Book Day on April 2, 2009**, when the Upper Division will participate in workshops and discussion based on its reading of *Ragtime* by E.L. Doctorow.

The author will be the keynote speaker. Alumni are invited to attend, or lead workshops.

For more information, please contact Book Day coordinator and Head Librarian Caroline Bartels: [Caroline\\_Bartels@Horacemann.org](mailto:Caroline_Bartels@Horacemann.org)



photo © James Levine Photography

## Horace Mann Homecoming 2008 Draws Hundreds to Reunions, Athletic Events, and Fall Festivities

The day was as stunning as a song lyric, with the song a stirring memento of days gone by. For hundreds of alumni who returned to Horace Mann School for HM's 2008 Homecoming and Reunion weekend, the day seemed one plucked from "the kind of September when we were young..." that all, at one time or another, try to remember.

It was a day for memories, indeed—both memories to relate, and memories to create. As a warm sun drenched the last hours of summer on September 20, 2008 and the alumni and their guests shared stories of old times at Horace Mann during reunion luncheons and dinners, the School's athletes played, and the youngest among the HM community cavorted through a carnival of games,

popcorn and cotton candy stands. In short—the kind of September all who attended would long remember.

Over 800 alumni, their family and friends coming to the Horace Mann campus in Riverdale, or gathering at dinners and cocktail parties in Manhattan, all organized by the HM Alumni House and Development Office. The day saw a record number of alumni reconnect with their School. Some enjoyed barbecue luncheons and tours of the campus led by HM student ambassadors. Some came early and watched soccer, field hockey and water polo, and later football. Some of the more intrepid participated in a student vs. alumni half-time tug of war. (The students won.)

Still others gathered on Four Acres in the afternoon to play in the annual Dan Alexander Alumni Soccer Game.

All-the-while children and their parents enjoyed bowling, miniature golf, bouncing on a huge inflatable truck, and gobbled up treats at the Lion Country Carnival organized by HM Parents Association volunteers, led by PA Homecoming Chairs Nicole Felton Ginsberg '82, Aimee Felton Freedman and Karen Resheff. Much of the excitement centered on a dunking chair that saw the fearless take a seat and risk being rained on—or rather splashed—when a tossed ball hit its mark. Horace Mann Head of School Dr. Tom Kelly volunteered to get drenched. Donning a somewhat water-resistant poncho, he was able to change clothes quickly to greet the 50<sup>th</sup>-year reunion class of 1958, for a luncheon on the Head of School's lawn. Celebrations for the Jubilee-year Class continued downtown later in the evening in the more formal setting of The Rainbow Room, where the Class of 1983 gathered in a nearby room to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Further downtown, alumni from the Classes of 1993, 1998, and 2003 packed the Union Square Ballroom, and enjoyed reconnecting—with some dancing to the sounds of entertainment by DJ David Acevedo '99.

Back on campus alums from the Class of 1988 who had reconnected at a luncheon lingered in conversation, while members of the Class of 1948, arrived for a sixtieth anniversary dinner in the Atrium of Rose Hall. The huge amount of planning and care that reunion Chair Bob Sandler '48 put into the evening was evident in the large turnout of alums and some

spouses. First toasting his classmates before enjoying dinner and conversation, Sandler and Walfredo Tuscannini '48 then led the group through a recounting of memories, and sharing of current CVs. Looking through *Mannikin* yearbooks published 60 years ago, the men of Horace Mann compared their old pictures with their current appearance, and paused to remember those no longer in their midst.

For the Classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, and 1978 the Cohen Dining Commons in Fisher Hall served as the venue for swapping stories, pulling out pictures, and catching up on the

journeys each had taken since leaving HM in these decades.

With Homecoming Day still leaving a glow of friendship and fun throughout the HM campus, two more Classes returned to Horace Mann two days later, on Tuesday, September 23. For members of the Class of '38 and the Class of '43 a luncheon on the lawn outside the Head of School's home was the venue for observing a 70<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary respectively. The Class of '53 rounded out the season of celebration, observing its 55<sup>th</sup> in a dinner at "21" on October 4, 2008. ■



all photos © James Levine Photography



## Reunions



photo © James Levine Photography

photo © James Levine Photography



CLASS OF 1973



CLASS OF 1978



CLASS OF 1978



CLASS OF 1983



CLASS OF 1978



CLASS OF 1983



CLASS OF 1988

photo © James Levine Photography

## Alumni Council Spring Benefit Brings Friends Together to Assist Horace Mann's Students



*Friends enjoyed the lively atmosphere at the HM Alumni Council's sixth-annual Casino Night Benefit.*

The click of dice, the peel of laughter, and the buzz of conversation mixed with the rhythm of rock, roll, soul, and a little bit of salsa that played throughout the evening at the Horace Mann Alumni Council's Spring Benefit/Casino Night in Manhattan on June 4, 2008.

The party—the Alumni Council's third-annual casino night, and its sixth-annual benefit—was the liveliest ever, with over 150 HM alums, spouses and friends gathering at the sleek 26+ Helen Mills Theater and event space in Chelsea for an evening of fun and fundraising on behalf of current HM students.

Each spring the Alumni Council hosts a benefit to help students through HM's Student Assistance Fund, which was renamed The Lynn and Lizzie Koch '05 Endowed Student Assistance Sunshine Fund, in memory of this alumna and her mother. Both were active members of the HM community in their respective roles as parent and student. With the combination of philanthropy and fun, the Council's Spring Benefit has come to represent a fitting tribute. The fund provides financial

assistance to HM's Upper Division students for such things as supplies and activity fees outside of tuition, and enables them to participate in extracurricular activities including athletics and trips they might not otherwise be able to afford. This year's Benefit raised more than \$37,000 for the Fund.

Justin Lerer '95 served as master of ceremonies at the event—in his role as one of the Benefit's Co-Chairs and the Council's newly-elected president. Thanking all who participated, Lerer credited his predecessor, outgoing Alumni Council president Alli Baron '89, with conceiving of the benefit six years ago as a way for alumni to reach out to Horace Mann and its students. "Since then the benefit has grown every year, bringing in much-needed funds for students," said Lerer, adding that when Baron developed the event into the current "Casino Night" the Benefit became a highlight among the many activities the Alumni Council organizes for alums.

For Alli Baron the huge success of the evening was enhanced by the support so many alumni showed in serving as sponsors and in donating dozens of exciting prizes for the raffle and silent auction that concluded the celebration. "Thank you all so much for your generosity. It means so much to the School," she told the crowd.

The stylish event and theater site, donated for the evening by Helen Mills, HM parent of alumnae Katherine Mills-Tannenbaum '03 and Isabelle Mills-Tannenbaum '05, was a perfect

place for friends and classmates to reconnect. Greeting one another they caught up on news over cocktails and a delicious selection of *hors d'oeuvres*. Desserts in the form of melt-in-your-mouth brownies and lemon squares were the gift of noted New York baker Seth Greenberg '75 of Seth Greenberg's Just Desserts.

Within minutes long-lost friends became reacquainted, and classmates who had come to the party together moved through the strikingly red and black decorated room, toward gaming tables set up for poker, blackjack, roulette, Texas Hold 'Em and more as the lively rhythms of 360° Entertainment played. The sounds were supplied courtesy of the music-and-entertainment company founder David Acevedo '99.

While the alumni enjoyed the excitement of the fast-paced party many also said they were delighted to participate in an activity that helps Horace Mann School. "Through the funds we raised, current and future students at HM in need of assistance are able to make the most of their Horace Mann School experience," said Baron. Nia Shepherd '99 reported that the event was the first she had attended since graduating from Horace Mann. Noting that over the years she has been out of the country, finishing school, and establishing herself in her career, she said she felt it was "time to get back involved. It's great to see so many people from Horace Mann."

Throughout the evening alumni enjoying the gaming tables traded their winning chips in

for raffle tickets for a variety of prizes, and also placed their bids for prizes in a silent auction.

A dedicated group of alumni volunteers worked to make the party the success it was—soliciting prizes and gathering sponsorships from numerous alumni and friends. They include co-chairs Samantha Kleier Forbes '90, Lerer, Sabrina Kleier Morgenstern '94, Daniel Turkewitz '91 and prize-chair Cortnee Glasser '92, as well as the rest of the members of the Benefit Committee. Gratefully acknowledged for their participation and generosity as well were the following event sponsors: Dina and Eric Felder '89, Alli Baron '89 and Suzanne Sloan '77, The Kleier Family—Michele, Ian, Samantha '90, Sabrina '94 and Jonathan '01, Justin Lerer '95 and Rachel Hannaford, Daniel Turkewitz '91, David and Naomi Meckler Molner '90, Vicki Wiener, Anthony Brown '76, Michael A. Capasso '90, Danielle and Hayim Grant '87, Randy Fields '94, Diana and Paul Frank '87, Carolina and Jared Friedberg '90, Gotham Dream Cars, Chris Greene '92, Noah Leichtling '92, Anil Ranawat '92 and Dan Rosenberg '92, IDT Charitable Foundation, Rachel and Rob Phillips '90, Samantha and Kirk Roberts '91, Edward and Wendy Sassower '90, Scott Shnay '97, Andy Schoenthal '91, Elizabeth & Robert Sloan '81, Julie Luchs and Stephen Smigel '89 and Joelle Tisch '95.

As the evening came to an end, one alum after another walked out into the beautiful New York night saying they would be back to the Benefit—come next spring. ■



Noah Leichtling '92 and Dr. Anil Ranawat '92 were among the alumni enjoying the games at the HMAC Casino Night Benefit.



HM Alumni Council members Louise Elton '80, Sabrina Kleier Morgenstern '94, Justin Lerer '95, Samantha Kleier Forbes '90, and Suzanne Sloan '77 with Dr. Tom Kelly.

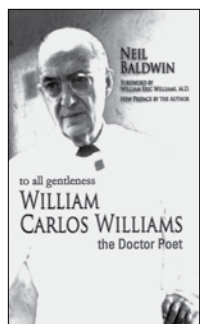


**H**orace Mann School celebrates our many alumni authors in this column, and by showcasing alumni-written books in the Olshan Lobby, in the School's Mullady Hall. Please share news of a new book you or another alum has written. The Alumni House and Development Office makes every effort to keep up-to-date with books by alumni. Please let us know of any publications we may have missed by contacting 718-432-3453 or [alumni@horacemann.org](mailto:alumni@horacemann.org). If you would like to purchase any of the books noted here, a portion of the sales will benefit Horace Mann School when you shop through The General Store on [WWW.HORACEMANN.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANN.ORG).

## To All Gentleness, William Carlos Williams, the Doctor-Poet

By Neil Baldwin '65

Black Classic Press, 2008



Prof. Neil Baldwin '65 originally published the critically-acclaimed *To All Gentleness, William Carlos Williams, the Doctor-Poet* in 1984. In April 2008 Black Classic Press published a new trade-paperback edition of the book, in time for poetry month, and in commemoration

of Williams' (HM 1903) 125<sup>th</sup> birthday. This richly-illustrated book (including vintage photographs from the Williams family archives) includes an illuminating new preface by Baldwin, as well as an introduction by William Eric Williams, MD.

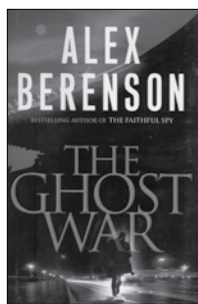
The lasting significance of Williams' writing can be understood through Baldwin's observation that: "William Carlos Williams believed that the power of the local landscape should be harnessed by the poet to drive the shape and subject-matter of his work; and he also believed that American speech should be exploited as the root for our native poetry to assert itself, free from the constraints of derivative English tradition."

## The Ghost War

By Alex Berenson '90

G.P. Putnam's Sons, February 19, 2008

Having foiled an al-Qaeda plot in *The Faithful Spy*, Alex Berenson's '90 debut novel, maverick CIA agent John Wells confronts a very different threat in *The Ghost War*—a pulse-pounding sequel. *The Ghost War* finds Agent Wells back in Washington. When the CIA presents evidence of a surge in Taliban activity, backed by an unknown foreign power,



it takes little to convince him to Afghanistan to investigate.

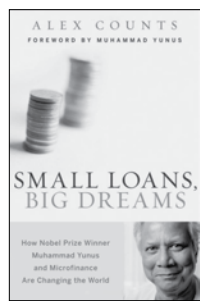
With its real-world threats and authentic details *The Ghost War* is another "timely reminder of the extremely precarious way we live now" wrote *The*

*Washington Post*. *The New York Times Book Review* praised the book for a "plot (that) moves quickly, in tight, essayistic paragraphs that show Berenson's command of such disparate worlds as the United States Navy and Chinese migrant workers... Berenson is also geopolitically savvy, and maps out how a single crisis can ripple across several regions." *The Ghost War* proves that this *New York Times* reporter has become a master of the spy-thriller.

## Small Loans, Big Dreams

By Alex Counts '84

Wiley, April 4, 2008



The stark reality of global poverty—that the poorest half of the world's population owns less than one percent of its assets, and that nearly one billion people subsist on less than \$1 per day—rarely registers in the international

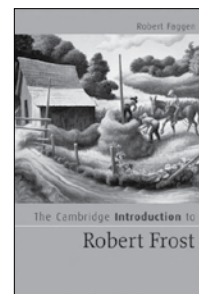
media. Western attempts to stem hunger and poverty are often piecemeal, and lack permanent solutions. But Muhammad Yunus, visionary founder of the Grameen Bank, demonstrated different and more inclusive ways of approaching the problem. In creating the Bank he turned the conventional wisdom of traditional financial institutions on its head, seeking to work with the impoverished and not

the rich. His approach, known as microfinance, has revolutionized global antipoverty efforts. In *Small Loans, Big Dreams*, author Alex Counts '84, who worked with Yunus, looks at the lives of micro-lending borrowers from the Grameen Foundation in Bangladesh and Chicago. Subtitled *How Nobel Prize Winner Muhammad Yunus and Microfinance Are Changing the World Counts'* book describes the work that earned his mentor the Nobel Peace Prize—establishing the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh in 1976, and traces its phenomenal impact today, while describing how this work has been successfully replicated in the world's wealthiest country.

## The Cambridge Introduction to Robert Frost

By Robert Faggen '78

Cambridge University Press, 2008



The work of Robert Frost, one of the most widely-read American poets, is deceptively simple, but reveals its complexities upon close reading. In his *Introduction to Robert Frost* Robert Faggen '78 provides a comprehensive but

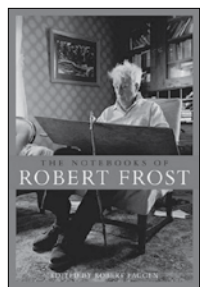
intensive look at the poet's remarkable *oeuvre*. The poetry is discussed in detail in relation to ancient and modern traditions as well as to Frost's particular interests in language and sound, metaphor, science, religion, and politics.

"The Cambridge Introductions to Literature" series addresses fundamental issues of literary studies as leading scholars guide students through the major issues involved in each area. In this work on Frost Dr. Faggen, the Barton Evans and H. Andrea Neves Professor of Literature at Claremont McKenna College, and one of the world's foremost Frost scholars, looks at the literary traditions that shape Frost's use of form and language, while examining his influence on poets writing today.

## The Notebooks of Robert Frost

By Robert Frost (author), Robert Faggen '78 (Editor)  
Belknap Press, January 30, 2007

"A new book containing unpublished work by America's most famous poet is a literary



event," wrote one review of *The Notebooks of Robert Frost*, edited by Robert Faggen. "While he was not much of a diarist, Robert Frost avidly kept notebooks throughout his life," the review continues. "This

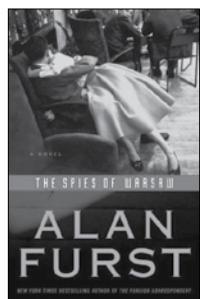
roughly chronological and thoroughly annotated edition offers devotees a substantial glimpse of the workings of Frost's complex and often contradictory mind... In scattered jottings on poetry, teaching, politics and family... Frost drafts poems, theorizes about poetics, lists topics for later writings, spins aphorisms, stories and sketches; and even shows the development of famous quotes... This is an essential book for Frost fans and serious poetry lovers..."

"This volume offers the voyeuristic thrill of peering into a master craftsman's workshop to glimpse the discarded drafts, private musings, and scattered fragments that can in time become art," wrote the *Atlantic Monthly*.

### The Spies of Warsaw

By Alan Furst '58

Random House, June 2008



An autumn evening in 1937. A German engineer arrives at the Warsaw railway station. This night, he will be with his Polish mistress. The next day he will meet with the military attaché from the French embassy. Information will be

exchanged for money, and a cast of unsavory characters will emerge—all on the eve of war in Europe. These events set the stage for *The Spies of Warsaw*, the latest novel by Alan Furst '58, who has been lauded by *The New York Times* as "America's preeminent spy novelist" and by *The Houston Chronicle* as "the greatest living writer of espionage fiction."

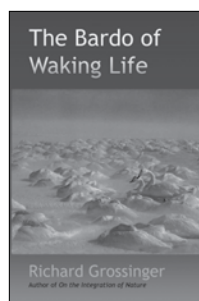
Though, in his tenth novel, Furst explores terrain and character types he has studied before, legions of critics and fans agree that his stories of espionage and counter-espionage

in WWII Europe are never repetitious, and are also literary masterpieces. As Jonathan Shapiro wrote in *The New York Times Book Review* "Few writers tread such a narrow path so often. Fewer still do it without repeating themselves. Furst's genius is to revisit the same era and character types while making each journey new and fascinating."

### The Bardo of Waking Life

By Richard Grossinger '62

North Atlantic Press, April 29, 2008



*The Bardo of Waking Life* by Richard Grossinger '62 is an *avant garde* set of improvisational essays—a meditation on the Tibetan Buddhist "bardo" realm which, in popular culture, is viewed as the bridge between lives, the state

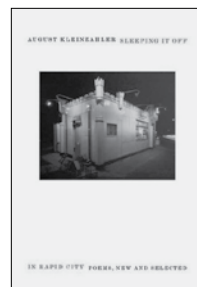
people enter after death and before rebirth. If, as Tibetan cosmology holds, all conditional realms are bardos, then, according to Grossinger, the state we share is nothing less than the bardo of waking life. This book examines waking life and its history and language as if it were a bardo state rather than ultimate reality, and seeks a context for life (and dreams), even as it addresses more "mundane issues" including genetic theory, the war in Iraq, advertising, global warming, prison-industrial culture, and even Country Western music. Written with playfulness and precision, *Bardo* takes a new, probing approach to all the important questions of creation, destruction, and existence.

### Sleeping it Off in Rapid City

By August Kleinzahler '67

Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, April 1, 2008

The universal praise for August Kleinzahler's '67 *Sleeping it Off in Rapid City* has also included generous reference to the gritty muscularity of this poet's verse. As John Palattella wrote in *The Los Angeles Times*, "Kleinzahler mixes the pungent and the delicate, the literary and the colloquial..."



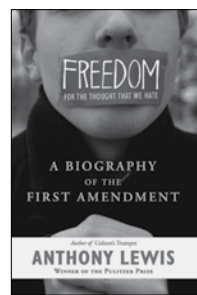
In an interview with Kleinzahler that appeared in *The New York Times* Dwight Garner recalled the literary ruckus the poet created by criticizing "the anecdotal, wistful" poems Garrison Keillor selects for his "Writer's Almanac." Even fans of

Keillor's selections will not be able to resist the other side of the American consciousness that Kleinzahler's poetry evokes: the middle-of-the-night cravings for substance, both emotional and physical, and the accompanying pangs of memory and restlessness. Wrote Charles Simic, in *The New York Review of Books* come these words: "Erudite, restless, intellectually curious, alert to what goes on around him from the moment he opens his eyes in the morning, (Kleinzahler) brings to mind Frank O'Hara... Wonderful."

### Freedom for the Thought That We Hate: A Biography of the First Amendment

By Anthony Lewis '44

Basic Books, January 7, 2008



More than any other people on earth, Americans are free to say and write what they think. The reason for this extraordinary freedom: 14 words in our most fundamental legal document—the free expression clauses of the First Amendment

to the Constitution. In *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate: A Biography of the First Amendment* Anthony Lewis '44 tells how the right of free expression evolved along with our nation, and makes a compelling case for the adaptability of our Constitution.

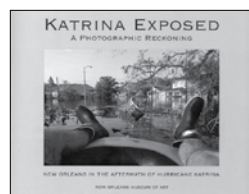
In this book by the Pulitzer Prize-winning former *New York Times* columnist and author of *Make No Law* and *Gideon's Trumpet* we learn that freedom of speech and the press as we know it today is surprisingly recent: the Supreme Court did not begin to recognize this right until 1919. Lewis tells how these rights

were created, revealing a story of hard choices, heroic, and some less heroic judges, and fascinating and eccentric defendants who forced the legal system to come face-to-face with one of America's great founding ideas. The First Amendment's injunction that Congress "shall make no law..." abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, seems cut and dried, but, according to this lucid legal history, its application has had a vexed history. Lewis, who is today a law professor, explores other First Amendment legal quagmires, including libel law, privacy issues, the press' shielding of confidential sources, obscenity and hate speech.

### **Katrina Exposed: A Photographic Reckoning**

By Steven V. Maklansky '81

New Orleans Museum of Art, September 2006



In *Katrina Exposed: A Photographic Reckoning*, Steven Maklansky '81, who was at the time of Hurricane

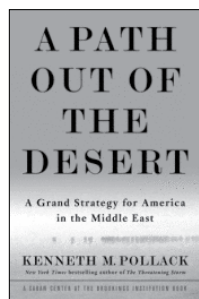
Katrina Director for Art at the New Orleans Museum of Art, has compiled a collection of images that tell so much more than the story of a city deluged. This catalogue is truly representative of the diversity of devastation that occurred. The photographs were made by professionals, artists, and amateurs alike who were on the scene and trying to survive, yet were able to find beauty in the destruction. The catalogue represents only a fraction of the photographs displayed when the Museum launched this retrospective show on Hurricane Katrina. Now Director of Curatorial services at the Louisiana State Museum, Maklansky's contribution to the history of New Orleans during this traumatic time lives on in this catalogue, and in the permanent Katrina exhibit he was involved in creating.

### **A Path Out of the Desert**

By Kenneth M. Pollack '84

Random House, July 2008

The greatest danger to America's peace and prosperity, according to leading Middle East policy analyst Kenneth M. Pollack '84, lies in the political repression, economic stagnation, and cultural conflict running rampant in Arab and Muslim nations. By inflaming political



unrest and empowering terrorists, these forces pose a direct threat to America's economy and national security. The impulse for America might be to turn its back on the Middle East in frustration over issues involved with the war in Iraq, but such a move, Pollack asserts, will only exacerbate problems. Pollack, Director of Research at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, counters with the idea that the Middle East must continue to be a priority in our policy, but in a humbler, more realistic and cohesive way.

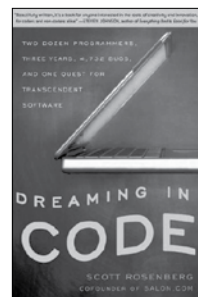
Arguing that Washington's unwillingness to make the sustained and patient effort needed to help the people of the Middle East overcome the crippling societal problems facing their governments and societies has been the downfall of successive U.S. policies Pollack posits that the U.S. has never had a workable comprehensive policy in the region. He offers a long-term strategy to ameliorate the political, economic, and social problems that underlie the region's many crises that would have America engage directly with the Middle East's governments and indirectly with its people by means of cultural exchange, commerce, and other approaches.

### **Dreaming in Code: Two Dozen Programmers, Three Years, 4,732 Bugs, and One Quest for Transcendent Software**

By Scott Rosenberg '77

Crown Publishing Group, January 2007

In software programming it's relatively easy to move around the blocks, creating elegant new innovations is something else. Former Salon.com co-founder and technology editor Scott Rosenberg '77 knows well that much of life in 21st-century America hangs from fragile strands of computer code. In *Dreaming in Code*, he follows that slender connection back to the FBI, the FAA, and the IRS, each of which failed in costly recent attempts to build new software systems. In a fascinating case study, Rosenberg tracks Lotus 1-2-3 inventor Mitch Kapor and his crew as they attempt to mastermind a software device for day-to-day business functions. Their story takes us through a maze of dead ends and exhilarating

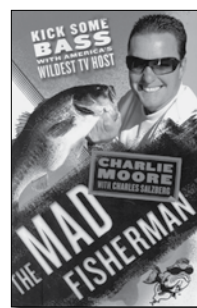


offers a window into both the information age and the workings of the human mind.

### **The Mad Fisherman: Kick Some Bass with America's Wildest TV Host**

By Charlie Moore and Charles Salzberg '63

St. Martin's Press, April 2008



Charles Salzberg '63 is a prolific authors on the most varied of subjects, from sports coaching, to self-management, to as-told-to athlete and celebrity biographies, as well as bestsellers he has ghostwritten. In *The Mad Fisherman: Kick Some Bass with America's Wildest TV Host* Salzberg gets together with Charlie Moore, the host of ESPN's popular "Beat Charlie Moore" show, in which he bets his own money in one-on-one fishing duels against pros and amateurs alike. Moore has great stories about such celebrity guests as rock guitarist Ted Nugent, sports legend Bobby Orr, rapper Darryl McDaniels of Run-DMC and *Batman* star Adam West. *Booklist* called this one "A good old success story related with charm and humor."

### **Swann's Last Song**

Charles Salzberg '63

Five Star Mystery, September 17, 2008



While he has authored and co-authored dozens of nonfiction books and articles Charles Salzberg '63 says his first love is writing novels. Of his latest, *Swann's Last Song*, two-time Edgar

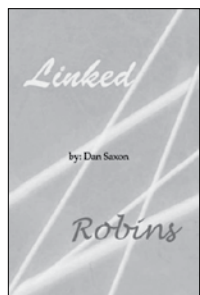


Award-winner Andrew Klavan writes "Salzberg is a hell of a writer. He delivers thrills, insight and plenty of laughs. Swann is a very cool take on the classic PI."

The book is about skip tracer Henry Swann—the quintessentially jaded private eye. Swann cares little about anything but money, so when a beautiful Upper East Side woman shows up in his office and hires him to find her missing husband, he smiles and takes the cash. But when this seemingly simple missing-person case turns into homicide, Swann finds himself trapped in a complex web of connections and multiple identities that take him out of New York City and across two continents. As Swann struggles to uncover the truth, he stumbles across deceptions that test his limits as an investigator and as a man.

#### Linked/Robins

By Dan Saxon '56  
Xlibris, 2008



"When the moon speaks an unintelligible language and the stars do not know what they are doing it is time to move on to another planet..."

".... Don't tell me you're comfortable not knowing if you've miscalculated light

years, galaxy distances, or the proximity of asteroids... what's another million, million miles? We haven't put it all together yet, just where we are, how high is high, what else is out there?..."

from "Floating Around" by Dan Saxon '56

With such evocative ponderings as are found in the poem "Floating Around" Dan Saxon '56 offers in his newest book *Linked/Robins* a collection of his poems and writings on a variety of topics composed during the 1990s through 2003. Saxon has been publishing poetry since the early 1960s when he contributed to "Poets at Le Metro." His poetry has been published in magazines and anthologies including *East Side Scene*, *American Poets 1960-1965*, *In a Time of Revolution*, and *Poems from our Third World*. The lines excerpted here represent only a taste of work that truly transforms its readers.

#### Genomes, Browsers and Databases, Data-Mining Tools for Integrated Genomic Databases

By Peter Schattner '65

Cambridge University Press, June 16, 2008



The recent explosive growth of biological data has led to a rapid increase in the number of molecular biology databases. Held in many different locations and often using varying interfaces and

non-standard data formats, integrating and comparing data from these multiple databases can be difficult and time-consuming. In this book Prof. Peter Schattner '65, a research associate in Biomolecular Engineering at the University of California, Santa Cruz, provides an overview of the key tools currently available for large-scale comparisons of gene sequences and annotations, focusing on the databases and tools from the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC), Ensembl, and the National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). *Genomes, Browsers and Databases* aims to give an appreciation of the methods by which the browsers and their databases are constructed, enabling readers to determine which tool is the most appropriate for their requirements. Each chapter contains a summary and exercises to aid understanding and promote effective use of these important tools in a book written both for biologists with limited programming skills, and informaticists with limited biology experience.

#### The Real McCain: Why Conservatives Don't Trust Him and Why Independents Shouldn't

By Cliff Schecter '90

PoliPoint Press, May 1, 2008

*The Real McCain: Why Conservatives Don't Trust Him and Why Independents Shouldn't* by Cliff Schecter '90 is a hard-hitting profile that explores the gap between the public record of Senator John McCain and his media image. Drawing on a range of sources and adding his unique perspective and humor, Schecter guides the reader through McCain's history in this best-selling book by the Knight-Ridder columnist, a regular contributor to the Huffington Post, and a frequent guest on NPR,



CNN, MSNBC, and other national media outlets—as well as someone known for his incisive humor.

Anti-war Major Paul Hackett, USMCR offered this review:

"Cliff Schecter provides us with some real 'straight talk' about

John McCain. Everyone who wants to know why John McCain won't give us healthcare but will keep us fighting endless wars and sell our personal freedoms to far-right theocrats should read this book."

#### The Perfect Game

By W. William Winokur '78

Kissena Park Press, August 2008



In the pews of San Juan Bautista Church, a ragtag band of street urchins of Monterrey, Mexico's slums try to escape the dismal conditions that surround them. Life holds anything but promise for these children. But *The*

*Perfect Game* by W. William Winokur '78 lets the kids' one ray of light shine. After Mass on Sundays, their priest gathers them around an old radio to listen to broadcasts of the far-away Brooklyn Dodgers. The children's devotion to baseball, and some chance encounters, inspire them to form a team and a dream: to wear actual uniforms and play just one "real game" in the United States. Based on a true story *The Perfect Game* tells how the boys journey to Texas for the first round of the 1957 Little League Tournament, crossing the Rio Grande and walking 12 miles through desert. With nothing more than three-day visas and barely any money they assume the game will be their first and last. But a different destiny awaits. The story, (the basis for an upcoming movie) offers a timeless tale of faith and the human spirit's ability to overcome all adversity in pursuit of a dream. ■

**A**lumni news is important to the entire Horace Mann School community. Please keep us up-to-date by sending your news and pictures to the Alumni House and Development Office, Horace Mann School, 231 West 246<sup>th</sup> Street, Riverdale, New York 10471, by faxing news to 718-432-3010 or by e-mailing your notes and pictures to [alumni@horacemann.org](mailto:alumni@horacemann.org). Alumni may also use the Class Notes function on the Graduate Resources section of [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG). We update the information on the website weekly. Class Notes are published twice a year in *Horace Mann Magazine*, and are archived online.

## 1935

From **John McCormack**: "The burning question remains; will I live to see the Texas Rangers in the World Series? I'm 90. What's the Las Vegas line?"

## 1941

In November **Henry Altenberg** enjoyed a one-month "Locum" as child psychiatrist at Northern Maine Medical Center Children's Unit in Fort Kent, Maine, where U.S. 1 begins, north of Quebec City.

## 1942

**Stephen Seadler** recently completed a major website-treatise The Pacificus Gateway at [pacificus1.com](http://pacificus1.com) and urges classmates, faculty and alumni to visit his recently completed web tract MISSING DIMENSION IN WORLD AFFAIRS at [www.pacificus1.com](http://www.pacificus1.com) and also pass the word along. **Eliot Shimer** proudly proclaims, "Still vertical and healthy at 83. I play tennis, ski, hike mountains, ride my bike 50 miles each week, and ran the Los Angeles marathon at 80. I enjoy doing social service projects helping others in our community." **David Kelton** volunteers at SCORE. Tennis, platform tennis and grandkids keep him moving.

## 1944

**Fred Berman** keeps busy serving as president of his class at Columbia (1949). This year he became an Adjunct Professor of Law Emeritus after serving as an Adjunct Professor for 48 years.

## 1949

**Austin Heyman** was recently honored by induction into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame.

1949 Class Correspondent **Irwin Spiegel** submitted the following notes:

And so our story continues... Happy to report the Florida branch of '49 again held its annual winter reunion lunch in Delray Beach. Those breaking bread included **Dick Asher, Dick Greene, Dick Kleid, Bob Leder, Mitch Rosenheim, Marv Rubin, Andy Taub, Jay Tischenkel** and myself. As expected, the conversation centered around family, doctor visits, weather and, of course, HM memories... **Dick Mendelsohn** reports he's retired, and he and Francoise are now residents of Wilmington...

**Warren Leventhal** retired from Wall St. back in '05, and has since been busy with grandchildren when not traveling or working on his collection of first day issues... Also retired from the stock market is **Neal Littmann**, who was kind enough to tell me he thoroughly enjoys reading about classmates in this column... **Gordon Marshall**, our man in New Hampshire, states he's deeply involved in conservation as a member of the Lake Sunapee Protective Assn. The group is the oldest such organization in the state, having been founded in 1898... Still feeling the effects of jet lag,

**Don Mayer** spoke of his recent business/pleasure trip to Los Angeles. While there, he visited with his son and daughter-in-law, and also exhibited his collection of East European art posters, created under Communism, circa 60's thru 80's. For further details, check out his fascinating web site, [www.contemporary-posters.com](http://www.contemporary-posters.com). Don is also proud to report that daughter Sari (class of '84) is very active in HM alumni activity... **Paul Silverstone** was proud to state he has completed his five-volume reference series, "Warships of the United States Navy." The latest reference work deals with "The Navy of the Nuclear Age." The complete series is published by the Routledge

Co., and copies are available only on line. Paul also told me to check the N.Y. Times for May 24 & 25, where, unfortunately, I found an obit for our classmate, **Lewis M. Kaplan**. The complete item read: "Beloved friend, brother, and uncle. Died in France on May 17. Astute and knowledgeable 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative & fine arts dealer. World class bridge player. A wonderful man who will be sorely missed by all."... **Bill Nightingale** reports he successfully organized a Riverdale/HM alumni get-together that was held at the Yale club on May 1<sup>st</sup>. He also reminded me that our own class will celebrate a 60<sup>th</sup> reunion next year, details of which should be forthcoming... As for Carol and **myself**, last August we welcomed our third grandchild—Reese Sibery—a beautiful baby girl. Her mom, Marilyn, is busy setting up her medical practice in Pelham Manor, NY... That's it for the moment; meanwhile stay tuned!

## 1950

**Iraj Sabet** celebrated his 77<sup>th</sup> birthday with a six-day visit to Haifa, Israel's Bahai Gardens and Shrine.

## 1953

**Robert Caro** was honored by the New York Historical Society at its 2008 History Makers Gala on October 15, 2008. In November, he received Bookend Award, the highest honor given by the Texas Book Festival, a major U.S. literary event. The award is presented annually to honor the distinguished career of a Texas writer. In presenting the award the Book Festival Board Chair wrote, "You may not consider yourself a Texas writer, but we do. Our committee feels that your ongoing biography of Lyndon Johnson stands with the best literature ever written about our state and we would be honored if you would accept this award."

---

## 1954

**Martin Sokol** was elected president of the Great Neck Library, the largest library on Long Island. He walks at 3.9 miles per hour for three miles a day. He tells us "Harris Brodsky '55 has assembled alumni who occasionally meet and chat during lunch. The gatherings are fun and I recommend other classes do the same. There is nothing like meeting friends from years ago." **Robert Tauber** was just installed as president of the Ninth District Dental Association for 2008. The district comprises Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess and Orange counties.

---

## 1957

**Bob Block's** good fortune with holes-in-one continued with his third in four years. His latest ace, a 201-yard shot, was executed at Wilson Golf Course, Los Angeles, on Feb. 11, 2008. The weapon was a driver.

---

## 1959

**Deane Penn** worked as a gastroenterologist for 35 years in Ft. Lee, NJ. He now has a second career as a medical stock analyst.

---

## 1960

**Stephen Jerome** tells us he is married and has three great, married kids, plus eight grand-kids. He just completed 41 years at Monroe College and is still going strong while having a great time.

---

## 1963

**Dan Brent**, a nationally prominent arbitrator of labor-management and employment disputes, has been named by the International Council of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland as an Arbitrator of the Court for Arbitration of Sport. He is one of approximately twenty American arbitrators selected to serve on the Court, which is the pre-eminent organization with responsibility for settling legal disputes involving international sports.

**Richard Mollette** sent the following update: "Last June I retired from teaching U.S. History at Nathan Hale HS in the Seattle School District and have moved 100 miles north, just outside the border crossing town of Blaine. It's been great to move back to a rural area. I've been visited by a Great Blue Heron and a resident Pileated Woodpecker, not to mention the beaver. The local Grange Hall is still active after a 100-year history and there is an easily felt sense of community."

---

## 1964

**Nicolas Finck** is retired in Virginia and is volunteering teaching English-as-a-second-language to visitors and new Americans.

---

## 1965

**Neil Baldwin** was a featured speaker and panelist at the William Carlos Williams '03 symposium September 20 and 21 in Williams' hometown of Rutherford, New Jersey in honor of the anniversary of the poet's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday. Baldwin, the author of *To All Gentleness: William Carlos Williams, The Doctor Poet* spoke about "revisiting an old friend" that the reissue of his 1984 biography of Williams represents. **Jeffrey Brosk** was married to Patricia Ryan on May 17, 2008. Jeff has upcoming exhibits in Dallas and New York.

---

## 1966

**Jordan Wouk's** son Edward received a Fulbright to continue his Ph. D. studies in Belgium.

---

## 1967

The July 1, 2008 *Wall Street Journal* featured an Op-Ed piece by **James Kaplan** on his annual 2 a.m. Fourth of July Walking Tour, in which he describes the stroll to and through Revolutionary War sites in Lower Manhattan in the wee hours between 2 and 6 a.m. Included are visits to City Hall Park, where the Declaration of Independence was first read in New York, to Foley Square for a discussion of Thomas Paine, who died nearby, and to St.

paul's Chapel, burial spot of Gen. Richard Montgomery, to name a few. Explained Kaplan in the article, "...The tour was begun by the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y more than a quarter century ago, and when I took over the leader's duties in 1999 I inherited the 2 a.m. start time. When the Y discontinued its walking tour after 9/11, I asked the Fraunces Tavern Museum... To permit me to continue it under their auspices and with the same hours." Besides, said Kaplan of the 50 to 100 people who take the tour, "You wouldn't believe the number of participants who tell me that 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. is perfect for them because that is the only time they have nothing else scheduled." Kaplan and classmate **Richard Warshauer** co-lead an annual "Great Crashes of Wall Street Lower Manhattan" walking tour. Wonder if the one on October 25, 2008 covered the entire neighborhood. By the way, Kaplan is a tax and estates lawyer and is a walking-tour historian in New York and Warshauer is Senior Managing Director, GVA Williams.

---

## 1968

Documentary filmmaker **Ken Browne's** most recent production is an important work that is gaining widespread attention. Titled "Look! I'm in College" the film profiles four New York City teenagers who were diagnosed with autism and are now attending college. The half-hour film looks at the transition to adulthood for students with autism. Narrated by Roscoe Orman of Sesame Street the film premiered on May 9, 2008 at the Sprout Film Festival at the Museum of Modern Art and was featured on WNBC news. You can see the report at <http://video.wnbc.com/player/?id=249418>. To learn more about the film please go to [www.kbprods.com/look](http://www.kbprods.com/look). To catch up with Ken's other productions, which recently have focused on the arts, go to and [www.kbprod.com](http://www.kbprod.com).

---

## 1969

**Robert Thompson** retired from Kling Stubbins, architects, engineering, interiors & planning as of 12/31/07. He was with the firm for 30 years, including the last eight years as CEO. He and his wife, Rosalie, have relocating to Florida. **Michael Philip Davis** recently completed and released the DVD "Regina



Resnik Presents Colors of the Diaspora,” a panorama of Jewish classical song, which he co-wrote and in which he appears as tenor soloist. Active as a leading operatic tenor, Davis is now a much sought-after director having produced “The Tragedy of Carmen” at the TodiMusicFest in Portsmouth, VA as well as Bernstein’s “Trouble in Tahiti.”

## 1970

**Peter Halperin** sends the following news: I’ve never given any news about my kids, so I wanted to let you know my younger son, Dan, took a leave from college to join a rock and roll band, just like his dad. Genes will out. When he was a freshman at Ithaca College he was turning me on to some music from all over, but a local band, Ayurveda, really stood out. I was floored by them. As fate had it, he later became their bass player. Having become a fan before my son became a member has helped me feel somewhat objective when I tell friends about this amazing band. The two guitarists are from Nepal and the lyricist has a decidedly eastern world view, thus the name. The music is a rich amalgam of metal, progressive, world, with a big look back to the ’60s. They are one of the tightest live bands I’ve ever seen, and they’ve just released their first CD “Being”. It’s the kind of CD that reminds me of when we ran home with the newest release from one of our favorite bands in high school, and listened beginning to end, taking it all in, including lyrics. So... check them out! You can see them on line here <http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=9870497> and here <http://www.ayurvedamusic.com>. They played live at Fontana’s off Canal Street in June. I’ve seen advertisements for this group in The Village Voice. I have been reading the music section because I have recently rekindled my interest in going to rock concerts. So far this year, I have seen Bruce Springsteen at Madison Square Garden (where I sat in front of **Ricky Queen**) and at Hartford Civic Center, Tim O’Brien, Aretha Franklin (where I spotted **Fonzi Thornton**), Paul Simon and the East Harlem Orchestra, Barry Manilow and The Eagles. On the list for this summer: Blondie, Herbie Hancock, Al Green, Donna Summer, Jefferson Starship, Steve Miller Band and Joe Cocker. I am working on tickets for Madonna’s

next gig at MSG. There is nothing like the music of our youth... I certainly want to continue to feel young even though the joints are starting to tell me differently. **Martin Bienenstock** moved to Dewey & LeBoeuf, LLP on Dec. 7, 2007 as Chairman of Business Solutions & Governance Group. He is still teaching at Harvard Law School, specializing in governance for healthy and distressed companies and restructuring businesses. His children, Jarett and Ali, are in 11<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades at HM. **Victor Masayesva**’s documentary “Paatuwaqtsi Water, Land, Life”, on the Hopi run to Mexico to bring messages on water rights to the Fourth International Worldwide Forum, opened the Talking Stick Film Festival on June 21, 2008 at the Luna Theater in Santa Fe, NM.

## 1972

**Michael Pack**’s film “The Last 600 Meters” won the Founder’s Choice Award at the G.I. Film Festival in May 2008. This gripping film chronicles two of the deadliest battles of the Iraq War—the battle of Najaf, and the battle of Falluja, both fought in 2004. The film tells the story of these battles through the words and deeds of those who fought there. Pack is president of Manifold Productions, Inc. an independent film and television production company which he founded in 1977, and runs with his wife Gina Cappel Pack. The company has produced numerous award-winning nationally broadcast documentaries, as well as corporate and educational films. A former Pres. George W. Bush-nominated member of the National Council on the Humanities, which oversees the National Endowment for the Humanities, Pack has also served as Co-Chair of the International TV Council of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Pack wrote to Class Notes concerning his latest film: “The award confirmed what I experienced in the theaters with a live audience. Those watching the film on the big screen were deeply moved; this was the war as they had never seen it before. I am more committed than ever to making sure that “The Last 600 Meters” is released in theaters this fall, during the election season, when the war will be a major part of the political conversation. We continue to seek funding and distribution help. All suggestions are welcome.”

## 1974

**Mace Rothenberg** informs the HM community that he was surprised and very honored to learn he was awarded the Lane Adams Quality of Life Award from the American Cancer Society. Mace is a Professor of Medicine at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Ingram Professor of Cancer Research at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. He lives in Nashville with his wife, Joyce, daughter Stephanie, 18, and son Bryce, 14. **Gary Jaburg** recently became chairman of the Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center in Scottsdale, AZ. Jaburg & Wilk, P.C. was named the #1 midsize law firm by Ranking Arizona magazine. Gary’s son, Zack, just completed basic training in the army.

## 1978

A few members of the Class of ’78 enjoyed an unexpected mini-reunion when, unbeknownst to one another, they found themselves together at the Cutting Room in Manhattan on June 5, 2008. **Mark Meisels**, **Betsy Spanbock**, **Elizabeth Okin** and Dayna Langfan ’79 joined the star-studded audience to see **Andy Caploe**’s wife, Susan Collins, perform her highly-acclaimed, rocking autobiographical musical revue, “You Can Take the Girl Outta Brooklyn.” A singer who has worked with Jimi Hendrix, John Lennon, Electric Light Orchestra, Saturday Night Live, KISS and Todd Rundgren, and whose voice is currently heard on the videogame Grand Theft Auto IV and on Broadway in XANADU, Collins sang a tribute to her inspiration—the legendary songwriter Ellie Greenwhich—who was in attendance with Paul Shaffer of CBS’s Late Show with David Letterman. The evening also marked the surprise NYC stage debut of Tucker Caploe, HM Class of 2011, as his mother called the emerging 15-year-old singer-songwriter to the piano to showcase his pop virtuosity on two of his original songs. Tucker premiered these songs earlier this year at HM’s Urban Aid fundraiser in a live rendition that the HM Record declared, “stunned the rowdy crowd.” Meanwhile, Andy has been appearing regularly on NBC’s TODAY SHOW with Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotbe on “The Man Panel”, where he answers questions on an impromptu

basis from women outside the studio at Rockefeller Center. "I am not a 'sexpert'," Andy insists, "I just play one on TV."

**Dr. David Silbersweig** has moved from his position as co-director of the Neuro-Imaging Laboratory of the Division of Neuropsychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College to Harvard Medical School where he has been appointed Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, Chairman, Institute for the Neurosciences, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Stanley Cobb Professor of Psychiatry, Professor of Neurology. Dr. Silbersweig works closely with his wife, Dr. Emily Stern, Co-Director of Functional and Molecular Neuroimaging, Department of Radiology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Associate Professor of Radiology, Harvard Medical School. The doctors are the parents of Arielle, 12, and Joshua, 8. They are living in Chestnut Hill, MA. **William Winokur's** film "The Perfect Game" will soon be in theaters. Winokur based his screenplay on his book of the same title—which relates the true story of a team of barefooted boys from Monterrey, Mexico who, in 1957, defied extraordinary odds to become the first foreign team to win the Little League World Series. The film tells the story of how their miracle changed not only their lives, but an entire city's destiny.

## 1979

On September 11, 2007, the sixth-anniversary of the terrorist attacks, **Evan Rosen** gave a speech to the United States intelligence community. The speech was sponsored and hosted by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. ODNI used Evan's book, *The Culture of Collaboration: Maximizing Time, Talent and Tools to Create Value in the Global Economy*, in developing both the 100-day and 500-day plans for integration and collaboration of the intelligence community, comprised of 16 federal agencies. Also, *The Culture of Collaboration* received a gold medal in the 2008 Axiom Business Book Awards co-sponsored by Inc. Magazine. Evan received the award at a reception in midtown Manhattan on March 10, 2008. **Philip Huang** received his MBA from Wharton. He currently focuses on business strategy in life sciences and biotech/pharma.

## 1981

**Bryan Barnett** left JP Morgan Chase after nearly 18 years to pursue a career as a financial advisor at AXA. He helps individuals and small businesses with financial, retirement, and estate planning insurance. **James Bloom** is now head of the Secondary Division at the Cairo English School, Cairo, Egypt.

## 1982

**Dr. Stephen Fabry**, recently had a book published by Jones and Bartlett titled, *100 Questions and Answers about Hepatitis C*. Check out their website or Amazon for more details.

## 1986



Class of '86 members Supervisory Special Agent **William Bronsteen**, Shift Leader of the Secretary of State's Protective Detail and **Major Marc Weintraub**, USMC crossed paths in Baghdad in 2007.

## 1987



**Dan Hoffman** and **Julie Oppenheimer** are proud to introduce Audrey Gigi Hoffman, born December 3, 2007.

**Jennifer Garfein Ashton** signed a book deal with Penguin for a book she wrote for teenage girls about their physical development and gynecologic issues. The book is due out in the fall of 2009.

## 1988

**Jordan Thomas** is the founder of "Brooklyn for Barack", a grassroots movement that has rallied support for Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama. Voter registration is one of the major efforts of the organization, Jordan was intensely involved with this activity throughout the summer. Jordan is a filmmaker living in Fort Green, Brooklyn.

## 1989



**Michael Rakower** and wife, Sali, are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Rachel Dina, born on February 8, 2008.



Jason Lazar '91, Clay Moran '89, Cory Pulice '89

**Clay Moran** connected with **Cory Pulice** and **Jason Lazar '91** in April. He sent a picture of the three friends with this latest news: "We met up for happy hour in Deerfield Beach, Florida last Friday. Jason was in Florida visiting his in-laws. Jason has been married for a year-and-a-half and was expecting his first child. He lives in Las Vegas, where he is Vice President, Corporate Development and General Counsel of KeyOn Communications. Wrote Jason: "Cory and I live across a canal from each other in Delray Beach, FL. Cory is married with two great kids and works as President of E-Commerce at Sandow Media. I am a stock analyst for Stanford Group."

## 1990

**Michelle Johnson** and Julian Safir are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Faye Danielle who was born on August 28, 2007. Faye joins big brothers Max, 2 1/2 and Michael, 4. **Cliff Schecter**, a popular political blogger on Huffington Post who is read on many more sites, published his book *The Real McCain, Conservatives Don't Trust Him, Why Independents Shouldn't* in May 2008. The book went "live" on Amazon.com on April 1 before hitting bookstores in May, and immediately sailed to the number 2 spot on Amazon's non-fiction bestseller list—behind Barack Obama's book. Schecter lives outside of Columbus, Ohio (a pivotal political state, he points out) with his wife Anne Luecke, and their 22-month-old son Douglas (Dougie) Schecter. With Columbus as his base he travels often to Washington and New York, particularly while being invited into this election season's political event excitement and as he is promoting the book. Please see "Bookshelf" in this magazine on p. 52 and go to [www.realmccainbook.com](http://www.realmccainbook.com).

## 1991



**Jason Lazar** and his wife Lauren Cornell Lazar announced the birth of their daughter Emma Halie Lazar on Aug. 7, 2008. She was 6lbs 1oz and 18 inches.

## 1992

**Marit Haahr** and her husband, Kareem Ghalib, welcomed their son Erik Abraham Haahr Ghalib on September 20, 2006. **Alison Abramson Hasson** married Matthew Hasson on January 19, 2008 at Cipriani 23<sup>rd</sup>. They currently reside at Gramercy Park with their dog, Redfiord. **Shawn Sabin** is concluding his biological studies on deforestation and its effect on native amphibian subspecies in eastern China and will be moving back to N.Y. **Anthony Jacobson** still lives in L.A. **Chris Greene** moved to Brooklyn. **Tom Levinson** is a lawyer in Chicago and penned a one-man three-act show about a Hasidic man who falls in love with a woman outside of his faith. **Anil Ranawat** is on a medical fellowship in Switzerland and travels frequently to India. **Dan Rosenberg** lives in N.Y. with his wife and baby daughter and is a part-time lecturer on small business startups at Katherine Gibbs College.

## 1993

**Jessica Glass Harris** and her husband, Matthew, are delighted to share the news of the birth of their baby girl on August 6, 2008. Her name is Campbell Tess Harris. Says Jessica, "We're very tired but very happy."



Aaron Fabrikant Saroken

From **Harlan Fabrikant Saroken**: "Brian and I are thrilled to report that our beautiful son, Aaron Fabrikant Saroken, arrived healthy and happy on July 8, 2008. He weighed in at a fighting 8 pounds and 8 ounces... We are guessing his lucky number will be 8!"

## 1994



**Penny Kramer Hecht** gave birth to Ella Alexandra on February 1, 2008. Big sister Bailey, now 4 years old, is delighted to be with her new little sister. Penny is a mortgage broker at The Manhattan Mortgage Company and husband Joshua is a consultant at The North Highland Company. Josh began an executive MBA program in the fall.



**Renee Kunen Litvak** and Jesse Litvak are pleased to present their new son, Isaac Joseph, sporting his new Horace Mann bib. Isaac was born on February 10, 2008 and joins his big

sister Sasha Ann who is 2½-years old.

**Dan Stone** entered his second year at Loyola Law School Los Angeles and was a summer associate at Dreier, Stein, Kahan,



Brown, Woods, George. He is married to Michelle and has a daughter, Abigail.

**Lori Wimpfheimer Lirov** and husband, Erez, welcomed their son, Adam, to the world on November 25, 2007. "He brings us much joy and little sleep. He joins his big sister, Danielle, who is three. The whole family is doing well." **Adam Michaels** announced the arrival of his first son, Gregory Daniel on August 15, 2007.

## 1995

**Justin Lerer** was married to Rachel Hannaford on May 4, 2008. Attending the ceremony at the New York Botanical Garden were **David Berenson, Farn-Yeong Foo, James Grimmelmann, Michael Hyun, Vikash Jain, Willard Kasoff, Courtney Kramer, Lee Rom, Kyri Sarantakos, Jon Stone**, Alex Berenson '90, Jordan Goldstein '92 and HM parents Harvey and Ellen Berenson, Barry Bienstock and Jan Lewis, Ramesh and Kanta Jain, Sam Kasoff and Francine Stein, and Stavros and Pat Sarantakos.



## 1996

**Mira Patel Muhtadie** and spouse, Fayez, are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Sami Fayez Muhtadie born on September 9, 2008.

The May issue of *BBC Music Magazine* contained a three page, color feature on Clarion and its music director, **Steven Fox**. *BBC Music Magazine* is carried by Borders and Barnes & Noble, and can also be found at large international newsstands. **Emily George** celebrated her marriage to Dr. Ian Neugeborn on August 2, 2008 at Pier 60 in Manhattan with many HM friends among the guests. From the Class of '96 were **Michelle (Bernstein) Gurman**, who was the maid of honor, **Leslie Lewis**, who introduced

the couple, **Amanda (Tisch) Weitzman, Jennifer (Beatus) Fox, Lindsay (Franklin) Taylor, and Rebekah Paltrow**. Guests also included Matthew Taylor '95, Steve Chasen '87 and Lawrence Bahr, a friend from HM Lower and Middle Division years. A graduate of Washington University, Emily earned her masters in teaching from Hunter College, and taught for several years before pursuing her MSW degree at NYU which she completed in 2008. She is now a social worker at the Ross Global Academy, a charter school in Manhattan. Her husband is a resident and clinical assistant instructor in anesthesiology at SUNY Downstate Medical Center.



Noah Lehmann-Haupt

**Noah Lehmann-Haupt** was named one of "America's Coolest Young Entrepreneurs" in *Entrepreneur* magazine's annual "30 Under 30" listing, acclaimed for launching his New York City-based Gotham Dream Cars ([www.gothamdreamcars.com](http://www.gothamdreamcars.com)). Wrote the magazine, "Lehmann-Haupt bought a Ferrari when he was 25. 'A red one, of course,' he says. He began renting it out and used the profits to invest in a second performance car—and the cycle continued. Five years later, Gotham Dream Cars boasts a fleet of 20 exotic rental cars...The company offers personal car rentals, gift rentals, and a 'DreamShare' program that gives members access to the whole fleet, among other services, and prides itself on owning all of its cars. Right now, the company services the Northeast and Miami, but has plans to expand across the country. Gotham Dream Cars ranked No. 275 on the 2008 Inc. 5000 list of the nation's fastest-growing private companies." Founded in 2003, Gotham Dream Cars boasts 15 employees. Lehmann-Haupt stays connected with his alma mater, offering rental of a Gotham Dream Car as a raffle prize at the HM Alumni Council's annual Spring Benefit.

## 1997

**Brett Cicchillo** was married to Sydney Erin Rose '98 on June 14, 2008. Brett is senior manager for marketing for the National Basketball Association in Manhattan. He graduated from Tufts and is studying for an

MBA at NYU. **Brooke Schreier Ganz** was unfortunately unable to make it to her tenth class reunion last October, but had a really good excuse: she was too pregnant to be allowed on a cross-country plane! She and her husband Scott welcomed their first child, Evan Zachary Ganz, on November 17, 2007 at Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center. Brooke and Scott met as juniors at the University of Pennsylvania and were married in November 2003. Before becoming a full-time mom, Brooke was the Senior Web Producer for the cable channel Bravo, taking the technical and production lead for their several digital properties and websites, and even earning an Emmy nomination for one of them (though alas, losing to that nice Al Gore fellow). Prior to Bravo, she was the Lead Programmer and one of the original staff members at TMZ.com—yes, that trashy gossip website, though she thankfully left before they started their TV show—and prior to that she was at Disney and IBM. Her husband is a writer for TV and film, most recently with the Muppets. Brooke joined him and other family members on the WGA picket lines this past winter—while pushing baby Evan in his stroller. HM alums are invited to come stop by and say hi if they're ever in Los Angeles!



Brody Jacob Sundheim was born to **Brett Cohen Sundheim** on 8-21-07; weighing 8lbs 2ounces. He loves banana puffs, *Goodnight Moon* and splashing wildly in the bath. He is a big Laurie Berkner groupie and of course he has a soft spot for Elmo. His favorite activities include laughing in the park swings, playing the piano and trying to walk around while holding your hands.

**Jenya Green** was married on May 3, 2008 to David O'Connor. The wedding took place at the Central Park Boathouse.

## 1998

**Richard Brand** and Samantha (Cooper) Brand '01 are delighted to announce the arrival of their first child, Matthew George, born on August 7, 2008. Matthew loves to spend time with Uncles Daniel Brand '00 and David Orbuch '08 and Aunt Hayley Cooper '09.

**Ariana Ghez** was married to Frank Rosenwein on June 15, 2008 at the Tribeca Rooftop in NYC. Ariana is the principal oboist for the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Rosenwein is the principal oboist for the Cleveland orchestra, and head of the oboe department at The Cleveland Institute of Music. **Sydney Erin Rose** was married to Brett Cicchillo '97 on June 14, 2008 at the Rainbow Room in Manhattan. A graduate of Columbia University, Sydney is studying medicine at Cornell.

## 1999

The April 28, 2008 issue of *Congressional Quarterly Today* noted the appointment of **Philip Putter** as Legislative Director for the office of Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy. Congresswoman McCarthy is serving her sixth term representing Long Island's fourth Congressional District and she also serves as a senior member of the Committee on Education and Labor, as well as the Committee on Financial Services. Philip now lives in Washington, DC.

**Laura Millendorf** is having great fun working as an assistant DA in Manhattan. She's getting married in 2008 to Mark Yopp, a classmate from law school.

## 2001

**Samantha Cooper Brand** and Richard Brand '98 are delighted to announce the arrival of their first child, Matthew George, born on August 7, 2008. Matthew loves to spend time with Uncles Daniel Brand '00 and David Orbuch '08 and Aunt Hayley Cooper '09.

**Edward Einbinder's** new drug education book, *How to Have Fun and Not Die*, was released in the U.S. in May 2008.

## 2003

**Anna Torres** wrote from Cambridge, MA where she was finishing her work as an editor at the Jewish Women's Archive. In September 2008 Anna began her studies toward a Masters degree at the Harvard Divinity School's Center for the Study of World Religions. As a recipient of the school's "Presidential Scholarship" Torres received full tuition and a stipend for two years. **Michael Pareles** met up with **Alex Bystryn** in August 2008 in Balkash, Kazakhstan, where Alex is on post with the Peace Corps. Michael is studying Muslim ethnic minorities on a Fulbright Scholarship to China. Both were sad to report that Kazakhstan is nothing like "Borat." The HM Art Gallery in Fisher Hall hosted an exhibit by **Sam Ferri** entitled "Upon Reflection" in September and October 2008. Along with painting, sketches of everyday situations and commentary by this artist-writer in *New York Press* were featured. A contributor to *Time Out New York* Sam creates cartoons that stem from photographs of New York scenes sent in by the public.

## 2004

**Thomas Manewitz** graduated from George Washington University on May 18, 2007. He planned to move to Minneapolis after college—spending a year in a new city until he decides what to do, probably law school.

**Judah Levine** has become Special Assistant to the CEO, Keystone Sports and Entertainment, LLC. Judah is responsible for developing a Major League soccer Philadelphia. The team will be based in Chester, PA, where Judah says a new, beautiful, world-class stadium is being built on the waterfront, and "will be part of a larger \$500 million development with other entertainment, retail, restaurants, bars, office and residential spaces—essentially, a city within a city. It should truly be a destination point and we're expecting it to fuel the revitalization of Chester." The fans in Philly are also excited about bringing Major League Soccer to the area.

## 2007

**Charlotte Vaughn Raines** was cast in the University of Michigan's production of John Guare's "Landscape of the Body" in February 2008. She also was cast in "Lord of the Rings" in April.

## 2008

**Krishanu Sankar** was selected to represent the United States on the six-person U.S. team competing in the International Math Olympiad in Madrid in July, 2008. He won a gold-medal in the competition in Spain, helping the U.S. to a third-place win internationally, just behind China and Russia. "This is a remarkable accomplishment by a remarkable individual and a proud day for Horace Mann," said math department chair and teacher, Chris Jones. ■

**H**orace Mann School mourns the deaths of the following members of our community. We invite readers to share their memories and reflections with one another in these pages by writing to [alumni@horacemann.org](mailto:alumni@horacemann.org).

---

## **Eugene Orsenigo, Jr. '30, Award-Winning Furniture Designer and Devoted Alumnus to Horace Mann and Dartmouth**

**Orsenigo, Eugene Jr.**, age 95, of Somers died Tuesday, December 25, 2007. Born January 2, 1912 in NYC "Gene" Orsenigo was a devoted alumnus to Horace Mann. His children recalled that he loved sharing HM stories with them, and noted he had kept "beautifully framed certificates awarding Dad letters in football and baseball." Following Horace Mann Eugene Orsenigo attended Dartmouth College, graduating in 1934. He joined his family business, The Orsenigo Furniture Co., manufacturers of fine furniture, and later became its president. He was the vice-president of the Red Lion Furniture Co., a company acquired by his family, and in 1979 became President of RMK Furniture, remaining active in the company until his death. Gene Orsenigo Jr. received the Meritorious Award for Outstanding Furniture Design at the 1959 Brussels Fair.

Orsenigo Jr. was a member of the Board of Governors of Good Counsel College and Academy, and vice president of the Chappaqua Dad's Club. He served on the Citizens Committee for the Chappaqua Board of Education and chaired its scholarship committee; was grade parent with his wife, the late Nina Cuzzi Orsenigo, for the Classes of 1960 and 1966 at Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, and coached Little League Baseball and Football in Chappaqua for many years.

An assistant class agent for Dartmouth from 1944 until his death, Orsenigo Jr. was chair of the Mt. Vernon (Dartmouth) Committee and interviewed applicants to the School for ten years. He was on the executive board of his class from 1995 until his death. As a loyal Dartmouth football fan, he and his wife attended over 400 games.

Gene was the loving husband of Nina, to whom he was married for 70 years, before her death nine months earlier on March 3, 2007. He is survived by his four children and their spouses. They include: Nina and Bob Keane of Trumbull, CT; Fran and Jim Dowling of Katonah, NY; Carol and Jim Ambury of Somers, NY and Gene and Linda Orsenigo, III of Goldens Bridge, NY. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and one sister, Gloria Menna of New Rochelle, NY. Contributions in his memory may be made to St. Joseph's Church, P.O. Box 719, Croton Falls, NY 10519.

---

## **Ruth Wyckoff Redmond '30, Dedicated Teacher and Music Lover**

Ruth Wyckoff Redmond '30 dedicated her life to teaching, traveling, family, friends, and singing. She passed away on July 20, 2008 of pneumonia, at Westhills Village Health Care in Rapid City, South Dakota. After graduating from Horace Mann School she attended Wheelock College in Boston, where she earned a teaching certificate, matriculated at Columbia University where she was granted a B.S. in elementary education in 1941, and then taught fourth grade in New Jersey. In 1945, at the end of World War II, she joined the Red Cross to assist the troops returning home from the European theatre. She was stationed at Le Havre, France at Camp Herbert Tareyton where she served a year. Her daughter, Penny Rudolph, reported that her mother was still writing to friends she met at the camp until a week before she died. Ruth loved to teach and returned to teaching kindergarten at Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street Elementary School. Music was ever a part of the home, with Ruth playing piano, and singing in church choirs, as well as while traveling by boat, bus, or car. Ruth Redmond Wyckoff also served as a director for Girl Scout encampments in Panama, spending five years in the country. Ever curious about the world, she spent her post-retirement years traveling, and walked the Great Wall of China when she was 80. The alumna is survived by her daughter Penny Rudolph, her son-in-law, Jim Rudolph, two grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

---

## **Olive Holmes Blum '36, Former Voice of America and Foreign Affairs Writer**

Olive Holmes Blum '36 wrote for the Voice of America, and most recently served as a translator for the Westat Research Corporation in Rockville, Md., translating health surveys into Spanish. She died at the age of 89 on Oct. 19, 2007 at Sibley Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Blum, who worked at Westat until the late 1990s, settled in the Washington area in 1972 after accompanying her husband, Melvin Blum, on his Foreign Service assignments to South America. She also had an early career in New York as a foreign policy analyst at the Foreign Policy Association and Voice of America. She participated in meetings to protest investigations into VOA employees suspected of having Communist sympathies.

Born in Buenos Aires to American parents working as Methodist missionaries, Olive Holmes Blum grew up in New York City, attended Horace Mann School and Barnard College and received a master's degree in international relations from Columbia University. She was proficient in French, German and Spanish. She was an elder and a deacon at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church in Rockville and was active in local and international mission programs, including Friends in Action.

Starting in the 1990s, she participated in the Women's Health Initiative, a long-term National Institutes of Health-funded study of hormone therapy, diet modification and other treatments for post-menopausal women. Survivors include a son, Daniel J. Blum of Silver Spring, Md; sister Leonor Holmes Brown '37; and two grandsons.



## Richard Baer '45, Noted TV Sitcom Writer

Richard Baer '45, whose career as a writer mirrored the growth of television, and particularly sitcoms, died Feb. 22, 2008 in Santa Monica, Calif. after suffering a heart attack in January. He was 79. He wrote for such long-running and formative cultural icons as "Leave It To Beaver," "Bewitched," "The Munsters," "Barney Miller" and "MASH."

Born in New York City Baer demonstrated an early talent for comedy. Describing his HM tenure *The Mannikin* wrote "Long-time '45 funster and wit, Dick culminated his career in this field by receiving the accolade of "Class Comedian" in the *Mannikin* opinion poll. He also wrote for most of HM's publications.

Baer graduated from Yale and then studied at the University of Southern California. He began his TV career working on "The Life of Riley." Hired as an assistant he then wrote several episodes. In 1958, he wrote the film "Life Begins at 17" for Columbia Pictures. In 1960, he started working on the "Hennessey" series starring Jackie Cooper, writing 38 episodes and earning an Emmy nomination. Over the next 25 years Baer wrote for more than 56 shows, including "F Troop," "Petticoat Junction" and "The Andy Griffith Show" and "That Girl" along with those mentioned previously. Baer also wrote the 1972 ABC TV movie "Playmates" starring Alan Alda, as well as "I Take These Men" for CBS in 1983. He was active in the Writers Guild of America, and served on its negotiating committee during the 1988 strike. In 1987, his romantic comedy play "Mixed Emotions" opened in Los Angeles and played on Broadway and in other cities around the world.

Baer is survived by his wife producer Diane Asselin Baer, sons Josh and Matthew, daughter Judy and three grandchildren.

## Lewis M. Kaplan '49, Art Expert and World-Class Bridge Player

Horace Mann expresses its condolences on the death of Lewis M. Kaplan in France on May 17, 2008. A graduate of Harvard Law School he headed Lewis M. Kaplan and Associates, a distinguished fine art dealership, built through his astute knowledge of 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative and fine arts. He was also known as a world-class duplicate bridge player.

## Barry Gottehrer '52, Journalist and Lindsay Aide

Barry H. Gottehrer '52, a journalist whose award-winning newspaper series "City in Crisis" helped elect John V. Lindsay mayor of New York in 1965 died on April 11, 2008 near his home in Wilmington, N.C. The cause was pancreatic cancer, according to his son, Kevin Gottehrer. The alumnus was 73.

Born Jan. 25, 1935 in the Bronx Barry Hugh Gottehrer went on to Brown University after HM and then to the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. An active sportswriter for *The Record* and other publications while at HM Gottehrer became a sportswriter and editor at *Newsweek* and other magazines. He was recruited by Dick Schaap to lead a team of reporters at *The New York Herald Tribune* in a far-reaching examination of an ailing

New York in the mid-1960s. The reporters documented a time of swelling budget deficits, rising crime, deepening racial turmoil and growing demands for decentralized government and greater community control.

The series, published in 1965, began, "New York is the greatest city in the world—and everything is wrong with it." It was later published as a book. Mr. Lindsay, then a liberal Republican congressman from Manhattan, appropriated the series as his urban manifesto and was elected mayor that year on a progressive platform. Gottehrer joined the Lindsay administration to help defuse the crises he had described in his reporting. Early in his position Gottehrer organized the Urban Action Task Forces, neighborhood-based groups created to anticipate local grievances and to quell unrest. Though his methods were sometimes called excessive, his balm-throwing is credited with keeping New York cool during the long, hot summers of the late 1960s, when other American cities burned. In a memoir, *The Mayor's Man* (Doubleday, 1975), Gottehrer described himself as "a white in a world of black and brown, a moderate in a world of revolutionaries, trying to bring change where change seemed needed most, trying to buy time until the change would come." His job from 1966 to 1971 was primarily to keep City Hall aware of potentially explosive situations and to insinuate himself into them before they could blow up. Along the way he gained some notoriety for enlisting the aid of mob members, Abbie Hoffman, and African American activists to help keep their constituencies calm. However, his tactics generally worked.

Under Mayor Lindsay, Gottehrer also created the forerunner of the office to promote television and film production in New York and instituted a summer jobs program for youngsters. He eventually left the administration believing that its priorities had changed and he had become expendable, concluding that "the best kind of power, your power for constructive change, is very limited."

Gottehrer next joined Madison Square Garden as a senior executive, then worked as a government affairs tactician for the insurance industry in Massachusetts, and later as a consultant in Washington and North Carolina. But it was his tumultuous tenure at City Hall that he saw as his defining period. "Remember those good old days in New York City," he wrote in 1987, with some irony, to others who had worked for Mr. Lindsay, "when we all were young, beautiful, invincible, and we all really cared."

Barry Gottehrer is survived by his second wife, Patricia Anne Gottehrer, their son Kevin, by two daughters from his first marriage, Andrea Kling and Gregg Salem, and two grandchildren.

## Lester E. Loveman '53

Lester E. Loveman '53 of Pound Ridge, New York, passed away on January 4, 2008. He is survived by his beloved wife Penny, his children Sara, John and Kate, and four grandchildren. The family asked that contributions be made to Horace Mann School.

## Robert Dunne '67, Fiction Writer and Noted Yale Computer Science Professor

Robert Dunne '67, who *The Yale Daily News* described as "the fiction writer who loved sailing, Christmas and E. B. White—and the Yale lecturer who successfully merged law and computer science in the classroom, enticing hundreds of students to study piracy and cyberspace"—passed away at age 59 in August 2008. He was found dead on Aug. 16 in a vacation cottage he was renting on Block Island, Rhode Island, and is believed to have died from head injuries sustained in an accidental fall down a flight of stairs.

Prof. Dunne, who taught Yale's popular "Computers and the Law" course was a senior lecturer in the university's Computer Science Department. Growing up in Bronx, N.Y., he was the son of the late Dorothy Dunne, longtime Director of Activities at Horace Mann. After graduating from Horace Mann School he matriculated at Columbia University and later transferred to Fordham University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in English, daughter Julia Dunne said. He worked a series of odd jobs throughout the 1970s and 1980s, including stints as a tour guide for NBC studios and as an assistant at New York University, where he met Julia Dunne's mother, former wife Marti Dunne.

Robert Dunne received his law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1996, and served as an attorney and consultant for various Internet software companies, and as a legal consultant for Revolution Computing, in New Haven, until his death. Prof. Dunne joined the Yale faculty in 1999, after 13 years as an administrator in its Computer Science Department. Prof. Dunne served as a fellow of Silliman College at Yale and as a co-director of the Center for Internet Studies. In 2003, he published a short story, "Paradise Night Shift," about his life at home and with his family.

The Internet studies center co-director and computer-science professor David Gelernter called Prof. Dunne "one of the best people I ever met at Yale and one of the best men I ever knew. He was self-effacing always, and ready to help anyone in just about any capacity... he was unique—in his knowledge, his abilities and his never-failing decency and kindness."

In 2006 the Yale chapter of Phi Beta Kappa awarded Prof. Dunne the William Clyde DeVane Medal, the highest honor conferred for undergraduate teaching at the University. One of the most heavily enrolled courses in recent history "Computers and the Law" drew all students, especially those with no experience in either field. The class centered on Dunne's academic passion: analyzing the legal and sociological problems that arise from Internet usage. The popular professor is survived by Marti Dunne, Julia Dunne, and brother Richard Dunne '72. The family asks that donations be made to the Cold Spring School in New Haven or the Block Island Nature Conservancy.

## Mary McCann, Longtime Horace Mann Student Accounts Coordinator

The Horace Mann School community was deeply saddened by the death of Mary McCann on April 20, 2008. Mrs. McCann worked in the Horace Mann business office for over 30 years. She was the daughter of James and Hannah O'Reilly, the beloved wife of the late George McCann, and the devoted mother of George, Maureen, and Daniel, and mother-in-law of Bridget, and the cherished grandmother of Kelly and Erin. She was also the beloved sister of James O'Reilly, the late John O'Reilly, and the late Brother Raymond O'Reilly. Mary is survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. ■

## In Memoriam

*Horace Mann records with sorrow the deaths of the following graduates and members of the Horace Mann community and extends its sympathies to all family and friends who have lost loved ones.*

Eugene Orsenigo, Jr. '30 .....	DECEMBER 25, 2007	Robert E. Johns '43 .....	AUGUST 19, 2007
Ruth Wyckoff Redmond '30 .....	JULY 20, 2008	William Kaufman '43 .....	NOVEMBER 27, 2007
Rhoda Crouse Kony '31 .....	AUGUST 3, 2008	James B. Parsons '43 .....	MARCH 13, 2007
Eleanor McGaughy Truxall '33 .....	JANUARY 30, 2008	Richard Baer '45 .....	FEBRUARY 22, 2008
Lydia Perera Marcus '34 .....	MARCH 18, 2008	Duncan Phillips '46 .....	FEBRUARY 8, 2008
Harold D. Mallett '35 .....	FEBRUARY 19, 2008	Howard Levey '47 .....	CIRCA 1986
Olive Holmes Blum '36 .....	OCTOBER 19, 2007	William F. Spengler, Jr. '47 .....	AUGUST 5, 2007
David J. Reisner '36 .....	CIRCA 2008	Saul H. Polayes '48 .....	SEPTEMBER 16, 2004
James Woolner '36 .....	JULY 15, 2008	Lewis M. Kaplan '49 .....	MAY 17, 2008
Arthur L. Cone '38 .....	MARCH 15, 2008	Barry Gottehrer '52 .....	APRIL 11, 2008
Anne Merritt Gwathmey '38 .....	NOVEMBER 19, 2005	Alan M. Gilbert '53 .....	AUGUST 2, 2008
J. David Haft '40 .....	FEBRUARY 8, 2008	Lester E. Loveman '53 .....	JANUARY 4, 2008
Philippe Grelsamer '40 .....	JUNE 10, 2008	Alfred Ruttenberg '53 .....	MAY 1, 2008
Francis Hewitt '41 .....	CIRCA 2003	Michael Asher '59 .....	JANUARY 29, 2008
Richard L. Hillman '42 .....	CIRCA 2008	Scott Sandford '63 .....	APRIL 17, 2008
James C. Mooney '42 .....	DECEMBER 29, 2007	Robert Dunne '67 .....	AUGUST 1, 2008
Jack Breuer '43 .....	MAY 23, 2008	John P. Toth '67 .....	FEBRUARY 8, 2008

## The Charles Carpenter Tillinghast Society Provides a Perpetual Connection to Horace Mann



The hallmark of a Horace Mann education has always been its symbiotic nature. From its early days as a prestigious lab school of Columbia University's Teachers College, through the decades when a coterie of creative and caring teachers connected academic instruction with personal guidance, to today, the relationship of members of the Horace Mann community to their school is one of exchange. Teachers and students stimulate one another in turn; parents, grandparents and friends find inspiration in the spirit of academic excellence, intellectual pursuit, and consideration for community they have long experienced here.

The Charles Carpenter Tillinghast Society is another expression of that symbiosis. Founded in 1990 to honor the memory of Horace Mann's second Head of School, Charles Tillinghast, the Society recognizes the generosity of those individuals who have made provisions for their school in their estate plans or have made a planned gift to the School. This support ensures the continued excellence of Horace Mann School in the future. In turn, donors who elect to give to their School through such planned-giving possibilities as

designating Horace Mann as a beneficiary in a will or trust, transferring retirement assets to the School, or making meaningful gifts of personal property, benefit by receiving immediate tax deductions, reducing potential estate taxes, and being able to determine in advance the amount of desired support.

Most important for some is experiencing the joy of giving today—giving that helps Horace Mann fulfill its mission now and in the future. In the words of trust and estates attorney Herb Nass, Esq. '77, who wrote the book *Wills of the Rich and Famous*, "Being part of The Tillinghast Society is a way to honor our Alma Mater, and is a testament to our lifelong connection to Horace Mann."

"Horace Mann is fortunate to be part of a community committed to the mission of the School and its ongoing development and continued strength. This relationship is no more apparent than with the members of The Charles Carpenter Tillinghast Society," said Dr. Tom Kelly, Head of School. "Each and every gift made to Horace Mann is truly appreciated and helps the School continue its tradition of providing an outstanding education to its students."

A booklet describing The Tillinghast Society and guiding donors through the many creative avenues of planned giving that benefit both recipient and donor is available from The Alumni and Development Office. ■

### MEMBERS OF THE CHARLES CARPENTER TILLINGHAST SOCIETY

Matthew Abramson '91\*  
Howard Appell '28\*  
David Arnold '65  
Jacqueline Aronson  
Anthony Bentley '63  
Liza Chianelli Bové '82  
Michael Brinitzer '50\*  
Jack Brown '31\*  
Helen Lehman Buttenwieser '23\*  
Arnold Cohen '56  
William Cooper '62  
Edward Costikyan '41  
James Couzens '34  
Alfred Davidson '29\*  
Helen Ederheimer Dawes '36\*  
John Dirks '35  
Alfred Eisenstaedt '27\*  
Richard Eisner '52  
Robert Eisner '47  
Mark Ellman '63  
John Erdman '42  
Joel Fairman '46  
Richard Fisher '59\*  
Frederick Flatto '42\*  
James Fogelson '60\*  
John Freund '50  
Eugenia Gale '27\*  
Margaret Gale '24\*

Henry Geldzahler '53\*  
Alan Gilbert '53\*  
Walter Goetz '32\*  
Ruth Smith Goodstein '78  
John Green '24\*  
Margaret Armstrong Green '26\*  
Philippe Greslamer '40\*  
Peter Gross '55  
Norman Grutman '48\*  
Philip Harris '36\*  
Everett Hayes '38\*  
Horace Henry '33\*  
Melvin Hershkowitz '38  
Michael Hess '58  
Milton Heyman '10\*  
William Hyde '30\*  
Frederick Jacobson '56  
Robert Judell '41  
Donald Kallman '47  
Michael Katz '56  
Robert Kohler '44\*  
Paul Kohnstamm '40\*  
Stanley Kops '63\*  
Burton Kramer '33\*  
Philip Krapp '36\*  
Robert Kuhn '47\*  
George Lambrose '28\*  
Helen Kaufmann Lippmann '23\*

Mark Litt '47  
John Loeb '36\*  
Eileen Ludwig\*  
James Ludwig '42  
Donald Maggin '44  
Arthur Master, Jr. '49\*  
J. Winston Mayo '30\*  
John McCormack '35  
Adele Bazinet McCormick '20\*  
Douglas '33 and Leone McGowan\*  
Irving Mendelson '27\*  
Evelyn Borchard Metzger '28\*  
Harold Meyers\*  
Robert Miller '38\*  
Mildred and Alex Minkowsky\*  
Donald Morgan '24\*  
J. Robert Moskin '40  
Leo Narodny '27\*  
Herbert Nass '77  
Jodi Grossmann Nass '78  
H. Robert Nissley '38  
Trevor O'Neill\*  
Edward Peckerman '21\*  
Charles Perera '22\*  
Saul Polayes '48\*  
Douglas Powell '42\*  
Bill Racoosin '50  
Daniel Rose '47

Louis Rosenblatt\*  
Renee Rosenblatt\*  
Robert Schnitzer '23\*  
Rose Schwiers '21\*  
Barry Siebelt\*  
Paul Silverstone '49  
Suzanne Sloan '77  
John Smallwood '39  
Sanford Solomon '46\*  
Malcolm Spence '18\*  
Henry Sperry, Jr. '24\*  
Franklin Speyer '65  
Joseph Stetz, Jr. '60\*  
Alan Stroock '25\*  
Elouise Conte Sutter '42  
Arthur Sweeney '24\*  
David Tillinghast '47  
Robert Tishman '33  
Melville Tucker '34\*  
John Turner '28\*  
Frederick Veit '31\*  
George Wallerstein '47  
William Wallstein '32\*  
Efram Weiss '38\*  
Donald Wolf '41

\* deceased



## A Grandfather Expresses Devotion by Giving, and Asking Others to Give

### A Tribute to Wallace Chavkin

For Wallace Chavkin philanthropy began at the table, and it was at the table that he passed along the message of giving.

Chavkin (Wally to all who know him) is the devoted grandfather of Horace Mann School alumni Dr. Jessica Chavkin '95 and Peter Chavkin '00, and of Arielle Chavkin. A former member of the Horace Mann Board of Trustees Chavkin also served as longtime Grandparent Chair on behalf of the Horace Mann School Annual Fund until June 2008, when, at age 86, he turned this effort over to HM parents of alumni and current grandparents Jane and Paul Rittmaster.

Deeply involved in giving and encouraging others to give at Horace Mann (and other causes he and his wife Esta support) Wally Chavkin recalled the Friday night dinners of his childhood, when his own father taught his children the responsibility of contributing to the community. Chavkin passed along his father's lesson to his grandchildren, showing by example what it means to give. But, the table that became *his* platform wasn't always as formal as that of a Friday night family dinner. Grandson Peter Chavkin noted that a table at a Florida restaurant where his grandfather would invite the entire HM Varsity Swim Team for dinner could do just as well.

"I was on the swim team at Horace Mann," said Peter Chavkin, a swim and water polo captain in his HM days. "The team would go to Florida for competitions. If my grandfather happened to be in Florida at the time he would meet up with us, and take the whole team out to dinner. You can imagine how much we enjoyed that."

A University of Pennsylvania graduate who works today in private equity real estate, the younger Chavkin recalled that his grandfather "was always involved with HM when I was there. He would come to the swim meets and encourage me in anything I was doing."

Dr. Jessica Chavkin shared similar memories of her grandfather from her days at HM, when she captained the Swim Team just a few years before her cousin. "We knew our grandfather supported the School by giving and encouraging others to give. But he also had a genuine interest in talking to us about our classes and what we were learning," said the veterinarian, an internist at Fifth Avenue Veterinary Specialists who is also a University of Pennsylvania graduate. Arielle Chavkin, who transferred from Horace Mann to Birch Wathen Lenox, also benefitted from her grandparents' attentiveness to her student life, particularly as a featured performer in the school's theatrical productions. Decorated with academic and community service honors, Arielle went on to Tufts and is now pursuing a masters degree at NYU.

Wally Chavkin, founder and former CEO of Biddle Sawyer Corp., and founder and CEO of Enzyme Development Corporation said his involvement with Horace Mann School began through his children,

Jeffrey (father of Jessica) and Carol (mother of Peter) who became involved with Horace Mann as parents. Deeply devoted to his family it was a natural step for Wally Chavkin to follow the interests of his children and grandchildren, and show his support through philanthropy. But, as he learned more about Horace Mann School through his grandchildren he came to greatly value their educational experience. "I went to public school in New York, and I had three years of college before I went to the military. When I saw what my grandchildren were learning at Horace Mann, and all the activities they were doing, I was so proud and happy for them. I know it made it easier for them to get started at the University of Pennsylvania, too," he added, boasting further about Jessica "highest level" of achievement and Peter's accomplishments in his nascent career—compliments both grandchildren said they are used to.

When former HM Board of Trustees Chair Michael Hess '58 took note of Chavkin's involvement with HM, the grandfather's relationship deepened into a seat on the Board. "It was an exciting time," said Chavkin. "The Board was planning for the first stage of renovation at Horace Mann. Achieving the financial part was a challenge. I wanted to help make the construction possible, because it would make Horace Mann even greater."

The years since his Board tenure have been rewarding for Chavkin as well, as he contacted fellow grandparents to "help them recognize their responsibility to give. It's been very rewarding to be doing something not just for my grandchildren, but for the School," he said.

Despite the fact that earlier this year the energetic granddad said his doctor told him "not to give up his day job" Chavkin decided it was time to hand the "grandparent" position for HM's Annual Fund-raising over to another active grandparent—Jane Rittmaster. "I received a very nice note from Mrs. Rittmaster saying she would like to help out. It made a lot of sense. She has young grandchildren at Horace Mann now, so she and her husband can be involved for a long time. It's time to give someone else this chance.

"I know it will be as rewarding as it was for me. It's always rewarding when you are helping people," Chavkin said.

For HM grandparent Jane Rittmaster her new role as AF representative to the School's grandparent community is a natural one as well. "We are steeped in Horace Mann," said Jane. "My father Herbert A. Goldstone graduated from Horace Mann in 1927. My uncle Henry A. Krakeur '34 went here as did my brother Arthur H. Goldstone '56. Both our sons were enrolled at Horace Mann from the very beginning. I did volunteer work behind the scenes when

my boys were here, she said of Peter '83, and Steven '85 Rittmaster. Now their children—Peter's son, Davis '15, and Steven's son, Michael '16, and daughter, Lucy '19—represent a fourth-generation at Horace Mann. "We have been giving to Annual Fund for a long time. We know well the value of a Horace Mann education and the importance of supporting it. This year, I told Mr. Chavkin we'd be happy to help out with Annual Fund. He's set a fabulous example as a volunteer. We hope we can do as well." ■



*Peter Chavkin '00, Dr. Jessica Chavkin '95 and Arielle Chavkin with their grandfather Wallace Chavkin*

## Please Support Annual Fund 2009

The Annual Fund is Horace Mann School's yearly campaign to raise unrestricted funds in support of the School's daily operations and is the cornerstone of our Development program. Strong support of the Annual Fund means that our School is able to continue its proud tradition and fulfill its mission of giving each student the finest academic experience possible. Please call Kristen Pietraszek, Director of Annual Giving, or Amy Reinharz, Associate Director of Development for Alumni Giving, at (718) 432-3450 with any questions or to make your gift over the phone.

**The Fund closes June 30, 2009.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Support Our Success

### HORACE MANN SCHOOL

ALUMNI HOUSE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

231 WEST 246TH STREET, BRONX, NY 10471

718-432-3450 FAX 718-432-3010 [WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.HORACEMANNALUMNI.ORG)



# HORACEMANN

calendar

November

**26**

Reunion,  
Class of 2008

December



January

**10**

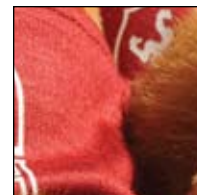
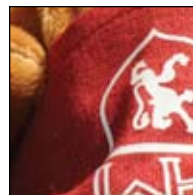
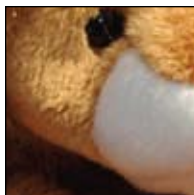
Robert Buzzell  
Memorial Games

February

**13**

Urban Aid

March



Horace Mann School  
231 West 246<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bronx, New York 10471  
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 206  
Manchester, NH

**To the parents of recent graduates:**  
Please help us update our records, with  
current address for our young alumni.