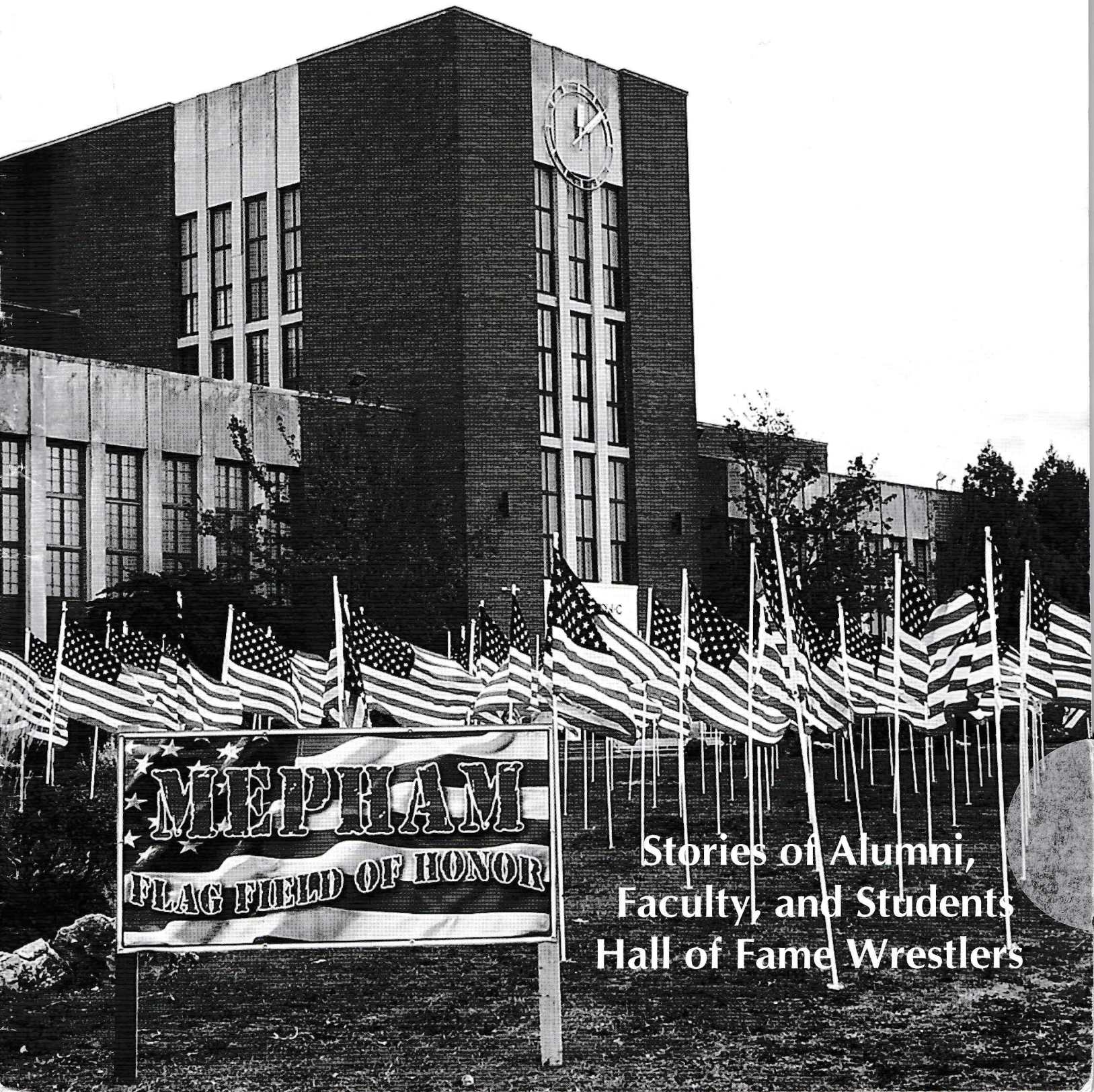


Scattered Bull

W. C. Mepham High School Alumni Association • Summer 2016





Scuttlebutt

Volume 37 — Summer 2016

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North Bellmore, New York 11710

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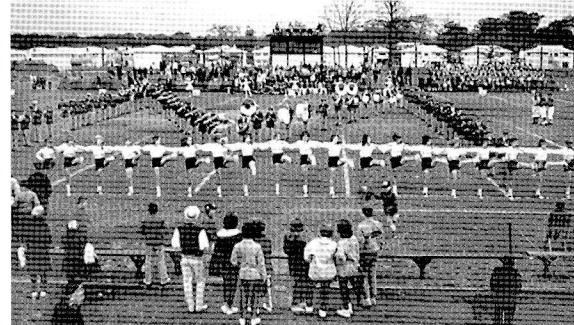
Elaine McLachlan Sanders '41



In 1947 when the LIRR had double decker cars: seated Jean Steinruck Clerkin '46, Louise Tepe '46, and Ellie Shapiro Miller-Bowers '46; on far right James Biggs '42 and Clare Eastwood Worthing '46



Dorothy Vouaux Heuslein and Elvira Dugan, graduating in 1940



Band and Kickline on the field 1964
Picture by Jay Chapman '64 [deceased]



Mepham Class of 1957 — Joyce Marino (Corso), Barbara Potter Sperry, Margaret Hopkins Wilgenkamp, Patricia Perrine Fisher, Margaret Ritterbusch (Oliva), Carol Ann Buquet George

Arnold Constable was a department store in Hempstead which used to have a "Miss Arnold Constable" contest every year where high school girls would participate. This was the spring of 1957. (Margaret Ritterbusch won.)



"Male Quartet"—Skip Jaehne '54, John Pollack '54, Robert Brust '55, and George Laeske '54
Have we gotten Pollack and Brust right?
[photo taken by George Pritchard, from Mrs. Pritchard's collection]



A rumble seat was fun—on a sunny day.
Doris Flessa '46, Shannon Roche '46,
Lorraine McKevitt '46, Jerry Kahn



See Late Breaking Jones Beach News on page 27

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*It’s incredibly important that
we all work together to make
what is seemingly impossible, possible.*

Scott Kelly, astronaut

Alumni Association Contacts

Mephams Alumni President	Pres@Mephams.Org
General Queries	info@Mephams.Org
Address changes (web)	Mephams.Org/register.html
Address changes (e-mail)	Registrar@Mephams.Org
Articles/Editorial comments	Editor@Mephams.Org
Yearbooks	Yearbooks@Mephams.Org
Reunions	Reunions@Mephams.Org
Who’s Who Applications	Whoswho@Mephams.Org
Web Site	www.Mephams.Org
Webmaster	Webmaster@Mephams.Org

President’s Message

Although I don’t consider myself to be a soothsayer, I did write in my most recent President’s Message in last winter’s Quarterdeck that “... my prediction is that it (meaning the year 2016) will be abounding with changes.” And so it has become a reality. Things are really happening in the Mephams Alumni Association. Progress is unfolding in a variety of forms such as:



- Roy Probeyahn ‘56 has joined the ranks of alumni board of directors. Thank you, Roy, for making a commitment;

- After many years of hard work, our webmaster, Jerry Worthing, has retired from the board of directors but still volunteers valuable technical information when we need it;

- Rich Friedman ‘67 has been attending our board meetings on a regular basis and hopefully will soon be writing for our future online publications;

- Roberta Lohman Cabot ‘64 is another new face at our board meetings as she is interning with Clare Worthing, the editor of our publications;

- A graduate of the class of 2014 sent an e-mail stating that she is willing to volunteer her technology skills to help the Alumni Association during breaks from her busy college life;

- Ed Gould ‘67 has joined Joanne Herlihy ‘72 and Carol Kilgallin ‘72 (that would be me), as a member of our new website committee. We are working with a professional designer and hope to have our new website (with a lot of new features and links that you can investigate) up and running sometime in the fall;

- Mephams students, who are enrolled in the district’s newly instituted media/broadcast program, might possibly interface with the Alumni Association as we navigate our website initiative. “Younger” and “older” people coming together to collaborate. How exciting is that!

I am very happy to share our progress with the alumni who so faithfully fund our work. Your generous donations are very much appreciated. So, don’t forget to visit www.mephams.org in late fall. Hopefully, you will be able to make this year’s donation with the click of a computer key.

Regards,

Carol Kilgallin, Class of ‘72

Editor’s Note

After 15 years as editor, I am passing on the torch, and am resigning from the board. Jerry has already resigned, although he is seeing me through this, my final issue. Thanks to the many hands who have helped me. Being editor has given me much pleasure, but it’s time to go.

This issue has a lot about and from our alumni, past and present, and a lot about Mephams, which continues to be an active force, with many wonderful things our students and faculty do. I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as I have enjoyed piecing it together.

Introduction

I have found a successor as editor. I hope you will continue sending in all the wonderful things you have sent me over the years to her. Her name is **Roberta Lohman Cabot ‘64**. I have been working with her to insure a smooth transition. I am confident that I have found someone up-to-the-task. But it takes time to really get “in the groove.” Please continue to send information and pictures to her so that she will be able to fill the pages with interesting news.



Roberta and Clare

Clare Eastwood Worthing ‘46

Loss of a Foster Brother



Paul R. Begansky '53 died on February 16, 2015 at Warwick Forest VA of Alzheimer's Disease, survived by wife. They had four children (one deceased). Paul was one of four foster children to the late Theresa and Peter Descov. He graduated from Mephram Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 average, attended University of Maryland under an Ice Hockey and academic Scholarship. He joined the US Air force, serving 26 years with distinction, retiring as a Lieutenant colonel. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War, earning several medals, including the Purple Heart, Silver Star, and a Civil Action Unit Citation. He continued to support the Air Force for another 20 years in Civil Service. That discipline and patriotism never left him. After retirement he continued to help his community.



Paul was a foundling of Cardinal Spellman's Orphanage in NYC. He grew up on Waltoffer Ave, North Bellmore. The foster brothers were: **Lucian Page '47**, **Albert Anderson '50**, **John Skehan '50** (did not graduate), **Paul Begansky '53**, and **Patrick Burke '57**.
Al Anderson '50

Loss of a Grandson

Jack Solomons '47 is grieving the death of his 22 year-old grandson, Zachary A. Solomons, who lost his struggle with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder on April 3rd, after returning stateside.

Zachary joined the Marines at 17 and worked out with them for a year before graduating. He was sent to Parris Island for training, then on to Infantry School at Camp LeJeune.



Two years ago his platoon was sent to Afghanistan. "Zachary was a fun guy. He gave a speech that was recorded to 200 Marines in an open air mess hall and had them laughing."

He had just signed up for another 4 years. He made Meritorious Corporal and was to go to Sergeant's School for a 6-week training course to become a Sergeant so he could head his platoon, but he had apparently suffered from PTSD.

He went to San Diego on April 3rd and was drinking with the boys. When his room partner called him and received no answer, he went back to the room they shared where Zach was found dead. The last time Jack saw him was at Christmas when he was home on furlough. "He filled out and looked so great in his blue Marine uniform."

Jack is asking for contributions for "22 Until None," an organization that raises funds to keep programs that are beneficial to Marines, both active and retired, who are suffering from PTSD. The title refers to the fact that 22 soldiers each day commit suicide. You can find it online, or send POB 680186, Houston TX 77268. Jack requests you put in the memo area, "In memory of Zach Solomons."

Jack Solomons '47

A Friendship Made to Last

I was in first grade together with **Frank Cornell** in North Bellmore. After third grade I transferred to St. Barnabus Parochial school in Bellmore and Frank stayed in No. Bellmore, then both attended Mephram. After graduating in 1941 both went to work for Western Electric in NYC. Eleven months later Frank asked if I wanted to join the service, "I don't like the Navy uniform, do you?" I said no, so we both signed up in the Army. I went to Camp Upton on LI; Frank went to Fort Dix in NJ. Later I was sent to MacDill Field in FL; Frank to CO, then transferred to FL, where we met again after being assigned to the 1st Pathfinder group medium 26 Bombers, 323rd Bomb Group.



Cornell



Piller

We went overseas on the Queen Elizabeth in 5 days and arrived in England. We were on the coast until DDay, when we arrived in France. We were in England, France, Germany, Belgium, and Holland during the war. Frank was a Tech. Sgt.; I was a Staff Sgt. We made it back to the States on a Liberty Ship, taking 17 days. We were discharged in 1945 at Ft. Dix, NJ.

We purchased homes in Massapequa Park. Frank got married and I was best man. Later Frank went to work for ATT Telephone Co. and I went to work for LILCO. We both signed up for the VFW Post 7763 in Massapequa Park, I a Past Post Commander and Frank a Sr. Vice Commander. Frank moved to Amityville.

We see each other approximately every two months and call each other every week. We are both 92 and not in the best of health, although he is two weeks older than I. We live a quiet life now and enjoy our children and grandchildren. I have 7 great grandsons.



Stephen Allan Piller '41

A class of 1941 mini-reunion at the 2014 Alumni picnic: Jerry Worthing, Frank Cornell and wife, Allan Piller, Irene Weigand Muscara, Alice BaldruffEtringer '42, and her friend George



Congratulations to **Amos Zereoue '95**, inducted into the 2016 Nassau County H.S. Athletics Hall of Fame.

Amos is arguably the most accomplished high school running back in the storied history of Nassau County football. His running exploits were remarkable, running 2,100 yards and 29 touchdowns as a junior. Still to this day, Amos Zereoue is the only player to win the prestigious Thorp trophy twice! He had a very successful professional career with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Sports Journalist



Adam Rubin '91 covers the Mets for a living, and has been doing so for 10 consecutive years. Since 2010 he has been the lead Mets beat writer for ESPNNewYork.com. Before that he covered them for the Daily News. He is well known in the world of sports journalism, boasting more than 23,000 followers on his Twitter site.

While at Mepham, Adam was the yearbook editor, but didn't write for the school newspaper. He went to college to study business, attending the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and majored in economics. He first got involved in journalism, interning in the summers for a now defunct South Shore weekly newspaper group. In 1996, while on an internship at an Alabama newspaper, the Summer Olympics in Atlanta took place, and Adam covered the soccer competition.

Next he was hired by the Daily News, covering government and police news, but he wanted to write about sports. Since there was no opening for that, he moved to Louisiana to cover sports for the Shreveport Times. A year later he returned to the News when a slot opened up in sports. He was first assigned to cover the Mets in 2003, his first feature on future superstar David Wright, when he was still playing in the minor league. He wrote a book, published in 2005, about the Mets — *Pedro, Carlos and Omar: The Story of a Season in the Big Apple and the Pursuit of Baseball's Top Latino Stars.*

Rubin's advice to young writers is to write constantly and get your name out there. He notes that, in this age of immediacy, journalists have to strike a balance between timeliness and journalistic integrity, but also there are positive effects of social networking. He put his talent in that area to work on his class' 25th reunion. [see page 29]

Adam's mother and father still live in Bellmore. His brother **Eric '96** is a teacher and basketball coach in Levittown.

Mepham's WW II Honor Roll

Since I am Class of '52, I was surprised I knew, or knew of, several of the members of Mepham's WW II Honor Roll.

Harry Chernucha '40, member of the Navy band and went down with the Arizona in Pearl Harbor, lived on West Bayview; I lived on East Bayview. After the war West Bayview was renamed after him, and we dropped the East designation.

Billy Wirges' 42 lived around the corner on Elm Place. He was draft-deferred in medical school, but volunteered to be a medical corpsman. He was killed in the Battle of the Bulge. Elm Place was renamed for him.

Walter Burke '41 was killed in an Airforce pilot training accident. His brother, **Jerry Burke '53**, was a classmate of mine. Jerry brought his brother's Purple Heart to school one day. The teacher explained so well what it meant that I can remember it yet today.

Robert Kelly '52

Community Activist



John Scalesi '75 has been elected the Bellmore Kiwanis Club's new president. John has been an active fire volunteer in Bellmore for three decades, and a community resident for 50 years. He is a past president of the Lions Club, also Mepham High School's Key Club Advisor.

John received the Mepham Alumni Association's *Who's Who* Award in 2007 for EMT, Fire Rescue Instructor.



Authors

Sandy Weinberger Sloane '77 should have graduated in



O'Grady

1978, but graduated a year early and went on to Tufts University. Earlene O'Grady and George Nider [see article on page 22] were particularly influential in her life as a writer.



Now the Lead Consultant and President of *Solutions by Sloane*, (a public relations/special events/marketing company), her parenting articles have covered issues, such as raising self-assured children and teaching them how to handle peer pressure and bullying.

After her own children and neighborhood children begged her to write down her stories, she finally complied.

Four stories, published by Createspace, are now in print: *Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. Which Do You Like Best of All?; Mischa, My Sweet Little Puppy; The Magical Paintbrush; Tickle Me! The Bumble Bee.*



She observed: "By putting life lessons into easy to understand, fun to read, relatable stories, my books can help children learn how to be authentic and kind, and develop a strong sense of self. Additionally, giving storybooks to children at an early age has been proven to promote a lifelong love of reading. I attribute my lifetime love affair with reading to being surrounded by books from as early as I can remember." Her books can be purchased through Amazon.com and on SolutionsbySloan.com. A portion of the proceeds from the sales is donated to anti-bullying and pet protection organizations.



Carol Lynn Lustgarten '74 is a poet, writer, artist who has published her 12th book, *I Don't Like Getting Old*, which is dedicated to her best friend who lived across the street from her, **Beth Fine Kaplan '74**, who died in 1998 of breast cancer.



Daniel Cennamo '74, along with his wife Adrian, has written a children's book: *Big Red, The Father of Santa's Reindeer*. Available on Amazon.com



Mephams' Legacy — Sprig Gardner's Guys

Two inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame on April 29, 2016



Jerry Harrell '53 started his wrestling career at Mephams under the legendary Sprig Gardner, a mainstay for 3 years on one of Mephams' great teams.

He played football and wrestled at Gettysburg College, winning the 167 weight class in the Middle Atlantic Wrestling Championships. Then he served 3 years in France in the Army Transportation Corps.

In 1960 he was hired to teach and start a wrestling program at the new Udall Jr. H.S. in West Islip and became an active mat official, working meets and tournaments in both Nassau and Suffolk. In 1962 he began to coach the newly formed Hofstra College Freshman Wrestling team.

In 1964 he started a teaching/coaching position in the Port Jefferson School District, where he developed a wrestling program. Two years later he was called from St. Anthony's in Smithtown to start another new program, and here he stayed, where his patience and hard work were well worth the effort. Starting from "scratch" he built a program that produced 25 Catholic School State Champions, 54 CHSAA State Place winners, 41 Catholic League Champions, 74 league place winners, plus 2 Catholic School League State Championship teams. As the result of Jerry's determination and skill, St. Anthony's wrestling team continues to enjoy great success.

A note from Frank Iocco indicated he was very proud of Jerry, his lifetime friend, with a lot of history together from 5th grade on. Frank sent the picture shown below.



William Zagarino '50 started his wrestling life in 1946 when he met Coach Frank "Sprig" Gardner as his freshman football coach. "Gardner started recruiting for wrestling at that point and I was hooked." Gardner took some of the freshman football players into his office and wrestling room to view "The Wall of Champions." Everyone wanted to get his picture on that wall. In four years of wrestling, varsity in his junior and senior years, he lost only two matches.

After graduating, Bill attended Hofstra one year and wrestled on their team in the 145 class. He won first place in the NY Metropolitan AAU's at 145. Then he transferred to Millersville, PA, wrestling varsity his second and third year there with only two losses. Later, he lost to brother **Pat Zagarino '53** in the Pennsylvania State Teacher College Tournament; Pat won Gold and Bill won Silver.

After graduating his first step was Coach Gardner's office in search of a teaching position. Gardner called Lonnie Kittle at Amityville H.S. and Bill went right to work there, teaching and coaching.

In 1956 Bill started officiating wrestling and from 1957-1980 he officiated the high school leagues and Suffolk County Championships. During this time he represented Suffolk County twice in the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Championships.

He also acted as a rules interpreter, and later served as President of the Long Island Wrestling Officials Association.

Bill joined the Friends of Long Island Wrestling and became a Board Member. He was appointed Chairman of the Hall of Fame Nominating Committee and has been an active supporter of that organization.

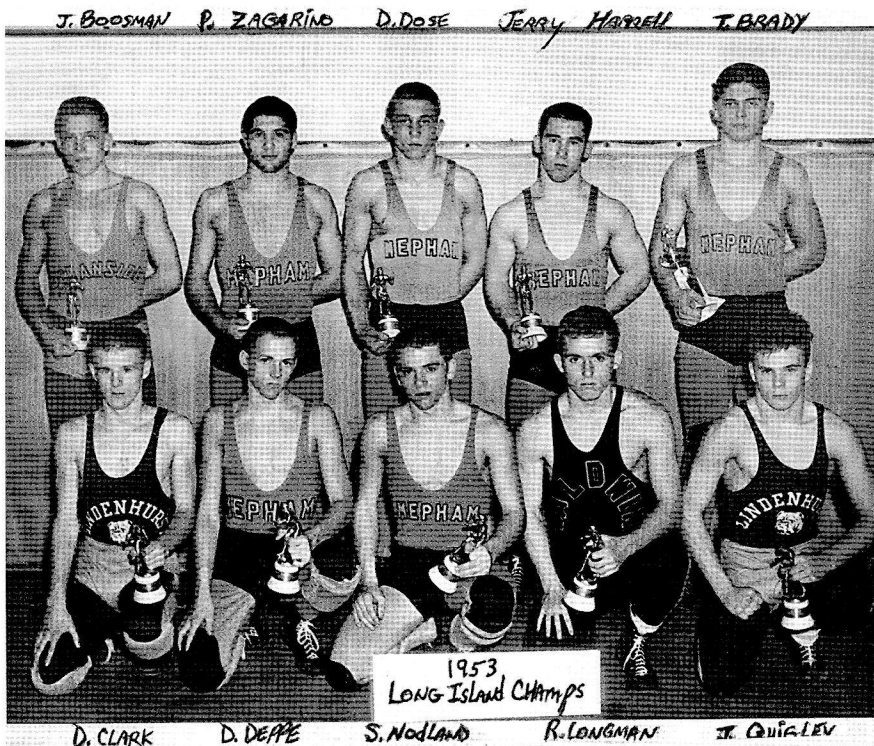
Within the business community of Bellmore NY, Bill has been the President of the Chamber of Commerce, and President of the Bellmore Lions Club; Zone Chairman for the Lions, and a Melvin Jones Fellow for Lions International. He and his brother Pat operate the family-owned Zagarino Realty in Bellmore.

Note of Recognition

Over the years there have been many indications of (and thanks given to) **Sprig Gardner** about how he went out of his way to find scholarships and jobs for the students he worked with. He even held training sessions for students who didn't actually go to Mephams.

He was the reason Wrestling took hold and flourished on Long Island

Thanks to The Friends of Long Island Wrestling for their help and for the support they give to advance the sport of wrestling.



Booker Gibson '48 passed away of natural causes in his North Merrick home on March 10, 2016 at age of 85. In his lifetime he influenced many, and broke ground along the way.



At Mephram he was the one with the big electric smile and talent, who entranced everyone when he sat down at the piano. He was in the Senior Band, Jolly Rogers, and Orchestra. He made the Honor Society and served four years in the House of Representatives, at one point as Speaker. At that time the only black students in Mephram were from two families, the Gibsons and the Pattersons.

After graduating he went to Potsdam University. He completed his student teaching in a small school in Madrid NY, the only black man that many faculty members and students had met. He served four years in the Air Force in the US and Japan, writing music for Air Force public-relations campaigns. He chose the Air Force because they were reputed to be more tolerant of blacks.

Returning to Merrick, Booker hoped to land a teaching job. On Oct. 10, 1956 he was hired to teach music at South Junior-Senior High School in Valley Stream, their first African-American teacher. The Class of 1965 honored him with a scholarship in his name, the Booker T. Gibson Music Award. A former student, now a Hofstra University dean, Lawrence Levy, said Gibson was "a living multicultural education...a great music teacher, who exposed most of us for the first and perhaps only time in our lives to the classics and jazz."

In 1963 he went to the National Mall in Washington D.C. to hear Martin Luther King deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech, an event he never forgot.

After retiring from teaching in 1986, he continued working, playing piano at the Irish Coffee Pub in East Islip. In 2011 he was honored by the Merrick American Legion Post #1282 as the Post's Legionnaire of the Year.



He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Frances, and three sons, Joshua, Paul, and Brock. I interviewed him in their home for an article that was printed in the 2011 issue of *Scuttlebutt*.

Clare Eastwood Worthing '46

Ed Dobson '61 lives in Bluff UT and currently serves as a director and lead Tax Court Litigator at the Low Income Taxpayers Clinic for the Navajo legal services provider, DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc. DNA is an abbreviation of Navajo words about lawyers, nothing to do with a blood test. From 2000 through 2014 he was managing attorney in DNA's Mexican Hat, Utah office, now closed and reopened in Monument Valley UT. From 1989 to 1998 he heard disputes in Montana's state-wide re-adjudication of appropriation doctrine water rights as water master in the Bitterroot and Musselshell Basins. His favorite joke: the winning side is always the side which brings the oldest liar.



When Ed was in private practice, right out of law school, he specialized in civil tax defense, and argued cases in the federal districts for Montana, Northern Indiana, and western PA. He helped develop the theory of the innocent spouse in the late 1980's in *U.S. v. Sellner* (Montana). After serving 15 years as a field representative for the international environmental organization, Friends of Earth, (specializing in coal strip mine reclamations, regulation of large-quantity radioactive waste, and conservation ballot initiatives), Ed received his J.D. at the Univ. of Montana School of Law '87 at age 43. He was a successful plaintiff in a case establishing that the Bureau of Indian Affairs must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. Ed loves the outdoors, and became a certified instructor, leading courses for the National Outdoor Leadership School in Wyoming.

He has served in the Peace Corps in India; Head Start teacher on the Big Cypress Reservation for the Seminole Tribe of FL; earned a BS from Oklahoma State U. '65; served as Pistol Pete, worked on campus radio stations, and as DJ and news/sportscaster. Always proud to see Sprig Gardner's site at OSU and the Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Ed says he's so old that one of his high school jobs no longer exists. Who else reading this set pins at Messina's?

Ed's father, **Edward M '39** and mother **Margaret (Frank) '39**, and five half-sisters and brothers (last name Stavish) graduated from Mephram.

Ed Dobson '61

Catching Up — A Decade Later

Christine Schwall '05 was valedictorian in her class at Mephram. We went looking for what happened after she graduated.

She went to Fordham University with biology and minors in chemistry and sociology; and received a PhD from University of Connecticut in 2014. She became active in the cancer fields after her father died of acute myelogenous leukemia and is now working as a medical writer at BONYC where she can apply her technical knowledge and training to drug development strategy and the translation of experimental results into accessible information. She is also the Volunteer Chair for the young professionals group in the



NYC branch of Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Society Ties, and a member of the Fordham University Young Alumni Committee.

She married Rob Pecci last year at the Fordham University church in the Bronx.

Christine returned to Mephram on May 18, 2016 as the keynote speaker for Mephram's Science Symposium, which is an annual celebration of the Advanced Science Research Program. Ms. Schwall-Pecci discussed the influence of her teachers, Dr. Kommor and Ms. Geraci and the impact that her experience in Mephram's Science Research Program had on her opportunities through college and in her present career.



Developing the potential and personalities of each and every student continued to be a top priority at Mepham during the 2015-16 school year, as was nurturing in our students the characteristics and abilities that will allow them to become capable of meeting the challenges of life after Mepham. Our promotion of global consciousness and cultural awareness, the ways in which we model equity and respect, and the emphasis we place on active citizenship, all while encouraging students to be curious, inquisitive, creative and innovative make Mepham unlike other schools. The faculty and staff at Mepham High School remained committed this year to preparing students for life after high school with a continued emphasis on the importance of helping others. The Class of 2016 graduated able to show compassion and gratitude and with the confidence that they are prepared for life after Mepham.

Academically, Mepham High School remains ranked among the best schools in Nassau County with more than one out of three students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses. Students were proficient on state assessments and worked diligently with their teachers to develop the necessary skills to be successful in college and/or careers. Students, staff, and parents were involved in a number of community-minded activities, such as our holiday toy and food drives and our building wide efforts in support of Tuesday's Children and St. Baldrick's. In the fall, faculty and students worked collaboratively to raise money for families affected by the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001 by covering the front lawn of our school in American flags to create Mepham's 1st annual Field of Honor. This spring, the Mepham community raised over \$46,000 for childhood cancer research and treatment.

Our department chair people and academic supervisors continue to work with teachers to provide Mepham students with unique educational opportunities and to best prepare them to be successful and active 21st century citizens. Teachers build upon each child's unique strengths and talents and then develop stimulating learning experiences to ensure

Betsy Siegelau is retiring after 36 years in the Bellmore-Merrick teaching community (since 1979). She has taught Italian and French in all three high schools and both middle schools in the district, ranging from level 1 through AP, helping thousands of students learn to communicate in a second language and develop their appreciation for other cultures.

Between 1988 and 1993, she advised the *Language Express* (Mepham's foreign language magazine) which won several Columbia Press awards. She has also served as advisor to the French Honor Society and Italian Honor Society, hosted many fundraising and school events, including the Chantaleur ELITE event. Betsy has infused a tradition of community service, with students giving back through multiple initiatives.

Betsy has been a source of positivity, guidance, and support, as well as a source of pedagogical and content knowl-

success. Once again, in partnership with the Alumni Association, Mepham's after school ELITE (Enriching Learners in Tomorrows Education) program reflected the genuine commitment of the Mepham faculty. Over fifty different after school learning activities were offered to students this year, allowing and encouraging students to follow their passions and explore topics of genuine interest while developing the skills necessary to be well-rounded citizens and deep thinkers for life after Mepham. Overall, the culture of Mepham continues to foster a love for learning and a love of school. Battle of the Classes, So They Think They Can Dance, Open Mic Night and Mr. Mepham were all activities that resulted in a greater sense of pride for our school community and contributed to a true sense of school belonging.

Our athletic program continues to offer student-athletes a wide variety of competitive, supportive, and healthy after-school options. More than half of our students participated in interscholastic sports during the course of the year and impressively, all of our athletic teams achieved the honor of being designated "scholar-athlete teams" by New York State. Similarly, the arts program at Mepham continues to grow and provides the school with a personality that naturally embraces culture through music and art. The improvements in instruction and professional collaboration made in both our music and art departments were significant and students have truly benefitted from the talent and collaboration of the two departments.

Thank you to Carol Kilgallin and the Association for their constant support and inspiration. The pride in Mepham High School demonstrated by the members of the Alumni Association continues to serve as a model for our students and staff and the bond between Mepham's past and present continues to grow stronger each year. The Alumni Association's contributions to our school continue to be outstanding and I am very blessed to work with such wonderful people.

Michael Harrington



edge for her students and the entire department; her passion and enthusiasm for language and culture are only matched by her genuine care and concern for her students. She has received numerous honors, including a Fulbright Grant for summer study in Italy in 1981; PTA's Founder Award in 2006; Distinguished Teacher of 2011 from Harvard University. She has helped her students participate and excel in countless contests, such as poetry recitation, essay, original poetry, and poster contests.

Betsy enjoys reading, doing Sudoku and crossword puzzles, watching films and sports, bike riding, and traveling. She'll spend more time with her husband Mark and son Nathan, and hopes to pursue new hobbies (piano, yoga, volunteer work). She also hopes for the opportunity to teach French or Italian to children.



Distinguished
Teacher of 2011

Alumni Association Student Awards...\$20,200 presented to graduating seniors

With gratitude for our alumni's generosity, these awards were given on May 31st, 2016, at the annual Mephram Awards Assembly. This year's presenters were: Brian Levy '60, Carol Farina Kilgallin '72, Dr. Robert Warkala '78, Margaret Hennessy '45, Eileen Thorne Fister '44, and Clare Eastwood Worthing '46.

Funds for scholarships and awards are derived from Alumni Association memberships and contributions.

H. Walton Alderfer Award—\$1,000 to a student for vocal achievement, intending to pursue a choral career. To Jessica Serviss.

Alumni Wrestlers Scholar Award—\$1,000 to a wrestler who demonstrated teamwork, scholarship, a dedication to wrestling, and overall hard work; must be enrolled in a college. To Tyler Althenn.

Sanford H. Calhoun Memorial Award—\$1,000 to a person of integrity who exhibits hard work and the courage to hold on to principles and inspires to do their best. To John Grover.

Gangel Family Memorial Award—\$1,000 each to a graduating boy and girl entering a science-related career. To Michael Mauro and Janice Ruan.

Jacob Gunther Memorial Award—\$1,000 to "most choir-spirited" student. To Zachary Geller.

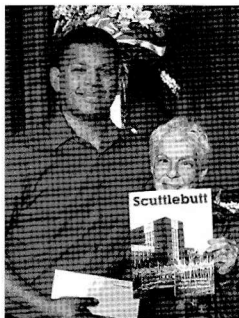
Hunte Memorial Award—\$500 each for a graduating wrestler and a graduating soccer player. (In memory of Ken Hunte, coach for wrestling and soccer). To Michael Meyers for soccer. To Matthew Lambert for wrestling.

Klein Family Award—In memory of Viola Odenheimer: \$500 awarded to a student desiring a career in medicine or dentistry. To Melissa Frobosilo.

Mephram Pride Award—\$1,000 in memory of our founder Richard Wilgenkamp, to a student who has exhibited pride in Mephram, its values and traditions. To Katie Rose Hillowe.

One Diverse Community Award—Two \$1,000 awards to seniors who have contributed most to the understanding and acceptance of diversity in the school. To Nicole Jozwik and Kehong You.

Student Photography Award—\$200 for the prize-winner of the photo contest for the cover on *Scuttlebutt* 2016. To Leonardo Santos.



Leo Santos receiving his check for his prize-winning photo. A first this year, Leo took first **and** third places, views from the left and right of the Field of Honor. Roseanna's photo is of the archway over the paver path. The Alumni Association sponsors the planting at the gate.

The three top photos →

George L. Pritchard Award—\$1,000 in tribute to Mephram's first band director. To Joseph Gilberg.

John "Denny" Ryan '59 Memorial Award—\$1,000 given in memory of Denny Ryan to a student of integrity who has given outstanding service to Mephram and the community. To Eliza Liriano.

Nick Sabetto Athletic and Academic Achievement Award—\$1,000 to the student with outstanding sportsman-ship and initiative, and at least a "B" average. To Isaac Lozado.

School Spirit Award—Two \$1,000 awards to students showing the most "school spirit," while maintaining high scholastic standards. To Olivia Meyer and Allison Neuwirth.

Dr. Frederick H. Stunt Leadership Award—\$1,000 to the student showing outstanding leadership. To Sarah Schneider.

Vietnam Era Veterans Award—\$1,000 in memory of a student who passed away during the Vietnam War, to a "student with strong convictions, whatever they may be." To Hannah Weibley.

Matthew F. Warkala '80 Memorial Award—\$500 to a male or female member of the Cross Country and/or Track and Field team who has demonstrated the most improvement or best spirit over the course of his/her senior year. To Christopher Perillo.

New Award—(continuing for the next 5 years)

Lorraine Molinari Bunce '44 Award, in remembrance of her Mephram spirit, two awards of \$1,000 each: Memorial Award to Lindsey Marshall and School Spirit Award to Sara Shamenek.



1 Leonardo Santos



#2 Roseanna Skidmore



3 Leonardo Santos



Ex-Crew Speaks

What fond memories do you have of Mephram and/or Alumni Association activities? And what projects/events would you like us to pursue? (I have not printed some minor responses that were about the picnic—which we have stopped sponsoring.)

Fond Memories:

1940 The old Bellmore School our first year; enjoying Library Club and **Ms. Moyle Rausch**; slapped in back of the head for a mistake in Algebra by **Mr. Tennant**; **Mr. Carr** (Science) predicting 3-wheel cars and cars running by their selves; reading Life mag of 100 straight wins by wrestling team and the next week, losing their 101st match; faculty practically staffing Jones Beach Concessions; and more. *Patricia Clyde Meyer...* Four years at Mephram were some of the happiest years of my life; so many dear memories (Drama Club, Harry Chernuca, killed on Pearl Harbor Day on the Arizona); little did our class realize what we faced after graduation. *Dorothy Vouaux Heuslein.*

1941 First memory of high school, going into an old wooden building on Main Street facing the Catholic Church; going up to the 2nd floor we had to walk sideways to pass each other on narrow stairs; when the wind blew our papers were covered with grit because the windows leaked like sieves. What a thrill to enter the brand new Mephram building, a dream come true; loved working in the gorgeous library and singing in the choir. *Mildred Luhrs Datkowsky*

1942 Brand new school and beautiful campus (still is); Mephram only 2 years old when I started there; enjoyed the school spirit, attending football games; archery team, very good at it; hard to maintain friendships after school because if I missed the bus it was a 5 mile walk home! *Shirley Mina Ketcham Spanton.*

1943 Fond memories live on in your fine publications; quality of writing surpassing that of my college alumni newspapers; having served as Buccaneer editor in senior year, I know the importance of good writing; best wishes to keep it going; wish I could volunteer. *Joyce Millhagen*

1945 The WWII years, 1941-45 and,

despite this, probably the best years; friends the best, along with the dreams, Jones Beach, and our loves; what a wonderful place to start life's journey! *Russell Randall, Jr...* I think back to our barbershop quartet and favorite song "The Whiffenpoof" song. *William Rockwell...* The operettas we participated in, wonderful experiences. *Edwin Schultheis* and *Joan Bruckner Schulheis '51...* Though memory fades, my grandchildren continue to be amazed by the amount of historical "times" I still remember; thanks to Miss Berwind "pounding" it into my head; what a blessing if every school had a Social Studies teacher like her! *William Steenson.*

1946 Girl's Sports Night always a lot of fun; also enjoyed 4 years with Senior Band and its leader "Chief." *Muriel Becker...* Excellent teachers (Stunt, Wilkinson, Winheim, Tennant, Gunther, Wells, Rauch) plus so many activities (choir, sports, dramatics, library), and especially friendships formed and maintained all these years. *Marilyn Hesse Weltz...* When I visited Mephram (graduated before my twin brothers), was chased by a faculty member and she fell; my brother paid the price with detention. *Richard Morton...* Two and a half years ago my late brother Albert '50 and I visited Mephram on a nostalgic trip and agreed those 4 years were among our happiest ever; again, the majestic drama of Mephram has stood the test of time. *Carl Paladino.*

1947 Enjoyed membership in the Marching Band and Orchestra; totally deaf now but can easily recall the rhythm of the marches we played for football games and parades. *Joan Christensen Nance...* Not that we are old, but happy to say still have friendships with '47 people! *Virginia Bird Pepitone*

1948 Always enjoyed all the reunions and seeing old friends at them. *Marilyn Miller Held*

1949 Spent my 10th and 11th grades in PA, attending Mephram for my se-

nior year; in order to get a Regents diploma needed tests required for 10th and 11th grade the same week as my senior tests; thought not eligible for certain scholarships, an advisor felt my marks were good enough to apply to NYC colleges and arranged for me to go to Pratt Institute for a series for tests; received a full four-year tuition scholarship and ultimately a Bachelor Degree in Chemical Engineering, which led to a job with DuPont (6 years) and Thiokol (now Orbital/ATK) until retirement in 1995; don't know what my career path would have been if that advisor hadn't pushed me to Pratt; bad enough attending a new school in my senior year, but probably the best thing that could have happened; don't even remember the advisor's name. *Eugene Oosterom.*

[Ed. note: that would have been Fred Stunt.]

1950 Participation with the band; Mr. Pritchard would lay out the patterns for halftime on the football field and we would perform; not only at Mephram, but various schools; God bless all that came before me and those since. *Juanita (Jay) Schwarz Haines.*

1951 Had the best time of my life at Mephram from 1950 to 1951; great teachers and made a lot of terrific friends. *Marlena Rapp Robertson...* My years in the choir. *Carole Russell Sturm*

1952 Used to go to Jones Beach, now too far away. *James LaFemina...* Singing in the A Capella Choir under direction of H. Walton Alderfer; Robe Chairman and Christmas caroling; loved high school; was an honor student, and in French club. *Annette Wilcox Gritmon.*

1953 Sorry to miss April awards and induction ceremony for my friend Jerry Harrell. [See article on page 3] *Frank Iocco...* Band and Chief Pritchard even when he clapped my head when I played a wrong note (or 2); Mr. Thompson loved my translation of Caesar; Miss Nickerson's work ethic has stayed with me through my years of teaching and parenting; speak with Mr. Versocki every

V? Girls can too use geometry!" *Janet (Jan) Johnson Kostolansky...* Decorating the gym for proms; when Sanford H. Calhoun called an entire school assembly to find out who walked on the front lawn; only allowed to wear clocks during test week as seniors (feeling strange wearing them in school); Sports Night between gray and garnet; being in the Pirettes back line (which we started); participating in Macy's parade one year. *Audrey Stolzenberger Darcy*

1955 Contribution in honor of **William Hieber Jr. '54**, journalism instructor **Mr. Jennison**, and inspiring idealist **Sprig Gardner**. *Jay Jablow...* Grateful to have **Sprig Gardner** and **Nick Sabetto** as coaches; lessons learned from these two stayed forever. *Andrew Pugliese...* My 4 years at Mepham the happiest and most wonderful years of my life; still in contact with school friends; such great memories of Mepham, St. John's Church, my fabulous family and childhood has carried me through my 78 years. *Patricia White Bock*

1956 Recall Christmas caroling event one evening in the mid-fifties, wearing "ballerina" shoes, then all being invited to an elegant home in Merrick, being served delicious eggnog and deserts. *Connie Adam Roustom...* Camaraderie with all the guys on the track team, especially after a meet; celebrations after a football game at the ice cream parlor; for sure no one does that anymore; seems very innocent from today's perspective. *Jack Garcia...* Friends; caring, professional teachers, coaches, staff; Athletics; developing a sense of pride in working, studying hard, and succeeding academically and athletically; building personal confidence and a strong moral foundation for life and adult challenges. *Ed Hawthorne*

1957 Friends and sports. *Maryann Hekel Marchon*

1958 My class was great, with a large group of close friends, lots of memories of fun in the sun at Jones Beach; good years! *Kathryn Buckley Foley...* Thrilled with renovation of Jones Beach; don't change the water tower; it's a gem; keep our memories. *Gale Dauernheim*

dents, teachers, and administrators of Mepham for the honor they paid all our classmates who died in armed service for our country. *Joseph Gilio.*

1960 Participation in interscholastic sports—track (sprints and quarter mile) instrumental in getting into West Point); **Coach Sabetto and Coach Hunte**. *Ronald von Freymann*

1961 Has to be Sportsnight; until a Phys. Ed. teacher myself, had no idea how much was involved to make it happen—year after year; kudos to **Grace Kersten** and **Penny Noller**; just as important, **Mr. Alderfer's** A Capella Choir; music the thread in the tapestry of my entire life; lived for sports and music; while orthopedically can no longer play sports, still sing and perform; Misses Noller and Kersten helped shape my life!. *Lynn Randall Buttner...* Fondest memory my thought of the A Capella Choir, a member for 4 years under the direction of Mr. Alderfer. *Constance Segreto Monaco*

1964 Fondest memories—Friends and sharing with husband, Ken; Facebook has kept me in touch with many friends especially Patricia Knicos, friends since grammar school, a Godsend to me. *Linda Grunnger Jones...* Fond memories, Sportsnight, wrestling matches, basketball and football games, senior prom, and gym. *Roberta Lohman Cabot*

1966 Fond memories of Sportsnight (months of work) and riding on the bus to and from varsity girls' sports; once we took all the after game refreshments because we lost the basketball game and ate them on the ride home (a lot of ice cream sandwiches to eat). *Debra Dunbar Pollard...* Nothing compares to the history and memories I share of Jones Beach; learning how to drive in the parking lots in the winter, playing guitars and singing folk songs; looking for the "cute guys," and even swimming and riding the waves into shore, our daily summer activities; Guy Lombardo shows always a big family treat—first dinner in his restaurant, then a boat ride to the Aqua Theater and the show; I think some shows ended with fireworks— but I'm not

thrill of it all! *Pamela Gilmour Stone*

1968 Still brag about the wonderful education received at Mepham; still in contact (Facebook) with friends from there. *Carol Kuhlmann*

1970 1) Soccer and track teams and coaches **Hunte and Limmer**; 2) Hanging out at East Bay Diner; 3) math class with **Mr. Cotten**. *Donald Kutner*

1974 Remember fondly Christmas carols sung from door to door. *Lawrence Wolff*

1978 Mepham wrestling reunions are great; if class of '78 ever decided to have another reunion, I'd attend and get as many others to attend as I could find! *Josef Hallatschek*

1979 Happy memories: Pop concerts; athletics, even when we weren't good; art department with **Mr. James Brown** and **Mr. "M;"** anyone remember **Mr. Delea** in Social Studies? *Gary Stein*

Out of the Mouths...

A Bethpage student won a contest last year to be the "Most Philosophical," based on his essay submission to the National Kids Philosophy Slam, responding to the question, "Violence or compassion: Which has a greater impact on society?" Harshil Garg, valedictorian in the class of 2015, had a most insightful comment:

"Philosophy comes with practice. I now realize that sometimes it's better to ask a meaningful question than it is to have a definite answer."

Do you have suggestions for future Ex-Crew questions?

If you have stories about the alumni, the school, the faculty, the students, Jones Beach—anything that would be of interest to our readers—send them to us at editor@mepham.org.

1943 Keep the Association going. If I were 50-60 years younger, I would join the "volunteers" in a flash. If I joined a club, it was to be active, not just a name on a list; sure wish there was a bigger turn out for the annual picnic; come on, drop the cell phone, pads, whatever they are called, isolating everyone and MEET your fellow Mephmites IN PERSON!! *Stanton Bahr...* Enjoy the publications so much; I know if I lived on LI I would take part in the activities; don't know of another H.S. with such a wonderful alumni association. *Emmet Brown.*

1946 Picnic a wonderful way to reconnect with former schoolmates; as I live in FL, I'd love to have another inter-class reunion in FL. *Margaret Lindblom Carlson...* Are there enough Mephham alumni on the west coast to have an Annual All-Alumni Pirate Gathering, say San Francisco, San Diego, or Las Vegas? *Charles Nastasi and Nancy Blanner Nastasi '49*

1949 Things have a way of falling off; looked forward to the picnic as the only chance to see some old classmates; treasure Alumni publications; treat to remember great Mephham High. *John Quitzau...* Keep the picnic; great to see old classmates. *Alan Graf...* Always nice to see old friends; Mephham meant so much to all of us; keep up the tradition! *Hal (Bud) Mahoney*

1954 Picnic too far to go, but a good idea for alumni spirit. *Michael Dyott...* No longer able to travel due to health restrictions. *Nancy Wirkus Wells*

1955 For classes past 25 years or so, nice to have an event every 5 years or so; planning to attend my 60th, but none was organized, not volunteering to organize one however. *Donald Verity*

1956 Picnic good for people able to attend; enjoy seeing pictures of old friends even if we can't attend our old pal Roy Probeyahn '56 keeps us informed. *Thomas Blank and Eugenia Essex Blank '57...* Look forward to my class reunion more than the picnic;

Things are moving away from paper to electronic; You should be looking at having a total web presence to engage younger alumni; one way would be having interactive editions of the *Quarterdeck* and *Scuttlebutt* on your website. *Jack Garcia...* Perhaps a few activities during daytime hours as some of us live outside the Bellmore area and would prefer not to drive at night. *Carol Heidt Hall*

1959 Re the picnic, if I would still live on LI, I think I would cherish all the get-togethers that come along. *Elizabeth Wolters Cronin*

1960 Looking forward to seeing old friends at next reunion. *Tom and Gale Erhardt Jenkins...* Should it be called just "All-Alumni Picnic" instead?. *Mildred Palladino Peluso...* Unable to make the trip anymore. *Roxanne Martin Murray...* Don't know; never been to one. *Alan Minarcik*

1963 Have not gone; if there was a group from my class going, would be interested. *Mark Shufro...* Too far to attend. *Tom and Lynne Guttilla '64 Clarke*

1964 Getting Younger Members!! *Bruce Nieli*

1965 Will try to attend; thank you. *Steven Gozdiewski...* Never attended the picnic—summer weekends are precious; frequently busy on picnic dates. *Nick Nanos*

1966 Class of 1966— 50th Reunion? *Karin Oleski...* Very Important! I will attend; please do not cancel. [we're sorry] *Charlotte Vizzi Weirich*

1967 Different suggestion: have a nice luncheon with just board of directors to welcome new year. *Gail Hochberg...* Enjoyed the 20th reunion, looking forward to the 50th. *Carolann Scanlon Husted...* Unimportant; really need to hear about NY area jobs that my kids, nephew, and niece might get. *Susan Schulman*

1969 Not important. *Trudy Hustedt*

how you'd make it more inviting; perhaps on Mephham grounds would be a venue to not only catch up with other alumni, but also have a natural, easy way to show our kids and grandkids where we learned so much and had a great preparation for life's challenges. *James and Francine Regina O'Brien...* Live out of NYS, would not plan to attend. *Toni Reiss*

1970 Sorry, can't attend' would like to go to our 50th. *Andrea Cohen*

1971 Would attend if I lived in NY, but too far away. *Cathy Jones Powers*

1974 In San Diego 38 years; if lived in northeast, would likely attend. *Jacqueline Gibbons Curriden...* Not important; wish someone would put together something here [Plantation FL]; a lot of Mephham people from 1974. *Jaclyn Weisenberg King*

1976 Sounds great maties! Unfortunately dates not been good for us for personal/medical reasons. *Debbie Balke Lindner...* Can attend publicized reunions, not the picnic; easier to attend something well-attended with my class. *Debbi Dachinger*

1981 Great idea! Unfortunately live out of town and have a school-age child so difficult time; middle August? Later in fall to give kids a chance to adapt to school? Those ideas might work for me. *Gerianne Carillo*

1982 Holiday Party for each individual graduating class. *Christopher Monturi*

1984 Not important to me; for homecoming, have an Alumni Luncheon or Dinner at the HS. *Ingrid Bloomfield...* Great idea, especially if a class doesn't have a reunion or it's not a reunion year; having said that, haven't attended one due to distance and timing. *Angla Morales*

2006 Not available; work weekends. *Bryan Schmerler*



There were reports on alumni in the news in the 2015 issue. Here are updates on three of them:

Kristofer Goldsmith '03

Kristofer Goldsmith, former Army sergeant from Bellmore, has been an active advocate for getting proper treatment for returning vets with PTSD problems. Last year the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act became law. Kris has been acknowledged as significant in getting it approved, but a section was dropped from that legislation.

Now Kris is involved in an effort to correct that by having those veterans whose service-related psychological problems led to less than full honorable military discharges have their records upgraded. This affects at least 22,000 combat veterans. "Bad paper" discharges can deprive veterans of education benefits, health care, government jobs, financial assistance, and other benefits designed to help ease the transition from military duty to civilian life.

The initiative, led by Goldsmith, will reform the review board process and help veterans repeal their other-than-honorable or general discharges due to mental-health disorders related to post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual assault, or traumatic brain injury. He says, "I'm not a lobbyist. I'm here to help veterans get what they deserve for serving their country," specifically a population of veterans who are usually left out of the conversation. He was joined by fellow veterans Steve Acheson, Thomas Burke, David Anderson, and Alexander McCoy, when they went to the capitol to fight for service members, left behind by the Pentagon. [photo supplied by Alexander McCoy, Kris in center]



The Fairness for Veterans Act which would require the Pentagon to grant the benefit of the doubt to veterans appealing their discharge status was introduced by Mike Coffman (R-CO) on March 3. Local representatives—Democrats Kathleen Rice and Steve Israel and Republicans Peter King and Lee Zeldin—have announced their support. Kathleen Rice (D-NY) said, "I want to thank Kris Goldsmith, a veteran from my district who has worked so hard to share his story and make sure this issue gets the urgent attention it deserves."

In *Scuttlebutt* 2014 [Ex-Crew section] there were comments from **Pete Caporusso '61** and **Terrence Breidenbach '42**. Terry mentions the Iceman. Many people still had iceboxes in the 1940's and '50's. The Iceman was Pete's father. Both the comment from Pete and the article by Terry had to do with technology. Coincidence or Karma?

Janette Waswo Chrones '61

A lifelong North Bellmore resident and commissioner of the North Bellmore Fire District, Suffolk County police officer Mark Collins was shot and critically injured on March 2015. Still having some lingering effects, he is now assigned to the elite Emergency service Section. His attacker, Sheldon Leftenant, was convicted on January 26 of attempted murder of a police officer, criminal possession of a weapon, and resisting arrest. He was sentenced to 40 years to life on the attempted murder charge and 15 years on the weapons charge, to be served consecutively. He was also sentenced to one year on the resisting arrest that will be served concurrently with the other terms.



Both Leftenant and Officer Collins were expressionless as they heard the verdict delivered by a sobbing forewoman. The mother of Leftenant's child had an anxiety attack and passed out in the courtroom.

Kevin Vaughan '07

Marine Corporal Kevin Vaughan lost his left leg after a bomb explosion while riding in an armored vehicle in Afghanistan, Sept. 2010. On Nov. 7, 2015 he received keys to his mortgage-free home, just blocks from where he was raised. It was built by the LI nonprofit Building Homes for Heroes.

Kevin said he could never have afforded the 2,450-square foot home on LI, and this will allow him to focus more on family, friends, travel, and hobbies. He further stated that the outpouring of community support shows that people care, that you're not alone.

Vaughan's home is one of nearly 100 homes Building Homes for Heroes has built since Andy Pujol, founder and president, created the nonprofit in 2006.

Thank you for including the photograph of three of Mephram's past football stars [Scuttlebutt 2015]. We all were products of a superb coaching staff and academic organization. It is so wonderful to have such great memories of those by-gone years.

Growing up and experiencing the rigors of strict academics and challenging athletic competition provided me with the knowledge and intestinal fortitude to meet life head on.

As I continue to work on my memoirs, I often refer back to my "early" years at Merrick and Mephram... how fortunate I was to be blessed with the best.

Best wishes for your continued success at Mephram. May your future be full of success. Respectfully,

Bob Tallgren '53

Editorial mea culpa:

In *Scuttlebutt* 2015, I wrongly showed a picture of Ralph Schmoller '55 and his wife. Here's the right one:



Spring Luncheon and Meritorious Service Awards 2016

On May 1, 2016 friends and family members gathered at The Nook in Wantagh to celebrate the contributions of two who received our Meritorious Service Awards. Brian Levy chaired the event. Alumni President Carol Farina Kilgallin and Principal Michael Harrington spoke before the presentations. Brian Levy and Clare Eastwood Worthing presented plaques to our honorees. After the ceremony the 32 persons who attended enjoyed the food and conversation.

Meritorious Service Awards

Carol Farina Kilgallin 1972

Carol has been an alumni board member since 2004, and president of the Mepham Alumni Association since 2007. Her participation in the organization was predestined — as she grew up listening to stories told by her grandmother, who was a student in Mr. Mepham's first term in Smithville South (AKA North Bellmore).

During Carol's active term as president, we celebrated: the 70th Anniversary of Mepham High School, the dedication of the auditorium Long Island Map Restoration (initiated by past president Frank Setteducati '70), the refurbishing of the library, and the 75th Anniversary of Mepham High School. Among the current initiatives are revamping the Mepham Alumni website, updating our communications with alumni, and recruiting new volunteers.

Carol holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education as well as a Master of Science in Literacy. During her 35 years in education, she has worked as a literary specialist and a middle school/high school English Language Arts teacher. Involved in the New York State United Teachers, she served on the Carle Place Teachers' Association Board of Directors for 34 years, the last 8 of which, as the union local president. Her well-deserved retirement will begin on July 1, 2016.

In retirement Carol is looking forward to spending time with her husband, Kevin, and her two daughters, Amy '06 and Kerry '08, who live in Washington DC. (both graduates of Mepham). After July 1, she will be seen more frequently at Mepham, as she will be devoting more time to the alumni association.



Carol and Kevin



Kerry Dennis — Social Studies Teacher



Kerry started as a Social Studies teacher at Mepham in 2005. She teaches 10th grade AP World History, and "Hands on History;" 12th grade Participation in Government; and 10th and 12th grade Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History program (which promotes the study and love of history). She is also the Varsity Kickline coach (the team winning many awards).

Kerry received her Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in English from Siena College (Albany) 2003 and her Master's in Education from Adelphi in 2005.

Along with Chris Patten, another Social Studies teacher, Kerry has been involved in the Senior Service learning Project, which deals with community service. Together with Tuesday's Children, which helps those who lost a loved one in 9-11 or through terrorism, they have raised over \$8,000. During the Field of Honor project, 275 flags were sold and displayed on the front lawn.

Some other activities include: the "Battle of the Classes" which held "penny wars," raising \$1,000; St. Baldrick's ("Chop Your Locks" for children with cancer); Autism Speaks; Special Olympics; 911 Museum; and various ELITE events (a program the Alumni Association sponsors). Under the leadership of Kerry and Chris, the students at Mepham have raised over \$200,000 for charitable causes.

For Kerry's "Uncovering the Past" class each Fall, she arranges for alumni to sit down with seniors (one alum to 3 or 4 students) to discuss what it used to be like in the "olden days" at Mepham. She has also been a helpful contact, writing, or finding appropriate faculty members to write articles for *Scuttlebutt*.



"Teachers table": Chris Patten, Shari Stack, Robyn Einbinder, Michael Harrington (principal), Donna Schmitt (secretary), Jackie Geller



Mike and Kathy Dennis with daughter Kerry

Who's Who Committee

Brian Levy (chairman), Clare Eastwood Worthing, Kevin Gallagher, Doris Kane Johnson, David Krinsky

Note: While there were no Who's Who Awards this year, we welcome your applications. Check off the box on the membership form



The Who's Who program was originally instituted by the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School Board of Education. In 1987, the Alumni Association reestablished this program, which recognizes and honors graduates who have made significant accomplishments in their fields of work, and service to their communities.

The Meritorious Service Award, established in 1998, is given with appreciation and recognition of those who have given outstanding service and dedication to the Alumni Association and W.C. Mepham High School.

Long Island, NY is the largest island, by area, in the U.S. with a population of about 7.7 million in its 118 mile length from New York Harbor to its eastern terminus on the Atlantic Ocean at Montauk Point. It is about 28 miles in width from Long Island Sound on the north to the Atlantic Ocean on the south. Its western end includes the New York City boroughs of Queens and Brooklyn. When Long Island is defined it generally excludes the Queens and Brooklyn sections of New York City.

Long Island's political divisions consist of Nassau and Suffolk Counties, 11 towns and 109 villages -- all with their own administrations. The area has had an historical past from the arrival of the first settlers. Here is something interesting to consider:

* * * * *

Mastic was the home of William Floyd, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

George Washington commissioned the Montauk Lighthouse so that the ships coming in from Europe could identify the Atlantic Ocean from the Long Island Sound.

Long Island's first two settlements were Southold and Southampton, in 1640.

Deep Hollow Ranch in Montauk is the site of the oldest cattle ranch in America, built in 1658, and birthplace of the American cowboy.

The Lighthouse at Montauk became NY's first coastal beacon in 1796.

When the Brooklyn Bridge was completed in 1883, it became the first land-transport route between Long Island and mainland USA. Before that, the only way to travel between the two was by boat.

In 1927, Charles Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field, as he embarked on the first non-stop solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

Levittown, the first suburbia in the U.S., was built on Long Island in 1947.

The only working water mill and windmill in the US are located in the Long Island community of Water Mill.

Long Island was sculpted by melted glaciers, which is why there is a clear difference between the hilly North Shore and the flat South Shore of Long Island.

The first radio transmission, by wireless inventor Guglielmo Marconi, was in 1901 on Fire Island Avenue in Babylon.

The Lunar Module which landed men on the moon in 1969, was built on Long Island by the Grumman Corp. [led by the efforts of **Tom Kelly '46**]

Richard Nixon's deceased dog Checkers is buried at Long Island's Bide-a-Wee Pet Cemetery in Wantagh.

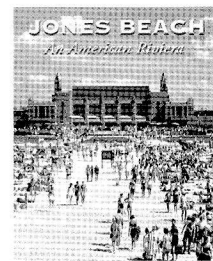
Long Island is the most populated island in the United States and the 17th most populated island in the world. Interesting fact: Long Island is more populated than the entire country of Jamaica and of Ireland!

If Long Island was its own state, it would rank 12th in

terms of population.

Robert Moses creation of a cars-only parkway system created the modern suburbs of Long Island and influenced a generation of engineers, architects, and urban planners across the nation.

The North Shore is known for its large mansions, exclusive vacationing, and rich history of its affluent citizens and architecture. The South Shore hosts more entertainment and sports venues together with Atlantic Ocean beaches such as Jones Beach.



The largest industrial park in the US is located on Long Island -- The Hauppauge Industrial Park, which houses 1,300 companies and employs more than 55,000 people.

Together Nassau and Suffolk counties' nearly 180 fire agencies possess more fire trucks than New York City and Los Angeles County combined.

Suffolk County is the leading agricultural county in New York State based on the wholesale value of its farm products.

More 7-Eleven coffee is purchased on Long Island than in all of California.

Fire Island got its name in the 17th century when it built fires to identify the coastline to the ships in the ocean.

After World War II, the Japanese were nationalized and able to fly to just 5 places in the country, with Idlewild Airport (JFK International) being one, which is why Canon, Nikon, and Olympus located their corporate offices there.

The Town of Hempstead with 800,000 residents is the largest township in the country, larger than Boston, San Francisco, and Baltimore.

The Nassau and Suffolk population is greater than 20 of 50 states.

Hicksville was the original home of Fudpucker World Airlines, the world's only steam powered Airline.



Long Island is the largest college "town" in the US with 175,000 students registered in 21 colleges.

Long Island has the highest level of volunteerism in the world.

* * * * *

Can you find errors in here? Or think of more "interesting" facts to share? Here is an entry:

Wellington Carl Mephram was buried Feb. 18, 1942, the day I was born. Carl was my fathers name. My father belonged to MENSA. He ran an after school program at Mephram for several years. He built the first North Bellmore Library, which my mother, Marion Waswo, was a founder of in 1943.

My grandmother, Henny Waswo, worked for **Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard** as their baby nurse when each of their children were born. Perhaps that is why I became a nurse.

Janette Waswo Chronicles '60





Note: If you have been in Poopdeck in the past two years you won't be in this time, and I usually do not report on non-Mephams kids.

1941 Ida Emily Oja Torma (Ishpeming MI)— Retired Registered Nurse; haven't been in NY since 1941, but still consider myself a New Yorker; have been to many schools in my lifetime and in contact to many schools through children, grandchildren, etc. and still say my education from kindergarten through nursing school was the best—bar none—still have such good memories of Mephams especially.

1942 Shirley Mina Ketcham (Singer Island FL)— Became an RN after attending nursing school at Flower and 5th Ave. NYC; RN over 37 years, becoming head nurse quickly; married George (met in hospital while working); he was a patient; married after a 2-year engagement—68 years until he passed in 2015; we belonged to the B.P.O.E.; enjoyed career meeting many different people, many who were very kind to me; had our current waterfront home built 49 years ago; had a wonderful life together fishing, boating, enjoying the beach, and spending time as a couple who will love each other for always.

1943 Fred Breidenbach (Palmetto FL)— Life, like high school, unspectacular but satisfying; 91 years!

1944 Pat Christy (Merrick NY)— Still playing golf and glad to be alive!...

Jean Randall (Novato CA)— 37th year as registered process server, still serving papers and lucky to be in a profession where gender and age don't matter; doing something I like and am good at; as I said, lucky, active at 88!

1945 Julia Davidson Miller (Berkeley Heights NJ)— Still enjoy reading



I could attend some activities; could tell the time by the Mephams clock from my kitchen window on Croydon Drive... **Alma Hattenbach Langevin** (Westminster MD)— Living in a retirement community 4½ years... **Walter and Jeanne Aldred Johnson** (Naples FL)— Moved to assisted living and terminated e-mail station; diminishing eyesight, macular degeneration and aging computer contributing to the decision; thanks for the memories... **William Steenson** (West Melbourne FL)— News of refurbishment of Jones Beach made my month; last time there it was so appalling that I'm still depressed; only greenery was weeds and most former activity areas were closed, topped off by Donald Trump's abandoned Central Mall restaurant; a far cry from the beautiful facility my father helped build and **Bill Rockwell** and I kept clean in the '40s; now let's see if they live up to their promise!... **Jean Yeager Davenport** (Osterville MA)— Teaches Japanese flower arranging and lectures; paints in oils and watercolor, with shows in MA and FL.

1946 Ruth Meyer (Martinez GA)— First time great grandmother Oct. 22, Madilyn Rose Frazier... **Richard Morton** (Wellborn FL)— WW II and Korean War Vet; Past Commander V.F.W. Key Largo and Commander American Legion Post; back our veterans!... **Nicholas Piller** (Greensboro GA)— As a 4th degree Knight of Columbus, wife Joan and I honored as Family of the Month; brother Steve '41 said we are getting old... **Betty Savona Hendrix** (West Melbourne FL)— Went on her second trip to Alaska, a cruise with four inland tours; has another cruise in June to Europe, ending in St. Petersburg; still enjoys traveling; wishes to see some high school friends and hopes to get home calls saying they could visit; so many wonderful memories of the '40s.

1947 Elizabeth Harri Specht (Boalsburg PA)— Will remember **Betty Ann Foster** and **Tom Gentsch**, not surprised to hear of their life spent so unselfishly; mine spent on family (6 children) and choral singing, hosting family gathering (34 descendants).

York NY)— Author of 11 books of poetry and a memoir, has read her work in more than 110 colleges and universities; honors include fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, two awards from

the National Endowment for the Arts, and three others from the Poetry Society of America; also respected as a poetry reviewer, essayist, contest judge, and librettist; retired from faculty of Columbia University, also taught at Ohio, Cornell, Bucknell, Colgate, the New School, and Denison Universities.

[And was Who's Who Awardee for poetry 1996]

1949 Alan Graf (Massapequa Park NY)— Played football 1947-48 on Nick Sabetto's first team; and on Mike Lurel's first team when I PG'd in '49; their first years as coaches for Mephams... **Derek and Jean MacDougall Strothman** (Vero Beach FL)— We're planning to spend Oct.-April in Vero Beach, May-Sept. in [illegible]

1950 Arthur Helf (Sayville NY)— Has been under doctor's orders; daughter Karen Helf is a tennis writer (find on internet), and wrote an article for a Women's tennis blog... **Juanita (Jay) Schwarz** (Bellevue FL)— Bowling over 50 years and captain of two teams and member of three... **Joan Vitran Hughes** (McLean VA)— Finds homes for dogs of the SPCA of Northern Virginia.

1951 Shirley VanLoan Martens (Bethpage NY)— Employed by attorneys from graduation to 1984; traveled to Europe many times, 3 passports filled... **Patricia Wolberg Stern** (Santa Barbara CA)— BA and MA in biology from UCLA; active in wildlife rehab for past 30 years.

1952 Claire Capitanio Horn (Monterey CA)— Retired as high school band/orchestra director in 1989; still teaching private music lessons, subbing at local college (music) performing in college band, orchestra, and woodwind quintet, and playing professionally; loving life! **Barbara (Bobbie) Gainsburgh**

my 4 years at Mephram; participated in many activities from the newspaper to the Coaches Club... **Annette Wilcox Gritmon** (Leesburg FL)— Graduate of a NYC bi-lingual business school; worked for Société Général in NYC; later for Kenyon and Kenyon patent attorneys; later still for patent attorneys in Princeton NJ; shortly after 50th wedding anniversary lost husband to lung cancer; been a world traveler; completed advanced courses in French and read hundreds of books in French for enjoyment after spending lots of time with family in St. Nazaire and La Rochelle (Mother was a war bride.)

1953 Frederick Koehler (San Carlos CA)— Somehow ended up as "Class Rep;" **Roger Mansell '53** [now deceased] was a good friend; class not interested in a reunion, but very interested in the living/dead/missing rosters that I maintain and distribute; thanks for everything you do and have done... **Jeanette Paladino Antin** (Sarasota FL)— Now in city with nationally recognized ballet co., repertory theater, opera and orchestra; best of both worlds with visits to NY for friends, family, and fun!

1954 Bob and Betty Muller Donohue (E. Quogue NY)— Mephram High sweethearts; retired 1987; moved to FL for 18 years; now back on LI... **Robert Meurn** (Harbor Beach MI)— In addition to being Professor Emeritus at US Merchant Marine Academy, was conferred emeritus status 9/15/14 to the International Navigation Simulators Lecturers Conference for his significant contribution to simulation based maritime education, the first ever for this prestigious association... **Frederick Quaderer** (Rhinebeck NY)— USMC 1954-57, NCPD, 8th precinct 1967-72; married 1967-82 to Peggy (dec.); married Joan 1983; still working in construction, some LI, some upstate; go to Cancun in winter; don't miss the snow; folks lived across street from **Carol House '54...** **Rosemary Santonicola Henry**— Passed away 9/22/15 in San Francisco; born in Merrick; graduate of SUNY Albany; love of teaching took her to France and Japan; changed careers, met love of her life; they traveled and lived briefly in Bolivia and

turning to San Francisco; played piano, loved opera and ballet; gourmet cook and gourmand, active in community, enthusiastic shopper, loved family deeply, cherished friends, made friends wherever she went; survived by husband James, brothers **Vincent '46, Anthony '46, Frank '51**, sister **Ann Konstant '48**, daughters Pam and Beth, and grandson Zack.



1955 Lorraine Mayer Mattimore (Sayville NY)— Now in assisted living with husband, who has had multiple strokes; graduated Mary Immaculate Hospital School of Nursing (Jamaica NY) 1958 as RN; worked until 65, last 12 years as RN at Sayville H.S... **William Schack** (Rohnert Park CA)— Having been a privileged member of '55 Basketball team, read with interest comments from **Joe Metzger '56** and **Miles Portman '50** [Scuttlebutt 2015]; should anyone forget **Steve (Portman '55)** averaged 27 ppg and broke county season's scoring record. His number should be retired and prominently displayed; don't think Mephram ever produced a better player or team; regards to all my former teammates.

1956 Patricia Anne Conway Post (Bullhead City AZ)— Retired 8 years, after 20 years as a College Counselor, teacher, and 5 years as Advisor to Women in Progress Program; took first college class at 35 years-old and kept going till Masters degree; also 1988 recipient of Mephram's Who's Award for Volunteerism for years on the Suicide Crisis Hot Line and the Juvenile Court Family Crisis Center; been quite a ride, and education is the key... **James Egan** (Silver Spring MD)— Still full-time practice of psychiatry; graduated from William and Mary and College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia Univ.; past chair Dept. of Psychiatry Children's National Medical Center, Wash. DC; look forward to our 60th reunion... **Gail Gleason Porrello** (Al-



ment and family... **Carol Heidt Hall** (Holbrook NY)— Continue activity in teacher retirement organization as Secretary for the retiree chapter; enjoy volunteering at Good Samaritan hospital 2 days/week; recently moved to lovely apartment complex for all ages and involve in activities there... **Bill Siegle** (Los Gatos CA)— Retired after 50 years in semi conductors—IBM, AMD, and consulting; now enjoying bi-coastal life in CA and CT... **Charles Wolf** (Boca Raton FL)— Retired CEO, Long Island Head Injury Assoc.; U. of PA, Wharton graduate; married 55 years.

1957 Peter Castello (Nesconset NY)— In business 45 years in Family Lumber, Bethpage NY; partner **Chuck Wagner '57** now deceased; have kept business going, now with sister **Joanna Castello Wagner '60** along with other family members... **Joan Duda Lipsky** (Massapequa Park NY)— Fun the past 4 years enjoying all of Mephram's activities again with my twin grandchildren **Rachel and Ryan Foley '15**; brought me back to good times; most enjoyed band and all its fun; grandchildren thought it was "cool" to see Grandma's picture hanging on the wall in the hall labeled Mephram's old activities; Ryan and Rachel now attend Adelphi with help of nice scholarship given by Alumni Association; Thank you very much... **Michael Gilead** (Venice FL)— Just to let you know I'm still alive!... **Frank Rico Jr.** (Wilton CT)— Sadly lost wife of 49 years 6/26/13... **Jeanette Sommer Stelter** (Delhi NY)— Married to **John Stelter '56** 57 years; both retired 22 years; travel back and forth from FL home to NY home; enjoy going on cruises and travels to Alaska, England, and Norway, but there's no place like the US... **Margaret Verity Barbaree** (Boynton Beach FL)— Married to Tom, 57th anniversary on Jan. 31, 2016.

1958 Norman Bossen — Sent his note about being married 50 years to Claudia Gibbons (Calhoun '62), but unfortunately he passed away this past January... **Kathryn Buckley Foley** (Blooming Grove NY)— Love getting together with good friends **Martin Kleinwald '58** and **Ruth Rosen Man-yin '58** (BFF and next-door neighbor);

Coles (St. Thomas VI)— Practiced law 40 years (1967-2007); 10 years in NYC, 30 in ME; now eating a lot of mangos and papayas; turned down a judgeship to travel; been everywhere!... **Audrey Kane Capozzi** (Hobe Sound FL)— Retired in May from second career as college professor at St. Joseph's in Patchogue (former home of Seton Hall H.S.) after 20 years preparing future educators; home in Bellport for sale; practicing to be a "snowbird" when I grow up, after previous 2 winters decided to move to FL full time to where there are astonishing similarities to Suffolk County 30 years ago: barrier beach (Fire Island), large body of water between island and mainland; can bicycle to ocean, take advantage of all other bodies of water, kayak, etc, just as in Bellport; what's not to like? Will I miss 20° days. 3 feet of snow, night-fall at 4:30 in afternoon, slippery roads, fender benders on black ice? Doubtful; also a large number of Mephram classmates in Martin County and neighboring counties; they saw the advantages of living in FL before me; goodbye Jones Beach; hello Jupiter Island... **Betsy Pilat Marston** (Paonia CO)— Still an editor/writer at High Country News; husband retired 13 years ago to reform our country, (haul it into the 21st century); appreciated the Jones Beach update... **Marguerite (Peggy Ann) Schneider Ford** — Passed away from cervical cancer 10/17/15 ; her daughter reports her mother often mentioned Mephram and was still in touch with another classmate — a younger daughter, calling home when she was in high school in the late '70s, misdialed by one digit and struck up a conversation with a boy (about her age) who answered; they chatted several times and the mothers eventually talked; imagine their surprise when they found out they were high school friends from Mephram! They remained friends ever since.

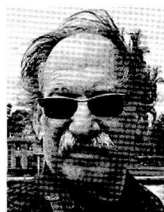
1959 William Green (Princeton NJ)— Recently retired after 35 years with Princeton Radiology associates... **Ronald Ptacek** (Kansas City MO)— Retired from City of Blue springs MO Police Dept; winter in St. Petersburg FL; can be reached at TQM3609@gmail.com...

to know if there are any other alumni living in Oregon... **Gerald Winkler** (Stoughton MA)— General dentist with active full time practice... **Elizabeth Wolters Cronin** (Holly Hill FL)— Lost 5 months of the year recuperating from broken bones and surgery of dominant hand; now back, up and moving! Making the most of lost time.

1960 Karlene Hodgson Trabold (Patchogue NY)— Retired, Past President Woman's Club of Patchogue; love to travel... **Jean Smith Kramer** (Gulfport FL)— Retired City of St. Petersburg after 22 years; European River cruise last November... **Alan Minarcik** (Beansville, Ontario, Canada)— Class Steward '64, Univ. at Albany NY, 50th class reunion; part-time hospital chaplain at Hotel Dieu/Shaver Rehab Hospital; other note: **Georgina Altamore '60** lives in So. CA, teaching English and enjoying the warmth... **John and Lorraine Zambito '61 Wasiak** (Westhampton NY)— Met in HS; dated since 1959; married 52 years; hooray for Mephram!... **Janette Waswo Chrones** (St. Augustine FL)— Retired Critical Care RN; St. Augustine oldest city on mainland USA, founded 1565 (450th anniversary last year); Smithville (Bellmore-North Bellmore) founded 1676; looking forward to the 1960 reunion in 2016; wish I still lived in Bellmore. Note: see her comments on page 15 and *In the Wake*].

1961 Doris Wiebel Moore (Lexington KY)— Finally retired, child care business Jan. 2015; worked at our world reknown racetrack (Keeneland) both spring and fall meets, a memorable event to experience American Pharoah win Breeder's Cup; enjoy traveling, gardening, swimming, but really miss the ocean.

1962 Mark Greenside (Alameda CA)— Two books published in Polish: *I'll Never Be French (no matter what I do)* and *Day by Day in France (not quite): mastering the art of French living*.



1963 Bill Rohmann (The Villages FL)— Happily retired; married 42 years;

course.

1964 Richard Adler (Ann Arbor, MI)— Retired Professor of Speech Pathology from Minnesota State Univ., Moorhead 7-25-15... **Roberta Lohman Cabot** (Locust Valley, NY)— Retired P.I.; Paralegal; Trial Asst. to NYC's top trial attorneys since 1985; humanitarian work for *Health Education Action League Haiti*; Partner in *DAKI Haitian Art Gallery* with Yves Deshommes; world-travel; married to Marc Siegel... **Roseanne Jensen Becker** (Springhill, FL)— Celebrated 47 years, 9-14-68, with Donald; met in 64... **Bruce Nieli** (Austin, TX)— Appointed and commissioned in Rome by Pope Francis as "Missionary of Mercy" 2-9-16... **Peter Swenson** (Big Lake, MN)— Retired 2015, 46 years as textile salesman, covering 14 states in midwest; recently remarried to Sherry, and enjoying shared family.

1965 Janis Pridans (Tuscon AZ)— Retired from IBM, March 14 after forty year career as materials engineer; taught Physics at Sabino HS in Tuscon 2014-2015 school years.

1966 Joseph DeRiso (Lido Beach NY)— Retired Transition Coordinator, Great Neck Public Schools; President, Debird Consulting & Associates, Inc. for Education Transition Planning and IEP Development; member Atlantis Golf Club, Parrotheads of the Palm Beaches; Clark Art Institute, Williamstown Theater Festival supporter, and Waubeeka Golf Links; expecting first grandson; sang second tenor in Mephram Choir... **William Endelman** (Seattle WA)— 20th anniversary of ADA/Accessibility consulting firm, Endelman & Associates LLC; entered into a 4 year interim [?] ownership purchase/sale agreement; daughter working for me, wife semi-retired; "I have little idea what retirement will look like."... **Pamela Gilmour Stone** (Sarasota FL)— Here over 21 years, just 2½ miles from nationally top-rated Siesta Key Beach, with soft sugar grain-sized sand and beautiful rolling waves, and colors of the Gulf of Mexico—so picturesque!... **Rosemary Gleason Callahan-Peacock** (Ocean Isle Beach NC)— Finally retir-

leaving my beloved LI... **Thomas Kizis** (Englewood FL)— Cook for Meals on Wheels and for Fellowship dinners at Englewood United Methodist Church... **Claudia Long** (East Meadow NY)— Returned home after 35 years serving in SIM-USA in Nigeria (3/16), teaching Phys. Ed. at Hillcrest School 13 years, and pioneering Christian youth camping (Camp Youth Alive (22 years) for all of Nigeria; adjusting to life here; did beyond Guidance Counselor's expectation (told my parents I'd never succeed in college); appreciate Mephram HS in life's preparation; thanks... **Melodie Lublin Ross** (Boca Raton FL)— Hope whoever plans the next reunion, think about one in Ft. Lauderdale (escape the cold)!... **George Poppe** (Myrtle Beach SC)— Moved with lovely wife in October.

1967 Carol Bruckner Glasser (W. Babylon NY)— Retired from Northrop Grumman after 47 years... **Gail Hochberg** (Merrick NY)— Once again on committee for next reunion and very happy to have wonderful people involved in the creation. [see Upcoming Reunions, page 29]... **Jay Kaplan** (Cheshire CT)— Completed 36 years of private practice in Internal Medicine in CT; married 45 years; enjoys traveling, gardening, skiing, and spending time with 2 children and their families... **David Klein** (Punta Gorda FL)— Helped lead an effort to build a "Vietnam Wall" in the community; an exact replica of the wall in Washington DC; only the 3rd "wall" in the USA)... **CarolAnn Scanlon Husted** (Hernando FL)— Retired RN (9 years), living in sunny FL; playing golf, traveling, staying healthy with 2 new knees!...

1968 Carol Kuhlmann (Chester NJ)— Just retired from a career that started in Social Services and quickly segued into Information Systems; did a 10-year stint in programming, took a 10-year break doing child care and other fun stuff, then went back as a business systems analyst.

1969 James and Francine Regina O'Brien (North Salem NY)— Have the pleasure of keeping in touch with some classmates; so wonderful to recon-

shared backgrounds and experiences still draw us together.

1970 William Cleary (Levittown NY)— Celebrated 38th anniversary with Martha; officiating Boy's HS soccer after 25 years and loving every minute; expect to grow up any day now... **Donald Kutner** (Franklin Lakes NJ)— Medical doctor, practicing in NJ past 35 years, specializing in gastroenterology.

1972 Judi Broad Hanley (Huffman TX)— Came out of retirement to take care of first grandchild while daughter-in-law teaches; right after graduation there was a group of foreign exchange students Lt. Dan Hanley, USN (uncle), in NY for a week Judi, Erin Hanley (8 mos., before return- John Hanley (dad)



ing to their home countries; had a girl from São Paulo, Brazil stay at house and kept in touch for years, even stopping by in Houston in 1977; lost contact and, about a year and a half ago, found her on Facebook; and NOW she is coming to visit!... **David Strom** (St. Louis MO)— Celebrated 10th anniversary with Shirley with a cruise around the Hawaiian Islands; a wonderful way to mark the date and our first time there; both own separate businesses, so getting away can be challenging!

1973 Kathleen Roth Sheehan (Tampa FL)— Retired from teaching in Diocese of St. Petersburg FL, June 2015 after 20 years; went to 40th class reunion 2013; enjoyed the weekend with best friend **Carrie Ingber**, who lives in Tampa area with me now... **John Kobylanski** (Rome NY)— Entering 35th year in Dental Practice; active in many NYS Dental Association committees, including teaching part-time at SUNY at Canton Dental Hygiene school; sons on their own, Judith and I are empty nesters, Yippee!...

1974 Jeffrey Seltzer (Long Beach NY)— After a 40 year absence, returned to the South Shore, and now live on the beach.

NY)— Retired after a successful run in the IT Industry; occasionally working as a consultant; enjoying role as grandfather and great grandfather... **Nancy Johnson Meadows** (Farmville VA)— Retired teacher of Early Childhood Special Education, 2014.

1976 Debbi Dachinger (Los Angeles CA)— Popular media guest and speaker, keynote at high level national events; radio and TV personality; multi-international bestselling author and sought-after media coach; has been seen in the news, documentary films, on the cover of magazines, and a regular featured contributor to published magazine; in addition to syndicated award-winning radio program, runs the Bestseller Book Program, taking published authors to bestselling status, and runs Radio Mastery Training for entrepreneurs.

1978 Doug Rutley (New York NY)— Senior Vice President, MidFirst Bank and runs NYC Commercial Real Estate Landing office.

1979 Gary Michael Stein (Missoula MT)— High School teacher 25 years; long-time soccer coach and referee; married 29+ years.

2000 Robert Bramante (Commack NY)— Named Associate Chair Emergency Medicine, Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center.

2006 Bryan Schmerler (Bellmore NY)— Graduated Stony Brook Univ. 2011, major in Health Studies; currently Cardiovascular Perfusionist at NY Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

2011 Joseph Ferreri (North Bellmore NY)— Graduated SUNY Cortland, May 2015, Magna Cum Laude distinction, with BS in Community Health: Concentration in Allied Health; currently graduate student Stony Brook Univ., pursuing an M.S. in occupational therapy.

2012 Erin Lenz (North Bellmore NY)— Currently a senior at University of Hartford.



There is a federal mandate for all states to establish educational standards that define what students need to master in each grade to graduate with a proper level of readiness for college. It has been widely acknowledged that the program in New York was rushed through before it was ready, which gave birth to the Opt Out movement, fueled by teachers who felt unfairly judged and parents who felt their children were being unduly stressed. While there is some opposition nation-wide, this article is primarily about the situation in New York, and its effect on Mepham's school district.

This is my attempt to explore Common Core, which has stirred up a hornet's nest in New York. In Spring 2015 an estimated 200,000 students opted out statewide, 70,000 of those on Long Island; this April there was a 70.4% refusal rate in the Bellmore-Merrick school district.

If we can accept as fact that parents, teachers, educators, and society all want students to receive an education and skills that will fortify them to be successful, fulfilled adults with the desire to continue learning, then the puzzle is how to achieve that goal. To know students are learning, they need to be tested. To assure good, qualified teachers, they need to be evaluated. For an overview as to how we are competing in the world, what curriculum needs emphasizing, college comparisons, etc. government needs information. What recourse is there to find these needs without testing? It will take understanding and patience while the answers are being found. The State is working to make appropriate changes [see below]. May it lead to a consensus that will successfully resolve the conflict to everyone's best interests.

Regent Roger Tilles claims the tests are being tweaked for age appropriateness; the curriculum is being developed with the involvement of teachers, not Pearson supplying the tests as before. The evaluation is undergoing a complete overhaul, involving all parties. He is optimistic that two years from now it will be resolved, and he would recommend students take the test, if for no other reason, for the practice.

New York State Commissioner of Education, Mary Ellen Elia, points out the steps taken for the 2016 test are just a start, and future tests will have even greater teacher involvement. They'll help educators plan for the coming school year; develop individualized learning plans for students; also help identify achievement gaps between different groups of students. She asks New Yorkers to trust in the adjustments made so far and the purposeful changes that will be made.

There were changes for this year so that the exams are a bit shorter; the time limit for taking the tests was removed; the vocabulary was made more age-appropriate; and the evaluation of teachers was put on a four-year moratorium.

Supporters of Common Core say the standards themselves have contributed to a higher level of instruction in many classrooms (enriched reading exercises, more advanced vocabulary). Kids need test-taking skills to prepare for the Regents and SATs.

Opponents charge the exams are harmful, have developmentally inappropriate questions, extensive test-prep time

which detracts from instruction in other subjects, and the assessments put undue pressure on students and teachers. It is claimed the tests are comparison-focused, therefore not suitable for purposes of instruction or evaluation of instructional quality in education; also that too much attention is being given to English language arts and math, leaving too few resources for science and social studies, art and music.

First, let us understand there are different kinds of tests to achieve different purposes:

- Teachers give tests to elicit evidence: regarding student's levels of achievement, if their teaching is reaching the students, which one's might need special help, if they should modify their lesson plan.

- Schools and districts want to determine the quality of a completed set of instructional activities, often focusing on a lengthy segment of instruction, such as an entire school year. (Regents, SAT's, etc. figure in to this.) Currently only 37% of seniors are academically prepared for college coursework in math and reading, many going on to college having to take remedial classes. The National Assessment of Education Process shows reading test scores have been dropping over the years in US public and private schools.

- Comparison-focused educational tests identify score-based differences among individual students and groups of students. Common Core falls into this category, providing few instructional insights, but giving an overview not available from the other types of testing. It can track progress of groups, schools, and districts so that students do not "fall through the cracks."

The American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education have guidelines calling for construction and evaluation of educational tests according to the specific purpose for which a test will be used. They believe information supplied by the wrong tests (created for purpose X being used for purpose Z) leads to decisions based on inaccurate information, and that we must follow the up-to-date advice of the measurement community and demand purposeful education testing.

Testing can be used by colleges to determine which to accept and which to give scholarships. Testing can be overdone, taking away important time for other useful learning.

When does the value gained from testing become time taken away from other valuable learning experiences? When does a wisely protective parent become an overprotective one? When do tests to rate teachers' effectiveness overlook the "extras" they give their students? When do educational leaders, in trying to improve standards, lose sight of the importance of instilling intellectual curiosity and the desire for life-long learning?

In Japan there is a garden with a Zen lesson that to know something completely you need look from a variety of viewpoints. In that spirit, Common Core should be looked at from various views. It won't be easy to find the answers. For the sake of our students, I hope they are found soon.

Clare Eastwood Worthing '46

Memories of Influential Teachers

George Nider passed away in PA on May 22, 2015 at age 85. George had been an outstanding English teacher at Mephram [1964-92]. He was loved and touched many lives. He had kids in his room during breaks and after school and, walking through the halls, always with a bevy of students around him (like the pied piper). Many of his students have still kept in touch.



He is survived by spouse, Robert Pardi, his partner of 33 years; brother Ralph Nider and his wife Lucinia; nephew Steve Nider and his wife, Kate Herman; and niece Elaine Nider Lambert.



My Special Teachers

From the Crows Nest

Class of 1948 Newsletter, February 1999

Of course, **George Pritchard** had a huge effect on me since I was in the band and other musical activities. I'm not honestly sure whether he thought I could make it as a music teacher on Long Island. Four years after I'd graduated from college and finished the four year air force duty he and a few other key teachers from Freeport, Valley Stream and Miss Dowling, a former Merrick grade school music teacher, worked hard to get me a position. Finally, when a young music teacher in Valley Stream was suddenly drafted I was called immediately and stayed 30 years.



I also always remember **Mr. Weaver**, our social studies teacher, who constantly ranted and raved about the Republican party and Boss Sprague. I've been a Democrat ever since. It may not help me a bit living on Long Island, but I feel better.

Booker T. Gibson '48

Note: See article on Booker Gibson on page 7,

Two Teachers Who Influenced Me

Louis Troisi taught me how to think like a scientist. He had a way of building your confidence so that you could tackle high school Chemistry and Physics. He also had a terrific sense of humor. I never could have mastered Organic Chemistry, Medical Physiology, Biochemistry, and Molecular Biophysics without the foundation that he provided.



Val Dora Spaulding taught me how to think critically and to write with insight. She told me more than once that even doctors have to master these skills, and maintain the ability to discuss the "Great American Novel" at political, business, and social gatherings. She declared that this is all part of a well-rounded education.



I was their student, but their memories and influences are still as clear as can be. People ask me about the Prep School that I must have attended to have such a firm educational background. I tell them that my schooling was provided by the tax-payers of the Bellmores and the Merricks.

David M. Klein '67

Note: Dr. David Klein received his Who's Who for Ophthalmology in 1999.

Another comment arrived about George Nider: This one from **Sandy Weinberger Sloane '78** [see page 5]:

We all have them....those teachers that you think about that in one way or another shaped your life. Some for better, some for worse. Mr. George Nider, who I just found out passed away a year ago was one of those positive teachers for me. As my Junior Year English teacher, he could be funny and serious, engaging and aloof, brilliant and goofy, and gentle and tough... all at the same time. Most importantly, when I was swimming in a sea of students who just didn't "get me" and my writing, he did. He inspired me to be true to myself, to the way I wanted to write, and to the way I wanted the world to see me. He taught me to live life on my terms; a lesson I never forgot. I am saddened that he never got to see the impact he had on my life as a person and now, as a published writer. I trust he is looking down, with his spectacles perched upon his nose, and giving me one of those approving looks that without any words said, "You did well. I am proud of you." Rest in peace, Mr. Nider and thank you. You will be missed.

Dan Streit '67 reports his mother, **Mary Streit**, taught Spanish at Mephram (1960-1970s), and now lives in Jupiter. She just turned 97, is still sharp as a tack and going strong ("unlike me," Dan says).



Mary would love to hear from former colleagues or students. The best communication would be through Dan's e-mail: DanStreit@bellsouth.net. They send warm greetings from South Florida to all Mephramites!



Mephram Softball Coach Nets 400th Win

Michael Muscara '71, Mephram High School girls' softball coach, recently earned his 400th win.

Muscara, who has been coaching for 32 years, has a career record of 401-209-1. His teams were six-time conference champs, seven-time county semifinalists and one-time county finalist. Additionally, Muscara has been named the Conference Coach of the Year five times and is the former athletic director for Mephram.



"The time that coach has spent here as a teacher and as an educator, he has been the heart and soul of this building," said Principal Michael Harrington. "The 400th couldn't be better well-deserved." (Mike earned our Meritorious Service Award in 2009.)

Chris Patten, Social Studies teacher, and his teaching partner, **Kerry Dennis** [see page 14], have been actively involved with service programs at Mepham, something Chris is passionate about—helping others, working for a cause greater than yourself. Over the last seven or eight years, the seniors, under his and Kerry's supervision, have raised about \$280,000 for a variety of charities.



This year he decided to participate in the world's oldest annual marathon, the Boston Marathon. Here is his report:

As a proud Bostonian, I love everything about Boston, which will always be part of who I am. But how to [participate]. I am not a runner... longest I ever really ran was probably 3 miles. How was I ever going to finish a 26.2 mile race, and how was I even going to get a spot in the race? For a man my age, I would need to qualify... [at] roughly a seven minute mile. Maybe for a mile or two... My only chance was to secure a position on one of the many charity teams.

Service learning is an important part of our Mepham community, so I was hoping that I could use my experience at Mepham, working for organizations such as *Tuesday's Children*, *St. Baldrick's*, and *Autism Speaks*, to help me gain entry to Boston's historic race... [fortunately] Boston Red Sox Foundation offered me a spot to make my dreams come true. This was going to be amazing. Not only was I going to be able to run the 120th Boston Marathon, but I also was going to get to do it for the Red Sox!

The months quickly passed by and finally it was the morning of April 18, 2016. To say the least, I was a little nervous. Was I really going to be able to accomplish this? I pride myself in telling my children that there's nothing that a person can't do... wanted to make them proud and show them their dad could finish Boston... city buzzing with energy; race hadn't even started yet and there were people everywhere... I started thinking. I was going to run through eight towns, run for hopefully only five hours, and with a little luck see my family and friends all along the course...

The first few miles went extremely fast. As far as my eyes could see, runners lined the streets and on the sidewalks people were 2 to 3 deep on both sides, cheering the entire way. Kids were everywhere handing out high-fives, and people were passing out water, oranges, and food. I heard my name so many times I had forgotten that my name was on my jersey. Throughout the day I felt so fortunate that I had an opportunity not only to see my wife and children on the course, but also my father, friends, and other family cheering me on right when I needed it the most. My uncle, a Boston city firefighter, actually ran with me at mile 23 for roughly 100 yards right at the moment I needed the support the most. He whispered in my ear, "You only have three more miles to go. You can do it." I can do this. Only three more miles to go.

As I got closer to the heart of town, the volume of crowds intensified. [Running down] into Kenmore Square my eyes were drawn to the historic Citgo sign high above Fenway Park. Only 1 mile to go. Funny—I had run for nearly five hours and I didn't want it to end. I started this journey 7 months ago, and it was only 1 mile away from being over. I pulled my headphones out to really take in the sound of the crowds. There were signs everywhere that said 'Boston Strong.' Here it was—the final stretch...As I came down the street the crowds were wild. On the left-hand side of the street Boston's favorite band *Dropkick Murphy's* were hanging out above their pub, *McGreevy's*, and on the right-hand was my wife, father, best friend, and sister, cheering me on as I was only 100 feet away from crossing that line.

As I crossed the finish line, I was filled with so many emotions—happiness, relief, and pride. I was a Boston marathon finisher. I had raised over \$8,100 for the Boston Red Sox foundation. But, more importantly, my daughter Kara called me the king, and then simply asked, "Can I wear your metal? (sic)" The 1966 band, the *Strandells* said it best, "Well I love that dirty water. Boston is my home." **Chris Patten, Social Studies teacher**



Chris & Kara

Mepham Sports

Bellmore-Merrick Bulldogs, Nassau County Champs

The Bulldogs are a combination from the three district high schools, Mepham, Calhoun, and Kennedy. In an exciting finish on Feb. 26th they won the Nassau County ice hockey championship in the Michelino Division, their first-ever achievement. Mepham junior, Jon Olson, scored perhaps the biggest goal of his Bulldog's career when he scored the game-tying goal with just 1:22 remaining in the third period. Among their top scorers all season, he then converted a penalty shot, with just 18.5 seconds left in overtime, to give the Bulldogs a thrilling 5-4 win over Long Beach. They had won game 1, 4-3, two days earlier.

Their coach, Chris Patten, said Jon Olsen



was among our "best players and your best players play their best against the best teams." This completed an undefeated campaign for the Bulldogs, 21-0, in Nassau County.

Patten said one quality that set the team apart from the rest of the competition was heart. "There was never any quit on this team."

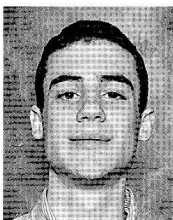
Congratulations to Coach Chris Patten, who was recently named 2016 All-Long Island Coach of the Year!

For **Sports Athletes**, with a story on **Chris Perillo**, all star athlete for track and cross country, and a story on **Briana Noto**, winner of the Gerry Hughes Memorial Scholarship, see page 27.



Valedictorian: John Grover

John Grover's efforts have earned him many accolades: Valedictorian of the Class of 2016, National Merit Commended Student, AP Scholar, National Spanish Exam Gold Award, the list goes on. He has earned induction to four academic honor societies including the Science, Spanish, National, and Math Honor Societies. Although one of the most academically successful students in his class John is a humble and compassionate leader in the classroom, helping promote a supportive learning environment for all students, and acting as a role model to his peers through his outstanding work ethic and his enthusiasm for the curriculum.



John has effectively learned to balance both a challenging academic life with a meaningful social and extracurricular experience. He has earned and maintained the admiration and respect of both his peers and the faculty of Mepham High School. John has been a member of our Varsity Tennis program for the past four years. He made substantial contributions to our Science and Math clubs for the past three years. John has competed in both the Science and Physics Olympiads. He has earned individual recognition from the regional Science Olympiad competitions earning a 5th place award for Maglev Design and a 8th place award for Truss Bridge Design. Additionally, as a member of the Physics Olympiad team, John and his teammates earned a 4th place overall rating last year. John has also made contributions to our Badminton program and the school band. He has volunteered for a local food pantry and has donated blood. John even manages to work for the after-school program at one of our elementary schools, mentoring younger children. Some of John's favorite memories of Mepham include Homecoming and Battle of the Classes.

Outside of school John enjoys participating in his favorite hobbies that include fishing, sailing, and playing football. Next year John will be attending Cornell University where he will be studying mechanical engineering.

Salutatorian: Kristina DiMiceli

It would be easy to just rattle off the list of Kristina DiMiceli's accomplishments: Salutatorian of the Class of 2016; AP Scholar; induction to five academic honor societies – however this does not do justice to what Kristina has contributed to Mepham High School. Kristina is intrinsically motivated in all of her pursuits. She meets each person in which she interacts with respect and compassion. Doing what is right comes before being popular or wanting to add something to her resume. In this vein it comes as no surprise that Kristina participates in our Peer Tutoring program. Kristina's easy-going and kind demeanor allows her to create a supportive environment for those that she tutors.



Kristina is a creative and musically talented young lady. She has been a member of the Orchestra and Mepham-Calhoun Advanced Chamber Orchestra for the past four years, and has the distinction of being second chair in the violin section for both groups. Kristina has performed in levels 3-6 of the NYSSMA Festival. She lends her talents to our drama productions as a member of the Pit Orchestra. Kristina is also a skilled pianist, playing in our Jazz Ensemble group. She has earned a Bronze award at the Golden Key International Piano Competition and third place in the Crescendo Piano Competition.

Kristina's pride in her high school is apparent as she displays the same level of commitment to her after-school endeavors as she does her academic courses. She has been a member of the Varsity Badminton team for the past four years. She has also made significant contributions to the Habitat for Humanity and the Junior Varsity Tennis team. She has devoted countless hours to volunteering in our community, participating in walk-a-thons for Autism Awareness and working at Camp ANCHOR.

Next year, Kristina will be studying pre-med at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



A Very, Very Senior Prom

Mepham's Students Against Destructive Decisions club worked throughout the school year, raising money for the Senior Citizen Prom. On April 14th hundreds of senior citizens came to the Mepham cafeteria to dance, eat, and socialize. Mepham's jazz ensemble provided live music, with the theme, "Disco Age '70s".

Students served a hot buffet dinner plus homemade baked desserts. There were many approving comments about the food – and the event, such as: "The food was delicious, the music is great, and the kids are so welcoming;"

Club advisor and Advanced Placement Biology teacher, David Kommor, called club members Hannah Bienstock and Amna Minhas the "powerhouses" of the event. Bienstock called it a rewarding experience where they get to mingle with seniors and make them feel special. Minhas added that

Mepham High School Jazz Ensemble



Photo by Donovan Berthoud

she loved dancing with them. Jazz ensemble member, Yusuf Hasan, said he really enjoys seeing them dance along to music and having fun, and that it's rewarding to talk to them; "we all learn so much from them."

Principal Michael Harrington commented "There's so much pride and joy here at this school, I'm in awe. This is a great way for the students to make connections with the older generation and learn something valuable from them."

So They Think They Can Dance

Students at Wellington C. Mepham High School hip-hopped and can-canned at the kickline team's annual fund raiser on March 10.

Six teams competed in this dance off, which is modeled after the reality dance competition shows on television. Participating students are placed on a team that includes varsity kickline members, who help choreograph their routines.

To add to the competition, the groups were divided into Team Dennis and Team Geller, with Kickline Coaches and Mepham teachers Kerry Dennis and Jackie Geller serving as coaches.

"In its eighth year, the event gets better each year," said Kickline Coach and Social Studies Teacher Kerry Dennis. "The kids practiced their routines for weeks."

In addition to a winner in each style of dance, an overall winner was chosen by a talented slate of judges including Michael Harrington, Mepham principal, Dr. Jennifer Carne, Mepham vice principal, Marie Netto, Mepham vice principal and Eric Caballero, director of physical education, athletics, driver education, and health.

Team Geek Squad won for best Team Performance, Team Anarchy won for best Hip Hop Performance, Team Saxophoneless Jazz won for best Jazz Performance.

Team Dennis took the crown in 2014 and Team Geller in 2015. Team Geller was victorious again this year.



Team Geek Squad

Seniors Nelson Daza and Matt Gibbons hosted the event, offering interviews and comic relief. Daza surprised the crowd at the end of the evening with a performance and popped the prom question to a fellow student; who enthusiastically accepted.

Book Buddies

Senior Experience students, in honor of "Read Across America Day" and Dr. Seuss' birthday, visited Birch and Lakeside elementary schools on March 2 to hang out with their Book Buddies. After they read Dr. Seuss' *What Pet Should I Get*, each buddy pair made a book about a fictitious pet they would like to have.



Nostalgia Time

Every year Kerry Dennis involves some of the alumni with the students in her "Uncovering the Past" class. We meet in the cafeteria, an alum with several students, to discuss what Mepham (and the world) was like when we attended Mepham. It's fun for us and, we hope, for the students.

"Arrive Alive" Program

Mepham students were driving recklessly in the back parking lot of the school, swerving, almost crashing into parked cars, and just missing pedestrians. The simulations were all part of the Arrive Alive Tour to promote awareness about the impacts of impaired and distracted driving.

The driving program and simulator demonstration, sponsored by the Community Parent Center, Bellmore-Merrick CHS, and Mepham, is hosted in partnership with State Farm Insurance and the Allyson Rosenblatt Memorial Fund.

Using a high-tech simulator and special goggles, the Arrive Alive program allowed 200 Mepham students to experience first-hand the dangers of drinking and driving and texting—while driving without the deadly consequences, in a safe, controlled environment.



In addition to the simulator, NYS Police brought the Seat Belt Convincer to demonstrate the importance of always wearing a seat belt. It is an educational tool that simulates a low impact vehicle crash, allowing the students to experience forces of up to five times their body weight.

Wendy Tepfer, the Community Parent Center executive director, said: "Driving impaired or distracted can be deadly. Our goal is to keep our teen drivers safe. If we saved one life as a result of these activities, then we have done our job."



Students signed a banner, pledging to acknowledge and adhere to lawful and safe driving practices.

Grand Central Station Scavenger Hunt

In November as part of the ELITE program (which the Alumni Association sponsors), Mepham students participated in a scavenger hunt at Grand Central Station. With teachers they worked to uncover the secrets of this historic train station in Manhattan. To win, they had to "go nuts" in the Whispering Gallery, spot surprises in the stars in the sky," and find television celebrities in the fabulous food court.



Partial List of ELITE Programs

The Enriching Learners in Tomorrow's Education program inspires students with after school and weekend opportunities. Some offerings this year: Introduction to Meditation, Yoga, Garage Band Music software (creating music), Magic and Math, Write your Name in Japanese (intro to Japanese writing system); Your Goals on a Vision Board, Jewelry-Making, Medieval Stained Glass, Make a Scooterbot (tiny robot built on toothbrush bristles, then raced for prizes), and littleBit Lab in Maker Space

Exploring Middle Eastern and South Asian Culture

... even more...

Another ELITE program, the World of Difference Club, under the guidance of their advisor, science teacher Josephine Parlagreco, set out to educate people about different cultures and to promote respect and acceptance of all cultures. Principal Michael Harrington said, "It's so important that we raise awareness of different cultures."

In February the auditorium resembled a scene from a Indian film. "Bolly Arts" dancers, with ornate dresses and golden sequins, performed a modern take on a classic form of Bollywood dance.

Habeeb Ahmed, first vice president of the Islamic Center of Long Island, was the night's special guest. He said "The morning of Sept. 11... changed the perception of Islam. ISIS is committing crimes in the name of my religion, and I say, 'That's not in the name of my religion; that is not my religion.'" He outlined how Islam creates a platform for Muslims to be as pure, selfless, and devoted as possible through the Five Pillars of Islam, they must: believe in God and the Prophet Muhammad as the messenger, say your prayers, give support to the poor, fast during Ramadan, and make the pilgrimage to Mecca.

The school cafeteria smelled of strong spices, with snacks; a dance instructor taught traditional Bollywood-style dances, and a rack was filled with colorful clothing worn by Muslim women.



Mepham students: Nikkia Theodule, Rida Zaide, Umbul Ali, Menahil Kazmi, Fatima Abbas, Bianca Singh, Thana Theodule— in traditional dress.

Chop Your Locks for Charity



In the hall, rotunda, and a packed gym, a flurry of activity and a cacophony of sound took place at the sixth "Chop Your Locks for Charity" event benefitting the St. Baldrick's Foundation took place on March 16.

There was a line of people having their hair shorn to benefit children with cancer, plus tables for signing in, sales of tee shirts, raffles, and baked goods, while surrounded with music, Irish step dancing, and lots of chatter.

The effort was led by faculty members Kerry Dennis and Chris Patten, and executed by seniors in the service learning project. \$46,292 was raised.



Chris, with students Katie Virgom and Renee Althouse, and Kerry

Today's students are involved in so many ways, there isn't enough space to highlight them all. Just to give you an idea of the scope of their involvement, here are some that didn't "make the cut."

Mepham's Habitat for Humanity Club went on a build in Hempstead. The club also runs food drives and makes monthly visits to Bethany House. (ELITE program)

Skull and Bones Drama Club presented its annual "A Night on Broadway" to raise funds for families affected by domestic violence. This year they raised almost \$3,000 for the Center Against Domestic Violence, which provides safe shelters, a network of supportive services, advocacy, education, and resource information services.

Mepham's Key Club hosted a donation drive for formal wear, shoes, and accessories for *100 Suits for 100 Men*. The nonprofit group, which normally collects business wear for men who cannot afford interview-appropriate clothing, teamed up with Mepham staff and students to gather gently used prom dresses and accessories for young women living in homeless shelters. They collected more than 180 prom dresses and 30 pairs of shoes/accessories that was distributed at the Magical Moment event, held in Feb.

Students in the Participation in Government and Senior Experience have generated more than \$7,000 as a part of their service learning efforts for *Tuesday's Children*. They have given back to the families of 9/11 and to those currently serving or who have served in post 9/11 operations. Most recently they completed the creation of blankets for homeless veterans. They will be sent to the Health Care for Homeless Veterans program, which serves veterans who are homeless and have a medical, mental health, or substance abuse disorder. It provides outreach, crisis intervention and case management services, as well as housing and vocational services. Each blanket will have a label stating that the blanket was handmade.

For **P.S. I Love You Day**, the **Leadership Program** handed out purple-frosted baked goods and spread positive messages. The day, which focuses on suicide prevention, simply asks people to show and tell others that they care. The Leadership Program is a two-year course. Teacher Jackie Geller said, "the purpose of the class is to build communication skills, encourage peer mentoring, and hone listening and decision-making skills." The students have organized "Pay it Forward Day," assisted at Freshman Orientation, attended the Human Rights Conference, and hosted other events that promote positivity throughout the school. For P.S. I Love You Day, members also wrote out nearly 1,200 messages attached to Hershey Kisses, which were distributed during first period to each student as well as placed in faculty mailboxes.

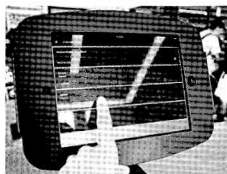
Don't count the days. Make the days count.

Muhammad Ali 1942-2016

It was reported in *Scuttlebutt* 2015 that the Class of 1954, after their reunion, gave \$5,400 as a Library Memorial Fund in recognition of their deceased classmates. The decision on how to spend it was left to the librarian. Here are her reports:

Thank You Class of '54

The Mepham Alumni have always been a very generous supporter of the school library. You may recall the restoration project they funded back in 2012. In true Mepham Alumni fashion, the Class of 1954 bequeathed a charitable grant to the library in the amount of \$5,400 last June. This grant enabled us to create an iPad reference bar. We purchased 6 iPad Airs. Each iPad is engraved, "Gifted to Mepham High School by the Class of 1954." We also purchased 6 MacLocks rotating and tilting iPad enclosures along with 6 stools for added student seating. Some of the funds were allocated to



our new MakerSpace. Our school library is a living environment and these funds will enable us to keep up with the times and provide much-needed resources to our students.

Mepham's MakerSpace

This September the Mepham High School Library unveiled its new MakerSpace. What is a makerspace? MakerSpaces (also known as tech shops, hackerspaces, or fab labs) are DIY creation places for students to gather, to build, to invent, and to learn. The maker movement in libraries across the country embodies the belief that libraries are not just for consuming information, but producing it. These spaces often have software, electronics, craft and hardware supplies and tools. Makers build physical "stuff" such as robots, digital music, movies, games, jewelry, buttons, and so much more.

We started small with a carved out nook and a traveling supply cart. The Mepham MakerSpace really took off this year thanks to a number of ELITE events that introduced the students to coding, using Makey-Makey, Sphero, and littleBits. Making creativity come to life has been an integral part of the Mepham Library.

The MakerSpace was funded through a Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District mini-grant, a Long Island School Media Association (LISMA) grant, and an alumni grant from the Class of 1954.

Shari Schneiderman Stack '98, librarian

For more about littleBit



The idea of MakerSpace is to allow the student to discover, invent, and understand through "making." To engage students and teach them the practical skills that are important in today's technological age. The program does not intend to replace the traditional educational format, rather it is supposed that they can coexist.



MakerSpaces deliver a platform for making things and learning through hands-on design. It gives Mepham students another way to be prepared for the future they will face.

Two items mentioned that are being used:

MaKey MaKey is an invention kit for the 21st century. Turn everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet. It's a simple Invention Kit for Beginners and Experts doing art, engineering, and everything in between. For instance, load up a computer program or any webpage. Let's say you load up a piano. Then, instead of using the computer keyboard buttons to play the piano, you can hook up the MaKey MaKey to something fun, like bananas, and the bananas become your piano keys.

Sphero is a spherical robot toy for learning about engineering and programming. It's a white orb wrapped in polycarbonate plastic, capable of rolling around and controlled by a smartphone or tablet. Imagine having a robot that you can control straight from your smartphone. It's called Sphero (for its spherical shape), and it can be both controlled and programmed directly from your phone or tablet via Bluetooth. You simply connect the robot just like you would any other Bluetooth device.

littleBit Lab

When the school library hosted their first ELITE event in Mepham's new MakerSpace littleBit lab, students had the opportunity to create their own modules—circuit-boards with simple, distinctive functions that are engineered to snap together with magnets. Modules each have a unique function (light, sound, sensors, buttons, thresholds, pulse, motors, etc.) and the modules snap together to make larger circuits. Using littleBits, students created a prank handshake, a motorized Lego car that operates on the amount of light available, and a windmill generated from our 3D doodle pen whose speed is dependent on the noise level. This stimulated student's creativity and they were able to problem solve when things didn't work properly.



Christopher Perillo, Star Athlete



When a coach imagines the perfect athlete, they often think of someone who works hard, has immense talent, and carries themselves as a leader among peers. When they think of the accolades this athlete may win they think of All-County, All-State, All-Conference, and championships galore. They think of the accolades this athlete may win in the community and in the classroom.

This has been the story of **Christopher Perillo**, a senior Track star at Mephnam High School, the prototypical distance runner; powerful legs driving through the dirt, arms pumping, and an attitude that can only be admired. He is the hardest worker on a team of amazing athletes.

His career at Mephnam now spans 12 seasons of running, through four Cross Country, Winter Track, and Spring Track Seasons, bringing the school many championships in his 5K runs, 1600M races, and his specialty race, the 3000M Steeplechase. At the top of every ranking you will find his name amongst the top runners in the state; countless first place medals and trophies as well as All-County in Cross Country and Winter Track. His sights are now set on his final postseason in Spring Track as he will attempt to capture county titles in the 3000M Steeplechase and 1600M race.

More than one of the most accomplished runners in Mephnam history, Chris is a beloved student and a leader inside the classroom as well, working diligently to complete his assignments to the highest standard and always seen in the halls speaking with students and representing the values of a Mephnam track athlete. As captain he has lead this team to one of its most successful seasons to date as they finished runner up in the county championships during Cross Country, third in the conference during winter track, and now poised to win both the division and county championship later this spring. Although his presence will be missed as he moves on hopefully to run at State University at Albany, his leadership and impact will forever be felt amongst his teammates and our trophy case.

*Anthony Augugliaro '09,
Head Coach Cross Country, Track and Field*

A Bit More about Chris...

Chris Perillo has been working hard over the past two years, coming close before, but finally achieving his goal — winning the Bellmore JFK Cougar Invitational 3,000 meter race in April. It's an unusual race, with the last runner eliminated every 400 meters until the final lap, when only two runners remain. It needs strategy to not have to sprint to stay in the race.

Chris said "Just to make sure I was in a good spot, make sure no one was too close behind me. That way I wouldn't have to worry about sprinting at the end of each lap." Holding on to a comfortable lead allowed him to save his energy, and have the energy left through his final lap to take the winner's trophy he dreamed of all year.

Briana Noto, Scholar Awardee



Briana Noto is an amazing young woman. She not only has committed herself to four years of track and two years as a captain of this great team, but also is one of the most generous human beings this school has to offer. Briana volunteers her time away from track to help young students who have disabilities. She gives her knowledge and skill of track and running to these students, showing them why it is the sport she loves. Running along side of them at their meets is a passion of hers.

She has won County Championships, All-Conference and All-Division honors during her tenure as a member of the track program at Mephnam High School. At the Tenth Annual Paul Limmer Invitational held on May 14th, 2016, Briana was honored with the presentation of the Gerry Hughes Memorial Scholarship. Her essay, in which she wrote about the impact that this sport has had on her young life, and how it has ultimately pushed her to pursue a career in helping others, was the essay selected for the scholarship. She represents the team, the school, and the Bellmore community in everything that she does to the highest standard.

Briana was also honored by the Merrick Kiwanis at their annual Student Recognition Dinner. She will be attending the University at Plattsburgh later this fall to pursue a career in nursing.

*Anthony Augugliaro '09,
Head Coach Cross Country, Track and Field*

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Late Breaking Jones Beach News

On May 26 Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced more than \$36 million will go for improvements for Jones Beach State Park. They include:

Restoration of the West Bathhouse: reopening the central bays to reconnect the water views and circulation from the pools to the beach; a new Taste NY Cafe, serving fresh, NY-made food and beverages; new kitchens with wider array of menu options; addition of new retail space; historic vaulted ceiling and improving the Art Deco exterior; repairing the pool filtration system; a second-floor up-scale Marine Dining Room and adjoining terraces, usable for catered events.

Improvements to East and Central Malls: new green, climate resilient Marketplace (two feet above base flood elevation), offering fresh prepared foods, also a commissary for the preparation of food for other food concessions; new bathrooms, etc.

Prototype Parking Mobile App: to make it easier to find parking.

Field 6 Concession Building: will have booths and tables during off-season for a diner-like experience.

For more information, go on-line.

Clare Eastwood Worthing '46

I have been the editor for our publications for 15 years; before that I started out as a Class Representative and then Historian. I'm 87 now, and ready to start working on my own list of priorities. I have a fairly large "bucket list" I want to deal with. But it is with mixed feelings that I leave my job as editor and the board.

I have really enjoyed preparing *Scuttlebutt*. It's like a big jig saw puzzle putting it together, and I feel so *connected* to Mephram, a school I dearly love, when I research for items to include.

Jerry — my husband, teammate, and best friend — retired from the alumni board last December. He worked so hard for them, and he found it hard to keep things off his mind during the night. His ability to sleep has improved since leaving.

Good personal things have been happening. For one, Jerry and I became first-time great grandparents, to Ariella Olga Helfand on April 25, and we look forward to visiting her north of Boston, where our grandson David, and his wife, Anna, live. Also to see our granddaughter, Amanda, and Jayme, her "fellow", who live east of Boston with our "great grand puppy" Betty.

Our family is all doing well, with health and success. Daughter Joan and her husband Bruce (in Southampton) travel, frequently on cruises, and have a sailboat they race. Daughter Cathie and her husband Israel have a thriving marriage counseling business in Cabot VT, and are taking more opportunities to visit us so we don't have to travel to them so often. David is a licensed clinical psychiatrist in Massachusetts, specializing in neurofeedback. Amanda is a rising star at Bentley University, where she works, and is making a name for herself in the Boston community. And our extended family is also doing well. So we have lots of reasons to celebrate.

While I am removing myself from direct involvement, I know I will find ways to keep in touch with Mephram, the alumni, and my classmates. My fondest memories will continue. So, as I "sail on" to the future, I wish all the best for the continuance of a strong and vibrant Alumni Association.

Clare Eastwood Worthing '46

P. S: Finally, Jerry and I want to express our gratitude for the many kind words we received. While they are not in print here, we have read them all and appreciate them very much.

The Future of the Alumni Association — an opinion

The bylaws state that the purposes of the Mephram Alumni Association are to encourage and cultivate free communication, social activity and good fellowship among the alumni and attendees of W.C. Mephram High School and to assist and promote the interests of Mephram, generally.

When it was first founded the Alumni Association did many things to fulfill these goals. One page in the 1981 *Scuttlebutt* listed more than 20 things we did at or for the alumni, school, and students including gifts to the school, T-shirts for the track team, an alumni basketball game, two choir concerts, donations towards several reunions, alumni softball team, installation of officers dinner dance, donation for trophies at Sports Award Dinner, retirement dinner for Chief Custodian, awards to 9 students, donation to PTA, and more.

The alumni were involved with the school; the students saw the alumni and their activities. In the future those students would feel a connection to the Association. Meanwhile the alumni felt they were a part of the Mephram family by their interaction with the school, even if their activity was just cheering at a basketball game..

We are doing much fewer of these activities. Although we have invested in major renovation projects in the school, the presence of our alumni is largely invisible. At the same time the thousands of Mephram alumni need less and less assistance from the Alumni Association.

In 1996 I started a Mephram Alumni blog, and with help from Roy Probeyahn it did reasonably well. After a while participant's interest faded and, when Facebook started, our alumni went there. Around 2006, in its infancy, I created a

Facebook site and persuaded Roy to maintain it. It has had a very modest following. Because we don't have enough interesting information on it visitors go there a few times and then go to the sites of their friends. If we want it to be a business site we have to feed it information about activities we generate. If we want it to be a social interaction medium we must find people who will stimulate that interaction.

The modern alumni have their own interconnected networks with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and ever growing newer social media. On their own they announce and gather attendees for their reunions, big and small. Sometimes they come to the Alumni Association for lists of names and addresses but are doing fewer mailings, just using email.

One way that we actually provide the alumni with the feeling of being in the Mephram family is through our publications. We tell them what is going on in the school, what other alumni are doing, and what the Alumni Association is doing (as little as it is). They are reminded of the good times they had in school. It is that reminder, and their gratitude for the education they received, that provides us with the funds we have.

We have money, but what we need are people who are creative in their thinking. People who think of things we can do for the alumni, students, and school. People who are willing to carry out those ideas. People who will feed information to our publications, our existing or new social media, and to the public media.

Jerry Worthing '41



All-Class Pirates' Picnic Annual Reunion



The twelfth and last one, as it turns out, took place on Sat., Sept. 12, 2015. While a reasonable number showed up, it clearly was a signal that not enough alumni were interested in our continu-

ing the effort. If there are suggestions for some other way to involve our alumni, please send them to Pres@Mepham.Org or to info@Mepham.Org.



Class of 1991 – 25th Reunion

Nearly 50 classmates, along with spouses, attended their 25th reunion on May 21, 2016 at Mulcahy's in Wantagh. The longest distance traveled honor went to Michael Elliot and Gary Neigeborn, who both flew in from Atlanta.

At the 20th reunion, Doug Livingston and Maryanne Conaghan began a relationship. They returned for the 25th reunion as a married couple, now with a beautiful son.

The event spilled over to the Wantagh Inn afterward.

Organized and reported by *Adam Rubin*

Wrestling Alumni Scholarship Dinner

On Dec. 12, following the annual Sprig Gardner wrestling tournament, 30 alumni got together at a 3-hour party at Cassidy's in North Bellmore to socialize and raise money for scholarships for graduating wrestlers plus provide supplemental funding for the betterment of the wrestling program.

Bob Keller '95

Mepham-Calhoun Classes of 1960 & 1961 50th Joint Reunion

July 8-10 (held after our deadline); at the LI Hilton-Huntington; expected over 175 to enjoy Fri. Meet & Greet, Sat. Dinner dance, and Sun. Brunch.

Brian Levy '60

Mini-Reunion

Dave Krinsky '67 has been getting together annually for a few years with his classmates.

Here they are at a restaurant in Merrick:

Barry Goodman, Bob Stein, Dave Krinsky, Donald Brown, David Simon



Annual Christmas Caroling

On the second Friday in December (Dec. 9, 2016), 7:30, meet at the tree on Circle Drive, Bellmore, rain or snow.

Annual Mepham Wrestling Alumni Scholarship Dinner

After the Sprig Gardner Wrestling Tournament; Sat. Dec. 10, 2016; location to be determined: Contact Michael Barone, Mike.Barone@Me.com, 516-456-9979; or Robert Keller, bkeller@msn.com, 646-431-9740

Class of 1967 – 50th Reunion

Saturday, July 15, 2017; Uniondale Marriott; Additional activities for Friday and Sunday are being planned. We are open to ideas and help, even if you are far away. We are working on our Missing Classmates list. Please help us by going to www.mepham.org/1967miss.html and sending us the addresses, emails, and telephone numbers of any you know. You can help us by pre-registering for the reunion (with no obligation) at: Mepham1967.com. For information, or to volunteer help, contact: Gail Hochberg: 516-379-6532, ghochberg67@msn.com; Dave Krinsky: 516-781-5878, DocKrinsky@aol.com

Class of 1972 – 45th Reunion

Summer 2017; for information, to volunteer, or make suggestions, contact: Judi Broad Hanley, JHanley401@aol.com; Lorraine (Lori) Marcus, SweetLorraine53@gmail.com; The Facebook link to register: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/Mephamclass0f72/\(W.C.MephamClassof72-40thReunionandBeyond\)](https://www.facebook.com/groups/Mephamclass0f72/(W.C.MephamClassof72-40thReunionandBeyond)).

Class of 1976 – 40th Reunion

Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.; Best Western Mill River Manor (Gramercy Room) in Rockville Center; For information contact any member of the Reunion Committee:

Marlene Diller Asulin at marlene501@aol.com

Robin Lippman Cook at rjc530@aol.com

Sherry Goldman at sherry@goldmanpr.net

Glen Held at hfamfive@gmail.com

Susan Saiewitz Parker at supark916@aol.com

Or go to their Facebook page:

Mepham High School Class Of 76 40th Reunion

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1444867109176229/>

You've got to follow your passion.

You've got to figure out

what it is you love —

who you really are.

And have the courage to do that.

I believe the only courage

anybody ever needs is the courage

to follow your own dream.

Oprah Winfrey

** means there are pictures

means there is also something in Poopdeck

68th

Jean Yeager Davenport '45 and Harry ##

66th

Richard '45 and Jeanne Higbie '46 Pitler

Margaret Clark Venuti '48 and Joe

65th

Stewart '47 and Dorothy Carlson '49 Christianson

63rd

Alma Hattenbach Langevin '41 and Val ##

Richard '50 and Carol Amari '50 Milhaven

60th

Edwin '45 and Joan Bruckner '51 Schultheis

Sam Cario '48 and Louisa

Hal (Bud) Mahoney '49 and Marion

Claire Capitanio Horn '52 and Denis ##

Dorothea Schmidt McGowan '53 and Frank

Lance '50 and Molly Dedrick '54 Blackshaw

Bob '54 and Betty Muller '54 Donohue ##

55th

Ted '56 and Janice LeBeck '57 Makoske ** ##

Mildred Palladino Peluso '60 and Nick

45th

Edward Kineke '62 and Almira

Barbara Jacobs Blanco '65 and Jorge

CarolAnn Scanlon Husted '67 and Bob ##

35th

Maria Buonauro Collins '64 and Eddie

Donald Kutner '70 and Jacqueline ##

Helen Stevens Karl '74 and Bud

50th — Golden Anniversary

Gregory Raimondo '50 and Bilma

Jack Hingher '54 and Mary Ann

Judith Hall Schwartz '56 and Robert

Annette Dutchen Zervoudakes '58 and John

Martin Cammarata '60 and Jill

Tom '60 and Gale Erhardt '60 Jenkins

Karlene Hodgson Trabold '60 and Harold ##

Bob Kaye '60 and Karen

Roxanne Martin Murray '60 and Ken

Alan Minarcik '60 and Clare ##

Gary Hedrick '61 and Dianne

Roderick '61 and Catherine McLaren '61 Ritterbusch

Chris '63 and Maria Curcio '64 Kopecky

Tom '63 and Lynne Guttilla '64 Clarke



The Makoskes



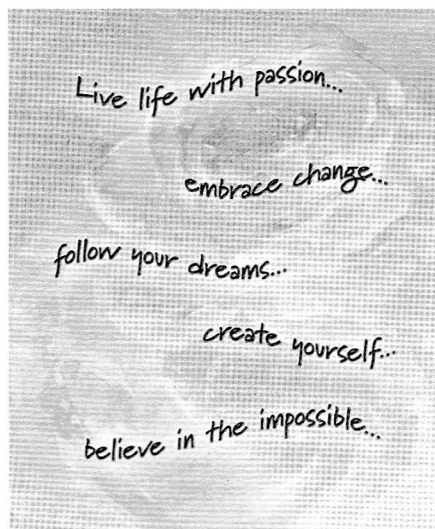
The Ritterbusches

Weddings

Richard Adler '64 and David Purcell April 12, 2014

Michael Barone '83 and Veronica Einstein, May 29, 2016

At the Potomac Point
Winery, Stafford VA:
Julie and Gary Davis '83,
Veronica and Mike, Paul '83
and Jamie Feltman, Charlie
'83 and Debbie Muller



Alumni Merchandise

(Pirate logo in middle of "Mephram" and "Alumni")

— in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL:

Short sleeve Tee Shirt \$14, Long sleeve Tee Shirt \$16

Sweatshirt (crew) \$22, Sweatshirt (hooded) \$25.

Cap: Garnet \$16, Gray \$16 — in sizes S/M or M/L

Pirate lapel pins \$5

Checks payable to: W.C. Mephram Alumni Assoc.

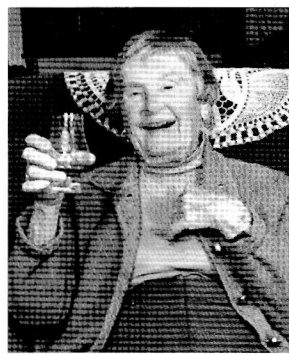
All prices include shipping fee for Continental US. (Prices lower if you buy them at the Mephram events, such as the Spring Brunch, reunions, or Bellmore Street Fair). Contact: Kevin Gallagher, CARROLL1491@yahoo.com; 516-785-1696

Other Souvenirs

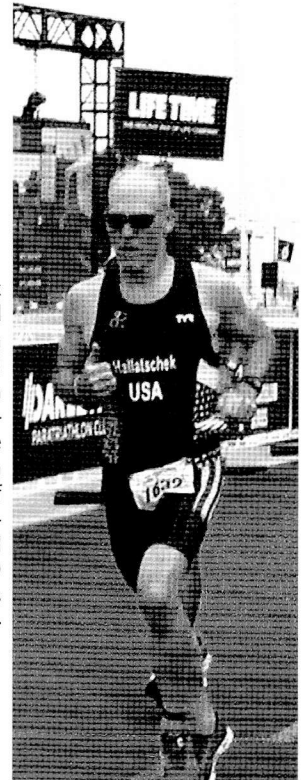
Note: For Mephram PTA merchandise and for Mephram Sports Boosters merchandise, google them for information. Both have booths at the Bellmore Street Fair.



The granddaughters of George '45 and Marilyn Miller '48 Helds, who all graduated from Mephram: Taylor Held '15, Nicole Held '03, Shannon Held '12, and Kristy Held '07



Maggie Hennessy '45 salutes her trip to Paris last Oct., with a glass of fine French wine.



Josef Hallatschek '78 qualified and participated in the International Triathlon Union World Championships for the Sprint Triathlon as a member of Team USA. Although he placed 50th in the 55-59 age group, "It was a great experience!"

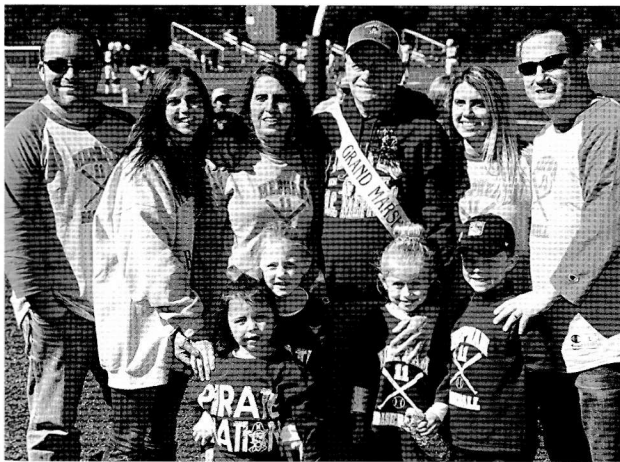


Photo by Donovan Berthoud

Honored as Grand Marshall at the Homecoming, held on Oct. 10, 2015: Sergio (Gino) DiClemente, with his family, wife Carolyn, daughters and their husbands Jason and Antonietta (Fischetti) '98, and Raffaella '99 and Scott, and four grandchildren.



Donald Petito '57 and Arlene were married 50 years; Arlene passed in 2012; lived in FL for 46 years; went to Class of '57 reunion

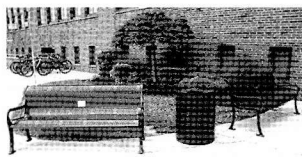


Brick on the Paver Path that Roy Probeyahn '56 bought in honor of his wife, Arleen (Wolsiefer) '56, who died 10/19/11.



At a 2014 multi-year reunion in Florida: Matt Hand '55, Roy Probeyahn '56, Jack White '53 (did not graduate), George Liers '54 (did not graduate), Tom Blank '56, Bill McFarland '58, Vic Verelli '57

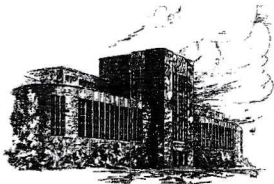
In Honor of
Gino DiClemente
Donated By
The Alumni Association



Gail Hochberg '67, Dave Krinsky '67, Lynn Setteducati Bible '65 Fred Lorenzen '50 and Margaret Knubel Lorenzen '48 at the Spring Lunch, May 1, 2016,



photos by Joan Levy



Scuttlebutt

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Alumni Association, Inc.
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North Bellmore NY 11710

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To the resident:

If this addressee no longer lives at this address, please make the correction either by e-mail to: Registrar@Mepham.org, or on the enclosed membership form and send it in the enclosed envelope.

We thank you for your help.

Mepham Pride is Still Alive !!



Upcoming Events

Alumni Board Meetings: 7:30 PM, Room 114, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Jan. 18, 2017, Feb. 15, 2017, Mar. 15, 2017, Apr. 19, 2017, May 17, 2017, June 21, 2017 Let us welcome you!

Bellmore Street Festival: Sept. 10 & 11, 2016 (Sat. and Sun.) Mepham table on Bedford at Frederick. Visit us.

Homecoming Game: Fri. night, Sept. 30, under the lights. Will host a carnival and pep rally prior to game; no parade this year.

Sprig Gardner Wrestling Tournament: Sat. Dec. 10, 2016, Mepham gym

Caroling: Fri. Dec. 9, 2016 (rain or snow) 7:30 PM at the tree on Circle Drive, Bellmore

Mailing Label and Membership Year

See label above

- Membership dues cover the **calendar year**. You can pay dues any time during this time frame.
- Your dues expiration date is indicated on the mailing label.
- "non memb" means you have not paid your dues in recent years, and may not receive future *Scuttlebutt* mailings.
- ? means we do not know your class year. Please tell us.



Moving?

Let us know.

We don't want to lose you, and returned mail is very costly. So, keep in touch with us and we will keep in touch with you.