

THE NEWSLETTER OF Colorado Rocky Mountain School

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— Spring 2010 —

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Below: Founders' Day speakers Paolo Bacigalupi '90
Beda Calhoun '06, Simon Isaacs '99
(photos: Kevin Meyers)



OH! THE PLACES YOU WILL GO!

by Lisa Raleigh

*Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away! - Dr. Seuss*

One of the things I most cherish about working at Colorado Rocky Mountain School is getting to know our students, as their depth, talent, and maturity never cease to amaze me. I am learning, however, that if you truly want to see the full potential realized from a CRMS education, you have to look at our alumni.

During the two months leading up to our Alumni Reunion and Founders' Day celebration, and with the return of several successful graduates as guest speakers, CRMS alumni were in the news on a regular basis. From an Academy Award-winning cinematographer to an X-Games gold medalist, CRMS alumni are accomplishing extraordinary things, leading compelling and exciting lives, and are truly making a difference in our world. Here

are some of the highlights surrounding our news-making CRMS alumni and our incredibly talented Founders' Day speakers.

Robel Teklemariam '93 – Robel may hail from Ethiopia, but he has always loved the mountains. Robel and his mother left Ethiopia for the United States when he was nine. Attending school in Lake Placid, New York followed by CRMS, Robel became a talented Nordic skier and earned a skiing scholarship to the University of New Hampshire. After college, Robel worked as a ski instructor in Colorado and Japan, always dreaming of competing in the Olympics. Today his dream has come true. Robel formed the Ethiopian Ski Association and competed in both the Turin and Vancouver Olympics 15K Freestyle competition, with the goal of inspiring other Ethiopians to strap on skis.

Paolo Bacigalupi '90 – Paolo returned to campus on the heels of his fifth and most recent novel, *The Windup Girl*, being named to TIME's Top Ten Fiction list. Paolo has been writing for 14 years. Specializing in science





fiction, Paolo weaves environmental, technology, and social issues into his work. He has been published in *High Country News* and *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, has been nominated for four Hugo Awards and the Nebula Award, and has won the LOCUS Award and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award. During his Founders' Day visit, Paolo forecasted that this generation of students will have to address serious challenges related to the environment and global humanitarian struggles as a result of the recklessness and inaction of previous generations. Born and raised in Colorado, Paolo credits CRMS with teaching him how to write clean, tight prose.

Peter Olenick '02 – Extreme skiing runs in the Olenick family, but this year Peter not only won a Gold medal at the Winter X Games, he also captured a Guinness World Record in the process. Winning the inaugural Ski Superpipe High Air competition, Peter secured his place in this high-flying world with a record-breaking jump out of the pipe. His sister Megan '06, also a CRMS grad, grabbed a fifth place finish in the Women's Slopestyle Skiing competition.

Mags Miller '90 – Mags has spent the past decade producing films that focus on human interest and natural history projects for TLC, Animal Planet, Science Channel, Fit TV, HGTV, and National Geographic. Mags continues to build an extraordinary resumé in international location production—she has lived or worked in Nigeria, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Thailand, Hong Kong, Cambodia, Vietnam, Fiji, and South Africa. Her most recent work took her to Helmand Province in Afghanistan, where she was embedded with the U.S. Marines for a National Geographic Explorer special, "Camp Leatherneck."

Simon Isaacs '99 – Simon is a leader in sustainability and cause-related marketing, and is currently the Vice President for *ignition, Inc.*, where he leads cause-marketing and campaigns for clients that include Coca-Cola, Gucci, Chick-Fil-A, British Petroleum, the World Wildlife Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the United Nations Foundation, among others. Simon credits CRMS with inspiring him to "make a difference in the world." He captivated students and alumni during his Founders' Day presentations by illuminating what is possible both individually and collectively, when we focus on making a positive impact on our inter-

connected global community.

Brooke Aitken '91 – Brooke was the cinematographer for the feature-length documentary, *The Cove*, which recently won the Academy Award for Best Documentary. *The Cove* follows an elite team of activists, filmmakers, and free divers as they embark on a covert mission to penetrate a remote and hidden cove in Japan where they discover a deadly secret - the slaughtering of hundreds of dolphins. Brooke's resumé includes 11 feature films and over 100 specials, commercials, and TV segments. When recently congratulated by CRMS's Laura McCormick for *The Cove*, the Boulder-based cinematographer heartily replied, "Thank you, and thanks to CRMS and the faculty for seriously turning my life around (trust me, ask any faculty)."

Beda Calhoun '06 – As the final Founders' Day speaker, Beda presented her slides and personal reflections of a recent Nepalese trek this past fall, beautifully articulating how this experience left her humbled and amazed at the quiet strength and beauty of the Nepalese people. The trek gave her irrepressible spirit a new perspective on connecting with those in a different culture that those in our mountain-climbing community visit often. Beda encouraged all in attendance to reach out, explore, and connect – perfectly epitomizing the CRMS experience.

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S LETTER

ONLY CONNECT by Jeff Leahy

"Education for human freedom is also education for human community." - William Cronon

The theme for this year's Founders' Day was "Only Connect," setting a wonderful stage for alumni weekend and our shift to having alumni join us during the academic year. The theme came from the title of an essay by William Cronon in which he poses the question as to what it means to have been educated within the liberal arts, and his thesis is that one must truly connect with the material and the community. The alumni presence during Founders' Day enabled us to (re)connect across a number of different generations as we paid our respects to the courage and the vision of John and Anne Holden.

When I retell the origins of Colorado Rocky Mountain School, the story usually begins with John and Anne packing the green truck and driving across country. In 1952 it would have been slow going, particularly as they made their way through the mountains into the Roaring Fork Valley. However, for this Founders' Day I wanted to take us back even further - before John and Anne packed up the truck and before Anne took the job at Shady Hill in Cambridge so that they would have some income as John made the rounds to recruit faculty and students and to raise money for the school.

Their departure officially began when John and Anne met with Carmalita Hinton, the Headmistress and Founder of the Putney School, and shared with her their plan of starting a school in the

West. We might be surprised to learn – because we take it for granted now – that their school would be pretty progressive for their time. Colorado Rocky Mountain School would be co-ed, with an emphasis on the arts and a strong outdoor program, and would rely on the collective energy of the teachers and the faculty to build the program.

When Ms. Hinton heard these ambitious plans, she remarked that she was flattered that she had inspired them to begin their own school and saddened that they would be leaving Putney. John and Anne had done just about every job there was to do at the school, and after 16 years I imagine that they were about as important to Putney as Charlotte Jossman, Jack Snobble, Pat Fender, Paula Mechau, and others have been to us. At the end of the meeting, Ms. Hinton warned that founding a school can be risky and isolating.

I imagine with this advice ringing in their ears, they left Putney to begin their preparations for what was to become Colorado Rocky Mountain School. I am sure it took a lot of courage to leave what had been their home for years, but John and Anne knew that they would be founding a school based on a community effort.

They relied on a group of people who didn't just stand around to see what would happen but contributed in meaningful ways at critical times. In the early years, John and Anne may have had limited funds, but they did not have any trouble finding people

who wanted to be a part of the school – there were plenty of faculty and students eager to join in the Holdens' dream. There were the teachers from Putney who arrived for the first summer session and volunteered their time without pay. There was the generosity of Shorty Pabst, local ranchers, and others who contributed in more ways than just financially.

As the school has grown, we've continued to celebrate the collective work that has gone on here – buildings that have been built and contributions that have been made by faculty and students during their time at CRMS. We see this generosity in our own students and alumni today, whether through a formal club or through their capacity to jump in and help out when needed.

This school, whose mission is to inspire all of us to think beyond ourselves, is itself a school that exists because people have modeled this very behavior. All of what we know as Colorado Rocky Mountain School would not exist without people who have thought about others, ensuring that the noose John and Anne stuck their necks into never really tightened. John and Anne believed that the purpose of a school was to inspire graduates to go forth and create a better world for themselves and the next generation. There is no doubt that the student who does this is one who has connected to the curriculum, the people, and the place.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

CRMS has been chosen by the Vail Leadership Institute to be one of nine high schools to champion their character-developing Exploring Potential Curriculum for the 2010-11 school year. We have successfully piloted their leadership curriculum in the underclassman dorms this year, so it is an honor to have been chosen to receive this fully funded opportunity for the next school year.

CRMS STUDENT HEADED TO NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE MONOLOGUE COMPETITION

by Jeff Schlepp

“NEW YORK IS CALLING.” Congratulations to Caelina Eldred-Thielen, who took first place this March in the State Shakespeare Monologue Competition at the University of Denver. Caelina competed against 12 other high school students from around Colorado. She presented her CRMS competition-winning Shakespeare comic monologue, portraying Viola from “Twelfth Night,” along with Shakespeare’s Sonnet Number 23. Her performance was personal and touching. She performed a stand-out monologue with a genuine and real representation of her character. By winning the state competition, Caelina now receives an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City in late April to compete nationally against over 50 other high school students from around the country. The monologue competition is held at the famous Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. The winner of the national competition will attend a summer session to study theatre at Oxford University in England. Congratulations from CRMS!





TWO CRMS SENIORS EGYPT BOUND

by Lisa Raleigh

Colorado Rocky Mountain School seniors Mima Strong and Olivia Mertz started an Operation Smile Club on the CRMS campus in the fall of 2008. Operation Smile is a global organization that provides free surgeries to cleft-palate children around the world. Since its inception in 1982, Operation Smile has given over 135,000 children a new chance at life by providing them with safe, effective reconstructive surgery to correct their facial deformities. Utilizing all-school meetings as a platform to raise awareness surrounding this organization and bake sales as their key fundraising mechanism, their club of 11 student members has raised over \$2,200 and has funded eight cleft-palate surgeries.

In August of 2009, Mima and Olivia attended an Operation Smile International Leadership conference in Norfolk, Virginia, with 500 other students from around the world. This was the pair's first step towards making an Operation Smile medical mission a reality.

Then this past January they traveled to Norfolk one more time for a Mission Training Workshop with 25 other students. At this workshop, they learned what it means to go on an Operation Smile medical mission and that the primary role of a student is to educate the local community. Students on missions will meet hundreds of families and children every day at the hospital or in the local schools and orphanages. And the students will have opportunities to give presentations on dental hygiene, oral re-hydration, burn care, and nutrition. Students also spend time with children and families before their surgeries and after, and are even able to sit in on the medical surgeries.

Mima and Olivia recently received the news that they have been placed together on an Operation Smile Medical Mission in Cairo, Egypt, in late March. They will be traveling with a student sponsor as well as a medical team for their ten-day journey.

CRMS CALCULUS CLASS GOES GLOBAL

by Bru (David) Brudzinski

The four walls of the classroom have imploded - letting in the world. No longer is education confined by time and place. We are on the cusp of a global revolution in teaching and learning where "anyone can learn anything from anyone at anytime" (*The World is Open*, Dr. Curtis Bonk.) The tools and resources of Web 2.0 provide the means to truly democratize education for all. Beginning in the second semester, this global learning community will be opened to my Calculus classes at CRMS. I invite you to join us in this exciting adventure.

I have created a CRMS Calculus blog in which students will read and write about what they are learning in Calculus. They will explore the virtual classroom of the Internet, adding to and enhancing what they have learned in the physical classroom. Student web posts will in essence become an online textbook written by students, for students, in their own language. It will provide a resource for students who have missed class, a forum in which to discuss ideas, a platform to collaborate on problems, and a repository for students who need a "student friendly" explanation of a concept or procedure. My hope is that the CRMS Calculus weblog will encourage a community of learners who support and guide each

other in the learning process.

This foray into an online learning environment is also meant to expose students to the essential skills, knowledge, and expertise students must master to succeed in work and life in the information-driven 21st century. Online learning has become an integral part of higher education. No longer is a teacher tethered to a textbook and a chalkboard to support student learning. Nor are students confined to one medium in which to express their understanding. As a college-preparatory school, CRMS must provide students with the map and compass skills necessary to navigate the information wilderness through which they will travel. By blending the face-to-face classroom with online activities in Calculus, my hope is to give students a glimpse into the future of their education.

This is an open invitation for others from outside our classroom to join in the learning conversation, to view what students are discovering, to post comments on student work, and to share their insight and expertise. By extending the dialogue beyond the temporal and physical boundaries of the classroom, the gap between formal and informal learning narrows, and we all learn.

Please join us at <http://crmscalc2010.blogspot.com>.

DID YOU KNOW...

Rico Torres, who teaches Spanish at CRMS, not only has a PhD from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana in Mexico City, but is also a music aficionado. Owing over 1,500 CDs, Rico enjoys classical music and progressive rock. In addition to teaching and overseeing trip logistics at CRMS, he hosts a radio show, "Another Brick in the Wall," on KDNK (Carbondale's community radio station).

HELP US STAY GREEN

(DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?)

If not, please send your email address to lmccormick@crms.org

ROB STEIN - VISITING SCHOLAR

by Carolyn Hardin`

Rob Stein, Principal of Manual High School in Denver, member of the CRMS Board of Trustees, and former CRMS faculty member, visited CRMS over Martin Luther King Day as a Visiting Scholar. Rob has an incredible wealth of experience in progressive education, both in practice and intellectual study, and he is nationally known as a leader in education reform.

Rob’s scholar visit began up at Spring Gulch when he joined the Nordic Program for a Saturday morning practice. Sunday evening he met with department chairs over dinner at the Head of School’s house, where assessments and educational practices in the public and private sectors were discussed. On Monday and Tuesday, Rob visited classes, observed teachers in the humanities, and sat in on a few administrative meetings. Monday evening, Rob was the featured Martin Luther King Day speaker. He posed this question to the CRMS community: “If education were

truly a civil right, how would things be different?”

Rob believes that if education were truly a civil right, then there would be early childhood education (preschool) for all children; all new moms and dads would receive parenting education; schools would provide “wrap-around” services including food and nutrition, health services, mentoring, enrichment and extracurricular activities, and athletics; students needing more time in school (longer days and/or longer years) would have it; every child would have an honest choice of school; there would be a highly qualified teacher in every classroom; the full cost of education would be funded, including costs for students with disabilities and special needs; there would be an equitable distribution of resources, including teaching materials and technology; and there would be more incentives for students and parents for school success.

DID YOU KNOW. . .

CRMS purchases 95% organic fresh produce. During the months of May to October, our garden provides the bulk of our fresh produce. But during the winter when produce from our immediate area is not available, we are able to source organic produce from a small company called Growers Organic. The bulk of their produce comes from farms all over Colorado first and then they source from California and Arizona.

And on the back end of things, since 1998 when the CRMS Garden Program was revitalized, the composting efforts of faculty and students have kept an estimated 360,000 pounds of kitchen waste out of landfills and turned it into compost used to enrich the soil in the school’s gardens.

STUDENT GREEN TIP:

Courtesy of CRMS Sustainability Work Crew

Here at Colorado Rocky Mountain School we have a long legacy of environmental stewardship and implementing sustainable practices, including our recycling and food composting program which removes all viable products from the waste stream. But even at a high school as conscientious as ours, we still have areas that we could improve.

THE PROBLEM

The U.S. throws away almost 50% of its food every year. That’s about 51.8 tons of food. Just 5% of America’s food leftovers could feed 4 million people for a day. CRMS throws away about 250 pounds per week. Even though that food doesn’t go to the landfill, it still is being wasted.

A SOLUTION

Take only as much food as you can finish. You can always go back for more if you’re still hungry. We eliminated the use of trays last year, which has helped reduce the amount of food you can take at one time and thereby reduces wastefulness.

WHERE IS THIS?



Be one of the first ten people to email in the correct PHYSICAL location of this object on our campus and receive a complimentary CRMS sustainable grocery bag. Please email your response and full contact information to lmccormick@crms.org

THANKS AND GOOD LUCK!



NORDIC TEAM ROUND-UP

by Nick Brown

The CRMS skiers had a great two days of racing to cap off the season in Frisco late February. Despite the challenging weather conditions, with snow falling during every race, the CRMS team pulled off some great efforts. Gus Griffin led the boys with a 5th place finish in the classic race, and in heavy snowfall made it across the line in 8th pace during the skate race. For the girls, Jacqueline Larouche led the team with a career best 11th place finish in the skate race, and a respectable 19th place finish in the classic race. Gus ended the season ranked 7th in skate and 8th in classic, and Jacqueline was 22nd in classic and 14th in skate.

In the classic race, Maria Mork (first year on the team) finished 33rd and Maggie Deveny finished 41st. Maria raced again in the skate race, joined by Florentina Arthuber. Florentina, who didn't join the team until halfway through the season and started out as an alpine-only racer, finished in 32nd place. Maria replicated her finish from the day before, crossing the line in 33rd.

This marked the final weekend of school league racing for the 2010 season and capped off a season of notable improvement by the members of the team, most of whom were only in their first or second years of skiing. As we celebrate this wonderful group and their accomplishments this season, we look forward to more exciting adventures in the seasons to come.

In the meantime, Gus qualified for the CO Junior Olympic Team and competed in Maine in mid-March. And as spring unfolds, some of our girls are underway on pre-season soccer, and there is a lot of paddling, cycling, and climbing to be done before the next ski season is upon us!



ALPINE TEAM FINISHES STRONG

by Max Stevens

The nine girls and two boys of the Alpine Ski Team had a great season. The whole team competed in the Colorado High School Ski League races, and several athletes also competed in national and international points races. Two girls competed with the CRMS Nordic Team as well. The CRMS Alpine Team has always provided, and continues to provide, an important opportunity for students to be a part of a team and learn to support their teammates. The team continued the traditions of the past by dedicating themselves and taking the sport seriously. However, the team always remembered to have fun. They moved ahead this season by forming a partnership with the Aspen Valley Ski Club (AVSC). This helped the team in numerous ways. We practiced at Aspen Highlands on a world-class training hill. Craig Carlson, a former AVSC athlete and current Aspen High School ski coach, helped coach the CRMS team. CRMS trained with Aspen High School, and the CRMS athletes enjoyed the opportunity to get to know other high school students in the valley. The AVSC partnership also provided CRMS skiers the opportunity to compete at higher levels with the club. The Alpine Team is an important component of CRMS's history of winter sports and is poised to continue to be so. The relationship with AVSC will continue to provide opportunities for CRMS ski racers to strive for excellence. The Alpine Team will also continue to challenge students to live the CRMS mission: being a part of the team asks the athletes to excel as individuals, contribute to the team, and participate as thoughtful members of the team.

CLIMBING TEAM SWEEPS REGIONALS

by Dave Meyer and Morgan Williams

In order to compete in the Colorado High School Climbing League, the climbing program continued into the third quarter for the first time ever. This year the indoor season included competitions in Carbondale and Montrose. The season finished with Regional Championships in Grand Junction and State Championships in Colorado Springs. At the Montrose High School comp, senior Paris Yaffe and junior Tobin Sanson shared in a three-way tie for first. The CRMS boys' team placed first overall at that meet. The Regional Championships also provided a high point of the season.

The boys' team emerged as Western Slope Champions, with Paris Yaffe taking home the overall win. The State Championships included nearly 100 qualifying students from 4 regions. The team struggled a bit with an unfamiliar format mixing roped climbing and bouldering. Despite this, junior Ben Dowson led the Oysters with a 7th place finish and the boys came in 4th place as a team. On the girls' side, Lea Linse represented an injury-depleted squad and finished 13th overall. It was a great first experience at States, and we look forward to a strong return next year.

MEET NICK BROWN

by Lisa Raleigh

Q – Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Alstead and Walpole in southwest New Hampshire. It is a very rural part of New England with lots of rolling hills, maple trees, and dairy farms. Within that context, I basically grew up at a construction site, as my parents spent the summers building our house for about 10 years. I had friends within about a 5-mile radius, and we would run and bike back and forth and try to explore as much of the area between our houses as possible.

Q – What were you doing before coming to CRMS?

I was the director of snow sports at a private boarding school in Vermont. I coached the Nordic team, oversaw all the snow sports programs, and maintained the nordic trails, ski jumps, and small terrain park we had on campus.

Q – What are your responsibilities at CRMS?

I teach mathematics - Algebra and Geometry. I am also the Head Coach of the Nordic program, and in the off seasons I am an instructor with the climbing program. I am the dorm team leader for the New Boys Dorm, where I live.

Q – What would you like to see happen with the CRMS Nordic program?

I would like to see the Nordic Team continue to grow with people of all ability levels. We have beginners who are learning a new sport, and we have more advanced skiers who are ready to start thinking about some goals they can work towards. I would like to see the CRMS Nordic Team introduce new people to the sport of cross country skiing, and be competitive on the high school scene. I would also like to see CRMS skiers regularly competing in the regional Junior Olympic qualifying series. One of the great things about Nordic skiing is that it requires you to put in some effort to improve, but it is also easy to see the results of your hard work as you do improve. I talk a lot about competition, setting goals and putting in hard work; but just going out for an adventure in the woods on a snowy day with good people is really what the core of the program is all about!



SEEKING FUTURE PEARLS & OYSTERS

DID YOU KNOW . . .

- Over 75% of current CRMS students first learned about the school from alumni, current parents, or friends of the school?
- Please help us continue the legacy.
- Recommend future Pearls and Oysters at admission@crms.org or (970) 963-2562

Thank you for supporting the CRMS admission process!





DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

by Carolyn Hardin

CRMS SUPPORTERS ARE VITAL TO OUR SUCCESS

The 2009-10 Colorado Rocky Mountain School Annual Fund drive draws to a close on June 30. CRMS supporters have shown their loyalty to the school and their belief in the mission by donating 85% of the \$500,000 goal. These funds are vital to CRMS's ability to provide its life-changing educational experience to our students.



Reminder letters will be sent soon to those who have made a pledge but not yet sent in their donation. Students will be making phone calls to potential donors as well—this is a great opportunity to find out first-hand what is happening on campus this spring.

Development is also focusing on increasing participation rates in our various constituencies. High participation rates show foundation and other leadership donors that CRMS is strong and valued. If you have not yet given to the Annual Fund this year, please make your gift before June 30. CRMS needs your support.

To those who have given, we offer our heartfelt thanks. You are *Vital to Our Success!*

CAPITAL PROJECT WISH LIST

Thank you to those donors who have chosen to fund one of our capital project needs. Recent donations have included funding for furniture and carpet for the New Boys Dorm, a concrete floor for the Forge, a remodel and installation of solar panels for the Glassblowing Studio, and a new greenhouse for the Organic Garden Learning Center.

Donations are still being sought for several projects, including the planned Music Building and Active Center. If any of the items still on the wish list appeal to you, please call Carolyn at 970-963-2562 to discuss how you might be able to help make these projects a reality.

Ranch Fencing--\$5,000

Furniture for Dorm Common Areas and Holden House--\$10,000

Garden Expansion and Greenhouse (\$60,000 raised to date)--\$10,000

Double-Pane Windows--\$50,000

Technology Upgrades--\$75,000+

Active Center--\$150,000

Solar Collector Systems for hot water heaters for six dormitories--\$28,000 per dorm

CRMS History Project--\$250,000

Vehicles—Large SUV's with 50,000 or less miles for Active Program; small sedan for faculty trips to Denver for professional development; electric truck

PARENTS OFFER CHALLENGE GRANT TO IMPROVE DORM INTERNET

Ralph and Lynda Lipe wanted to make a gift to CRMS that would be "meaningful for boarding students." After taking a look at the CRMS Capital Project Wish List, the Lipes decided to fund one of the school's technology needs—the improvement of the Internet infrastructure for the dorms. The Lipes have offered to pay for running fiber to two of the dorms, and they would like to challenge other parents of boarding students to provide the funding for this project for two more dorms. The cost is \$5,000 per dorm. Fiber will be run to the remaining two dorms, the Roaring Fork and the Crystal, when the planned new dorms are built on that side of campus.

If this opportunity to give speaks to you, please contact Carolyn Hardin at 970-963-2562 or chardin@crms.org.

TELLURIDE MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR 2010



The tenth annual Telluride MountainFilm on Tour festival was held on February 12th and 13th in the CRMS barn. Both nights featured thought-provoking, entertaining films. Friday's audience traveled to Japan for skiing in bottomless powder, to the Tasman Sea for a solo kayak voyage, to the Bahamas for bonefishing with a master, and to the Vindhya Mountains in India for a climbing expedition with CRMS alum Conrad Anker '81. Saturday's viewers were inspired by Dr. Rick Hodes' work treating Ethiopian children with tuberculosis of the spine, by climber Lisa Rands, and by sustainable farmer Vern Switzer from North Carolina. They also followed Hari Rai on his "Journey of a Red Fridge" through Nepal to raise funds for his education.

Thanks to all who sponsored, volunteered for, or attended this great community event.

DONORS—DID YOU RECEIVE THE LATEST ISSUE OF *THE CORNERSTONE*?

Our donors are the cornerstone that ensures that we are able to prepare our students for extraordinary lives. The Cornerstone e-newsletter is published quarterly by the CRMS Development Office. *The Cornerstone* is designed to inform you about all of the great things that are happening at CRMS as a result of your investment in the school.

Please send your email address to lmccormick@crms.org so we can tell you about all of the exciting things happening at CRMS with your support!



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLANNING UNDERWAY

As was reported in the last Newsletter, CRMS is planning a new comprehensive campaign, in which funds will be raised for capital projects, CRMS endowments, and the Annual Fund.

The capital component of the campaign, estimated at \$10 million, will enable CRMS to improve the dormitories and preserve ranch buildings that are integral to the school's history. Two new dorms will vitalize our boarding program and will enhance the campus's connection to the Crystal River. In addition, the New Boys Dorm will be renovated to house Administration and Student Support offices, the Holden House will be restored to its historic configuration, the library will be relocated to the center of campus, and the basement of the Jossman Building will be finished so that it can be used for academic purposes. These projects are designed to expand the school's ability to deliver its high quality program.

CRMS has contracted with The Compass Group, who will assist with the planning of the campaign. Compass brings a wealth of experience to this effort. A few of the hundreds of organizations

that Compass has worked with are the Colorado Springs School, the High Mountain Institute, the National Outdoor Leadership School, and The Access Fund. We look forward to learning from all of The Compass Group's past success in helping independent schools and other organizations across the country reach their strategic goals.

Construction drawings for the dorms are currently being drawn. The Board of Trustees and campus Buildings and Grounds Committees are working with the architect to ensure that the buildings will best meet the needs of our students while being as energy efficient and green as possible.

This is an exciting time for CRMS! Stay tuned to www.crms.org for more information as the planning continues. This important campaign will be a great opportunity for all of us to support this school that we believe in so strongly. Together we will preserve this historic and meaningful place, while ensuring that CRMS is sustainable far into the future.

CRMS ON THE ROAD

by Carolyn Hardin

CRMS staffers held three receptions this winter in cities from East to West. These events are a chance for us to meet and talk with alumni and families and provide an update on what is happening at CRMS this year. They also enable CRMS friends to connect and re-connect with each other. Receptions still to come this year will be held in Boulder, Colorado, and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Dates and locations for these events will be posted on the website www.crms.org shortly.

CHICAGO

Head of School Jeff Leahy hosted a reception at the Drake Hotel in Chicago on December 3rd. Joining him was Tracy Wilson, Associate Director of Admission. Alumni, parents, and friends joined Jeff at the event, including Ralph Beck '73 and his wife Elizabeth Goodbody, current parent Jennifer Stocker, Johnny Richardson '70, and alumni parent Julie van Overbeek.

NEW YORK

Ted '61 and Regula Hepp hosted the New York City reception at their Manhattan home on January 27th. Carolyn Hardin, Director of Development, was there as well. Alumni from several decades shared wine and hors d'oeuvres and stories, including Kiki Gould-Martin '61, Arthur Hughes '62 and his wife Lanie Fleischer, Tracy Fitz '67, Wendy Marston Lehman '87 and her husband Ben, and Karlyn Monroe '97 and her friend Erin Williams.

SAN FRANCISCO

Jeff Leahy and Lolly Lewis '69, Alumni Representative on the CRMS Board of Trustees, hosted the San Francisco reception on February 25th. Friends of the school Judy and Richard Guggenheim opened their lovely apartment for the event. Attendees included Deirdre Dole Golani '65; Robin Sutherland '69; Catherine Wyler Hayden '71; Karen Kidwell '72; Stephen Clark '77; Robert

Ford '83 and Laura; Cheyla Samuelson '88 and Nico Tripcevich '89 and their daughter Sophie; Erin McVoy Haines '93 and her husband Christopher; Tad Whitaker '94; and David Yanez '08. Jeff shared stories with the group about what a great year it has been at CRMS, and told of the school's upcoming plans for the new capital campaign that will finance new dormitories and remodels of the New Boys' Dorm and Holden House.

WASHINGTON, DC

Dan Martinez '77 and Mags Miller '90 organized a happy hour cocktail party in Washington, DC on January 28th. Based on the picture Mags sent, it looks like a fun time was had by all!

Florida resident Tim Kinzler '77 just happened to be in the DC area at the time of the happy hour gathering and was able to join the event after reading about it on the CRMS Alumni Facebook Fan Page!



Tim Kinzler '77, Dan Martinez '77, co-worker of Patrick Robinson, Mags Miller '90, Patrick Robinson '96, Randy Berger '96.



Q & A WITH BOT MEMBER SCOTT GILBERT

by Carolyn Hardin

Scott Gilbert joined the Colorado Rocky Mountain School Board of Trustees in May, 2009. His professional path has led him from education to a highly successful advertising and marketing career. Scott moved to the Roaring Fork Valley permanently in 2004, and has since made his mark in a variety of non-profit organizations, including CRMS.

Q: Tell us some more about your background and experiences.

A: I went to public school, growing up in New York City's suburbs when public school used to have a well-balanced program. I attended a private college, Lehigh University, majoring in business after quickly discovering I wasn't cut out to be an engineer. There I began my involvement with kids as a Big Brother and also working at a summer camp. I nearly went on for a Masters in Special Education, but I decided to teach first to see how I liked it and make sure that I wanted to have a career in education. So I taught math, coached several sports, and was eventually Head of the Middle School at an excellent private K-12 day school in Fairfield County, Connecticut - Greens Farm Academy. After five years there and getting my MBA at night, I decided it was time to experience a different line of work (again, I was not sure whether or not I would want to return to teaching). I entered the business world by joining a large advertising agency in New York City. After five years in New York City, I was transferred to Los Angeles to help lead the Toyota account, and after a few years I was tapped to help launch Lexus.

Author's note—Scott is being quite humble here when he says he was "tapped to help launch Lexus." He was the Chief Executive Officer of Saatchi & Saatchi in Los Angeles, and then went on to become founder and CEO of their sister agency, Team One Advertising, where he was highly successful in building the Lexus brand over a ten year period. Scott also held many leadership positions in national and global advertising industry associations, and won several advertising and marketing awards.

Meanwhile my two daughters attended a private day school in Los Angeles, The Chadwick School, where I participated as a parent, and then as a Board member. The Chadwick School had a strong academic program, many options outside the classroom, and an active outdoor education program. While on the Chadwick School Board, I focused on improving communication and on raising scholarship funds to enable minorities to attend the school.

Since Los Angeles' weather was so monotonous, and we missed the seasons common in a mountain area, we bought a vacation home in Old Snowmass. This became our full-time home in 2004 after I retired from my 25 years in the business world.

Once I moved full-time to the Roaring Fork valley, I got engaged in the Roaring Fork School District's Pre-Collegiate Program, mentoring students who are the first generation in their family to attend college. Simultaneously, I also got involved in volunteering for Habitat for Humanity here, which has become a large commitment. *Scott is currently President of the Board of Trustees for the local Habitat for Humanity.*

Q: How did you first become involved with Colorado Rocky Mountain School?

A: I first got involved with CRMS when I brought one of my 10th

grade mentees from the Pre-Collegiate Program, Mo Osorio, to visit the school to explore the possibility of his attending CRMS. I subsequently suggested other talented students to Molly Hall Dorais.

Q: What do you think makes CRMS special or unique among schools and independent schools?

A: CRMS's strong programs inside the classroom, and its range of activities outside the classroom, make the school a special place where students can discover themselves and thrive. There are many opportunities for students to find and develop their passion(s). I think of CRMS as a place where students can try new things and grow in an emotionally safe environment.

Q: Why were you interested in joining the Colorado Rocky Mountain School Board of Trustees?

A: I am a strong believer in education helping unleash a young person's potential. Since I have enjoyed being in and around schools with similarities to CRMS, I wanted to continue to experience that joy of seeing students grow. I was hoping I could share my enthusiasm and skill set to help the school be even more effective. I feel very fortunate that I am now at a point in my life where I have the time to give back to the community.

Q: What do you hope the Board of Trustees will accomplish during your tenure?

A: I hope that the Board can help create the support that the school's administration and faculty can utilize to make CRMS even better at what it does. Ideally, the Board can help eliminate hurdles and create opportunities so that all of the school's constituents can thrive.

Q: What are your strongest hopes for CRMS in the future?

A: I would love to see the Board help the school be in a 100% enrollment situation with appropriate campus infrastructure and educational-improvement projects abounding.

2009-10 CRMS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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RAVE REVIEWS FOR REUNION 2010

by Laura McCormick '93

On February 11th-14th, Colorado Rocky Mountain School hosted its first-ever winter Reunion combined with the Founders' Day symposium and Telluride MountainFilm on Tour. The program of speakers (including three alumni), discussion sessions, feasts, films, and activities allowed the 40 alumni and guests opportunities to reconnect with one another, interact with students and faculty, and enjoy the beauty of winter in our valley. Attendees experienced a new kind of reunion, during which they could not only share memories with fellow alumni back on campus but also meaningfully connect with the profound vitality of CRMS today.

'99 and Beda Calhoun '06, and a guest speaker, Dr. Bonyo Benson Bonyo. Each one of them filled attendees' heads with inspiring ideas about how we can each make a difference for our global community when, with a little determination and ingenuity, we reach out and truly connect. Former faculty member Sue Lavin said this about her Founders' Day experience: "The memory of the Holdens, the aura of the Barn, thoughts of the plays and all the wonderful students I directed there, the importance of the work that engages all the speakers, their contribution to social justice, the concentrated faces of the students and alumni in the audience, their good

questions, it was all another reminder of what a unique and important place CRMS is." (Please see page 1 for more about the symposium.)

On Friday afternoon, alumni had the opportunity to ski with the Nordic Team or join CRMS Garden Director Linda Halloran and the Garden Work Crew. Friday's Bar Fork dinner was followed by an opportunity to attend the diverse program of Telluride MountainFilm selections in the Barn.

Saturday found most of the alumni hitting the slopes (in the backcountry or valley resorts). The cocktail hour brought alumni, faculty, and staff together at the Head's house for appetizers, libations, and conversation.

Then the group headed over to the Village Smithy for a special alumni dinner. Later in the evening alumni watched more Telluride MountainFilm movies in the Barn or went to a bonfire beside the north-end pond to share stories and memories.

(continued on page 22)



Reunion festivities began on Thursday with an afternoon reception in the Bar Fork for Founders' Day speakers and alumni. After a formal dinner, the symposium component of the weekend began in dynamic fashion, with alumnus Paolo Bacigalupi's '90 provocative talk. Friday included presentations by two alumni, Simon Isaacs



Top photo: the entire Smithy dinner crew. Lower left: Lee Beck, Ed Maynard '58 and wife Mickey. Lower right: Olivia Emery '00, Leif Anderson '00, Natalie Kramer and Matt Cahn '05.



CONNECTIONS

ALUMNI ESSAYS

In keeping with our Founders' Day theme of "Only Connect," we asked some of our alumni to submit essays on their personal accounts of connection. Following, please find their stories.

A RUMANIAN ADVENTURE

Photos and story by Dick Durrance '60

Dick Durrance '60 is an award-winning photographer of national parks, the world's great golf courses, and National Geographic projects. He is currently focusing on motivational speaking, with his keynote presentation of Sparking Ideas: Seven Keys to Big Ideas.

It is never easy moving from one chapter of our lives into the next, but I think it is particularly difficult for soldiers returning from combat. The intensity of fighting and the loss of friends warp the lens through which we see the world. When I returned from Vietnam, ordinary people living everyday lives seemed pretty strange to me.

I could not connect with them or their lives. I am sure I seemed a little strange to them too. You know how it is when we go through a traumatic experience: our emotions get bound up and our dreams get locked down.

Fortunately, a couple of weeks after being discharged from the army I got together with a couple of friends from the Danube trip (a 1964 canoe trip down the Danube River for *National Geographic* that derived some of its inspiration from the CRMS Spring Trips). We had created another idea for the *Geographic*, this time to hike the Carpathian Mountains of Rumania from the Russian border to the Danube River. I couldn't wait to show the editors what I could do now as a photographer after my two years of seasoning in the army.

It turned out, though, that the time was not quite right for me. We weren't more than a day or two into the trip when I realized that the warp in my lens that made it so difficult for me to relate to members of my family was making it impossible to relate to the people I was trying to

photograph in Rumania. It was like a wall had grown up between us. There was no emotional connection.

About a week into the trip we crested a hill, and there below us was this magnificent Moldavian cloister called Sucevita. It was so beautiful we set up camp right there. Soon the Mother Superior approached us, wanting to know what we were doing on her hill. We explained to her that we were journalists doing a story on Rumania and described for her the arduous 25 kilometers we'd hiked

from Arbore that day. She invited us in for a meal.

We were ushered into her cozy little kitchen and introduced to her cook. "Natalia, these boys are from America. What can you do for them?" In moments Natalia had a fire crackling in the stove, and as the room filled with the aroma of an omelet rising, the Mother Superior reached out to each of us, asking us to tell her about our families and to describe growing up in America. I was so taken with how completely she had connected with us that I blurted out that I had just returned from Vietnam.

After a long silence, she said, "Oh, that must have been so hard. We are going to have a service tomorrow morning at seven. You are welcome to join us."

Entering the chapel was like stepping back into the 16th century. Surrounded by shafts of light, the murmuring of prayers, and the scent of candles burning, we were mesmerized. I felt like I was floating in a sea of compassion.

Before long, the emotional tension that had held



me prisoner since leaving Vietnam began to ease, and memories of friends lost in Vietnam floated up in my mind. They were gone, but we all suffer losses. And we each have to find some place safe enough to make peace with those memories so that they don't continue to distort our dreams.

The next morning, as we strode from the monastery waving goodbye to the last of the nuns, I felt the release we all feel when we let go of painful memories. I felt like a deep-sea diver must feel when he comes up from the depths of the ocean. I could see clearly. I could connect to the people around me. I felt great!

The next day, after a really steep climb, we came face to face with this Rumanian shepherd. I was still feeling good. I looked at him, just trying to say hello with my eyes. He looked back at me. Something happened. A visceral connection. And in that moment, I realized what the Mother Superior had been showing us. If we reach out to the people we encounter, we invite them to reach back to us in return.

In that connection we discover the understanding of other people that sparks ideas and inspires the hard work it takes to transform our ideas from dreams into realities.

Editor's Note—Dick's essay was shortened to fit in this newsletter. For the unabridged version, please visit www.crms.org/alumni.

CONNECTION TO SOMETHING LARGER

by Juliana Forbes '78

Juliana Forbes '78 is one of the co-founders of Mothers Acting Up, whose mission is to mobilize mothers to act on behalf of the world's children. She is the mother of two children: Eliza, 17, and Emmet, 15.



From my years as a student and through years of conversations with AO (Forbes), I believe the opportunity and challenge of "connecting to something larger than yourself" has been particularly alive at Colorado Rocky Mountain School. I believe in this concept and how it rescues us when we're in danger of falling into the bottomless pit of self-absorption and gives us a life-line: opportunities to contribute, to be needed. As Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl Wu-Dunn say in *Half the Sky*, "... There are a few factors that can affect our happiness levels in a sustained way. One is 'a connection to something larger' – a greater cause or a humanitarian purpose. Traditionally, this was what brought people to churches or other religious institutions, but any movement or humanitarian initiative can provide a sense of purpose that boosts one's happiness quotient. We are neurologically constructed so that we gain huge

personal dividends from altruism (pg. 249-250)."

But there is more to this concept, and I think it is going to save humanity. Many who are held up as leaders—Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gandhi, for example, talk about mutuality, about our interconnection, and about how if one of us is wronged, we all are wronged. Although we repeat these words, I don't think we've regarded them as true but rather that these leaders were just really good humans. Uber nice. And when we serve others ourselves, we secretly congratulate ourselves for being good. Not wise. Our motivation for connecting to something larger isn't to lift everyone up, but to contribute so we can personally be better people.

This is outdated. We're not being good when we honor our connections, we're being aware of the many inextricably intertwined ways our lives are connected. Today, the principles of social justice aren't just held by the morally passionate, they are held by the wise.

I believe that this current age is teaching us how to recognize our connections. Collectively we're moving from a paradigm of taking care of ourselves—and our intimate circles—often at the expense of others (see history, and how we've rewarded, idolized, forged numerous statues for those who managed the biggest grabs) to a paradigm that recognizes the responsibilities of our interconnections. This will take time. We are clumsy at it now, although many—especially younger leaders—seem to understand it more intimately than those of us "hard-wired" in the previous paradigm. My children are infinitely more clear about our global interconnections than I fear I will ever be, no matter how deep my vein of earnestness.

In my work with Mothers Acting Up (MAU) we've focused on this extensively, urging mothers to recognize that our children's lives are all interconnected—politically, environmentally, socially, and economically—and that only by working to nurture and protect all children can we protect our own.

My colleague, Beth Osnes, wrote a play, recently performed at CRMS, which centers on the challenge, "How do we get people to authentically care about other people's children?" Before she launches into the main "baby swapping" story line, there is this section by a cultural anthropologist:

Our sensibilities as a people are clannish. We evolved from the clan structure, hunters and gatherers. These are peoples who intermarried; all looked the same and rarely absorbed or accepted others into their clan. Clan humans were more successful than other humans and thereby thrived such that we are their descendants. What is needed at this state of our evolution is a forced expanding of this clan mentality. Our very survival as a race depends upon it. Something radical must be done to make people aware that each nation's impact is linked to each other's survival globally. We are members of a global clan whether we like it or not.

I love this piece and I often think, "whether we like it or not." We know there are tremendous challenges facing us. I believe this concept of mutuality is the threshold we must—and will—walk through in order to find shared solutions. We're living in a time, as Dewitt Jones says, with an "accelerating curve of possibility." When we focus, not on what we have to give up, but also on how we're going to re-design everything to reflect this mutuality, our hearts and minds will be fed by the sheer creativity of our lives. And our existence will continue into another century.



BE PRESENT

by Mags Miller '90

Mags Miller '90 is an independent producer who has been involved in an impressive number of high-profile human interest and natural history projects for various Discovery Channels, including TLC, Animal Planet, Science Channel, FitTV, as well as National Geographic and HGTV.

To be honest, I love multi-tasking. I think I'm pretty good at it, too. But what you forget when you are multi-tasking is that you are never in one moment completely—you are trying to make one moment into three moments or five moments, so that each task only gets a 3rd or a 5th of your attention.

In my job, being able to do numerous things at one time is expected and necessary. I get high off the adrenaline of "accomplishment." I am rewarded for being able to problem solve, anticipate challenges, changes to schedules, etc. In preproduction I find myself thinking about the future a lot...and thinking of "what ifs" constantly. My favorite part of production, though, is when I'm in the field with a crew and there is no more time to plan ahead—it's time to fly by the seat of your pants. There is just the here and now. It's very exhilarating—and the only thing you can be sure of is that nothing will go according to your beautifully laid plans created in a bubble of the past. You are forced to be in the moment.

In the past year alone, I have worked with prostitutes, obese people, ranchers who have Chupacabras living on their ranch, and

the Marines of the 2nd MEB in Afghanistan. Talk about a variety of characters. Each person I interview deserves the same attention and respect that I gave the last one. They deserve my presence, both professionally and personally. It is in these moments that I feel most alive and engaged. And it is why I know that being able to stand in the moment is a gift.

When I look back on the experiences that shaped my life, CRMS stands out as possibly the most important time of my life. Sure I've had amazing experiences and done lots of whacky things that left an imprint on my soul. But CRMS didn't just leave an imprint—it became part of my soul. The lessons that I learned while I was there as a student and as a staff member live with me and help guide me through life. I learned that I was smarter than I thought I was, I learned that being weak wasn't a weakness, I learned to be honest with myself, which was my hardest and most important lesson, and I learned to be present. I learned to stand up and be counted. I always had a need to try to make the world a better place—my family taught me that one—but it was CRMS that helped me figure out what that meant for me and empowered me to go after it.

I could go on and on, but I think that what I want to say is the following: Be present—find your heart; sit in the quiet of your soul; trust yourself and follow your passion wherever it may lead you! I promise that it will make the journey more fun and rewarding!



Top Left Clockwise: Filming a one-hour special for TLC on YouthAIDS in Honduras; Mags surrounded by members of the Afghan National Army at Check Point 4 in Helmand Province; photo taken outside Forward Operating Base Fiddler's Green in Helmand Province - Afghanistan; Mags at the Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary in Borneo.



CONNECTING THE DOTS

by Linda Halloran

Linda Halloran is the Coordinator of the Organic Garden Learning Center at CRMS. She is a Master Gardener with the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension. In her fourteen years at CRMS, Linda has taught students, faculty and staff, as well as the greater community about organic, sustainable gardening in the Colorado Rockies.

As a young child in school, I was given workbook pages with dots and numbers. My task was to merge my fledgling sense of numeracy and fine motor skills with a pencil, follow a sequence, and connect the dots. My reward was to see an entire picture emerge from those once-separate points. As I gained the ability to think and act in more complex ways, my education moved on to more complex tasks, but frequently my best teachers continued to lay out the reference points and expected me to use my growing intellect to connect the dots and create my own knowledge.

My goal in the Colorado Rocky Mountain School garden is to provide some of the dots that students can connect with those from work in the classroom and personal experiences to create their own picture of a world beyond the school. In the garden, first and foremost, students are involved in hard physical work—based on founders John and Anne Holden’s belief in its inherent value. But sometimes as we work, we talk also about the social and environmental issues surrounding how our food typically ends up on our plates. Students begin to connect the dots. They bring what they have learned in the classroom to those discussions, whether from reading about the environmental and social costs of conventional food production in the Politics of Food class or from having studied groundwater contamination from the overuse of pesticides and fertilizers in Environmental Science classes.

Beyond the discussions, their time in the garden provides students with a real, visceral reinforcement of the abstract. Planting a seed and seeing the seedling sprout days later is biology in action. Picking beans for an hour in the heat of a September afternoon will never match what a migrant farm laborer experiences working 14-hour days, but it opens a small window into that experience. It allows students to make a connection between reading about the



plight of laborers and what the student experienced of the tedium and discomfort of doing stoop labor. Carrying 50 pounds of freshly dug carrots into the CRMS kitchen is a real and tangible alternative to eating carrots trucked thousands of miles—it illustrates the local food movement on the most basic level. On the abstract level, time in the garden provides students with a chance to see that an activity which is good for the community and the world can also provide personal satisfaction—that there is joy in a job well done. Most important, time in the garden provides students with a way to make a connection between thinking and doing—that the two aspects, the theoretical and the practical, need to be linked for a meaningful life.

Students at CRMS have always had a talent for relating the many reference points from their time in the classroom and in the active curriculum in order to create a cohesive whole—to leave CRMS and do amazing things. I believe our job as educators is to provide content and context but to step back and trust that, with time, our students will do the heavy lifting and make the intellectual and practical connections to create the world they want.

GIVING MATTERS

“I GIVE IN HOPES THAT MORE STUDENTS WILL HAVE AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION, LIKE MINE. CRMS CONTINUES TO HELP STUDENTS STRETCH AND GROW—PHYSICALLY, INTELLECTUALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY.”

--Bonnie Holden Carter '58

- ▶ Colorado Rocky Mountain School depends on the generosity of families, alumni, and friends to raise the funds needed to ensure that the school is able to provide students with the unparalleled experience that is a CRMS education today and tomorrow.
- ▶ Annual Fund and endowment gifts ensure that there is enough financial aid available to ensure a diverse student body that reflects the world in which we live.
- ▶ To make a gift to the CRMS Annual Fund, the endowment, a needed capital project, or to include CRMS in your estate plans, please visit www.crms.org/support/giving-options or contact Carolyn Hardin, Director of Development, at 970-963-2562 or chardin@crms.org.



ALUMNI CLASS NOTES THROUGH MARCH 2010

Compiled by Laura McCormick '93 and Diane Darrough

Barbara (O'Neil) Ross, former faculty, says, "Two memorable trips to Colorado this year: A family reunion at Avalanche Ranch and a Fender wedding. I'm happily organizing art shows and painting in Palo Alto."

NEWS FROM THE 1950S

Lyn (McLane) Egsgard '56 reports, "The highlight of my year was a week of heli-skiing in the Selkirk Mountains of BC. A long held dream come true."

Winnie (Koch) Fernandez '57 writes, "Enjoying retired life with seven grandchildren, into oil painting with hopes of a showing next year, and looking forward to our planned trip back to Spain this summer to celebrate our golden wedding anniversary."

Nora Fisher '58 has been busy in Santa Fe. Three trips to India the last three years to stay with "family."

Rick Shapiro '58 reports, "First granddaughter born in October 2009. Still work part-time. Bought a motorhome for winter 2009/10."

NEWS FROM THE 1960S

Lynn (Bradley) Leopold '60 relays the following sad news, "On November 18, 2009, my husband of 27 years, Carl Leopold, died suddenly at home, just one month short of his 90th birthday. He was an outstanding scientist, environmentalist, conservationist, and thinker. His activism will be taken up by others and continued forward. He was the light and center of my life."

Carol (Rymer) Davis '62 writes, "Not much has changed in my life for the past several years. I am still working part time as a Radiologist, ski racing with the Masters in the winter and hiking and cycling in the summer. I am still flying balloons. It is hard to believe that we've been back in Denver for 19 years."

Madge (Gordon) Gleeson '62 is still teaching at Western Washington University in Bellingham and living on Lummi Island. One daughter is still working for Starbuck's in China and Madge visits her there. Her other daughter is in Seattle and is the mother of Madge's two granddaughters. If you'd like to see some of Madge's work, go to madgegleeson.com.

Arthur Hughes '62 writes, "I am enjoying taking care of two-year-old granddaughter Iliana. Daughter Stasha just turned 44. From November 30 this year through January 2, 2011, I have a solo show at my gallery, the Prince Street Gallery, 530 W. 25th St., Manhattan. Do come. Artwork can be seen at arthurhughes.net."

Carol (Sandersen) Hughes '62 and husband Dick have been in their new house for about a year and love it. Dick's still working and Carol spends about 20 hours a week there - Import Specialists in Boulder. She looks after 2-year-old grandson Henry and says she's "at peace with her life."

Ingrid (Blaufarb) Hughes '62 reports, "All is fine here. My granddaughter is increasingly adorable. I'm looking forward to retirement." Ingrid also said that she hopes this is her final year of teaching. She also noted something fairly important, the class of '62's 50th Reunion will be in 2012!

George Jones '62 is living in Denver, retired, divorced, and doing volunteer work at the Museum of Nature & Science which he very much enjoys. George's daughter lives in Germany and her daughter is an exchange student in Arkansas this year! She has two younger sibs. George's son in Phoenix has one son.

Christi (Mueller) McRoy '62 writes, "Nothing too exciting this year, other than spending way too much time in Vail at the Steadman clinic to repair an injured knee, after being hit while teaching last year at Telluride (1st knee surgery after 61 years of skiing and riding horses). I continue to teach kids at Telluride, but stay on the groomers. Both John and I are still riding and competed some last summer. I had a huge garden and have loved finally living in a climate where I can grow veggies. I am loving my 5 grandkids, and John's. I adore skiing with them and riding when they come to visit. I even had a trip to Disneyland with 2 of them...what a blast."

Helen Muller '62 says, "Retirement is great! My second grandchild was born 9/21/09: a girl - Livia Leilani Turner. Adorable. Zander will be 3 this month (Nov.). For those who remember my dad who spoke at CRMS in 1961-62, a new book is out by James Schwartz (Harvard Univ. Press). The last third is on my dad - his picture is one of 3 on the hardback; the paperback just came out and a photo of him in Texas in the late '20s is on the cover. I'm sending CRMS a copy for the library. Dad discovered that radiation causes mutations in the genes. Daughter Mala Htun ('87) is back in New Mexico with hubby Doug Turner who is running for Governor of New Mexico. We'll see what happens. Livia and Zander have two active parents. I continue to split my time between Mexico and New Mexico keeping active."

Jean (Alschuler) Reed '62 reports, "I finished up last year running the SnowSchool at Big Rock ski area in Mars Hill, Maine. Moved back to New Brunswick, Canada, for the summer. Took up kayaking and had a blast with friends exploring rivers and lakes in northern Maine and New Brunswick. I even found time to finish up a book and get it published. (The Lifetime Learning Companion available from Amazon or www.brookfarmbooks.com <<http://www.brookfarmbooks.com/>>.) I'm developing a website with creative learning materials (books, kits, globes, etc.). I've kept up my EMT status and am part of the National Ski Patrol. I've also found

time to visit my kids (4) and grandkids (5). I'm looking forward to a trip out to BC this summer."

Katie (Fanshawe) Rosenberg '62 writes, "I have a few bookkeeping clients who keep me busy which is great for my mind. Finally, I am no longer in constant pain after 5 years of trying one method or another to heal myself. I am swimming and working with Pilates, both of which seem to keep my body feeling better. Amazingly, I skied this winter - first time since 2003. I spend lots of time with family and friends and feel extremely grateful for all that I have. Pretty simple, but it works for me!"

Abby Sher '62 is still living in LA, reportedly in an old ranch house surrounded by luscious succulents. She's taken up Balinese gamelan, a kind of village orchestra, and plays with the group Gamelan Burat Wangi. They spent the month of July in Bali, rehearsing for a November performance of the Ramayana at the REDCAT theater. She and her adventure-loving beau are planning a camping escapade to Spring Trip Country in April or May.

Alix (Mitchell) Sullivan '62 says, "At the moment, I'm in Sydney AU where we have an apartment, which means that we get to enjoy two springs and summers a year. My husband's only wish is to travel and I obligingly tag along. However, he does seem to understand that I love Montana (HOME!) and we spend one spring and summer there each year. If you haven't been to Glacier National Park, I'm a pretty good tour guide; email me! And as I've said before, the Sydney Opera House is still wonderfully overwhelming - as is a concert there. Just saw the Beach Boys with the Sydney Symphony providing backup! Factoid: did you know that Jorn Utzon, the building's architect, never set foot in the completed building? Please do think about the coming 50th Anniversary of our graduation."

Bonnie (Baldrige) Coryell '63, "Enjoying ranching with the kids and grandkids. If the 'government' will leave us alone - we will keep trying to raise hamburgers for you!"

Ellen (Clark) Anderson '64, "I continue to work for the Christian Science movement in various capacities - as a board member of related organizations, as a care provider, a speaker, and a writer. Paul, my husband, and I look forward to traveling more this year to see our offspring and their kids who live all across the US. Best to all and stay in touch!"

Al Frederick '64 reports that he is retired from the semi-conductor business after many years in Silicon Valley, CA, and also several years in Scotland and Switzerland. He and his wife, who have two children, live about 20 miles from Lake Tahoe. They both enjoy the outdoor life - he enjoys fishing, golf, and hiking. He's happy to catch up with classmates.

Jim Gaw '64 reports that he has now taught at CRMS for 31 years. His wife, Khara, teaches drawing and painting. He is happy to say he is now more fully utilizing his Ph.D. in Chemistry by organizing a "solar army" unit at CRMS under the auspices of the University of

Wyoming. The Rocky Mountain students will research metal oxides to find the best combinations in order to create night-storage of electricity that comes from splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen.

Louis Jaffe '64 continues to do cartography for Green Info. Network, the non-profit mapping studio he helped found 14 years ago. He divides his time between San Francisco and Pt. Reyes Station in Marin County.

Cathy (Stern) Lichtmann '64 and her recently retired husband Rene reside in West Bloomfield, Michigan, and have three children. As Cathy has deep roots in New Orleans, one of their sons, Josh, moved there and is directing a program he founded that organizes college students interested in social services. Their daughter, Risa, works as a sous-chef in San Francisco and their son David is an attorney in Chicago. Cathy enjoys her work as a teen and youth librarian in the Plymouth Michigan District. Their family is looking forward to a Stern Family reunion in New Orleans in April.

Chris Morrison '64 is continuing in the software engineering industry with Oracle Corporation. His wife is fine and is semi-retired. Their son is married and attending Cornell's MBA program and plans to be an investment banker in Los Angeles. Chris's

WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!

Online communication is becoming increasingly important at Colorado Rocky Mountain School. Communication via email to alumni, parents, and friends is timely and relevant, and it fits with the school's commitment to utilizing sustainable practices.

CRMS sends school news, donor communications, alumni news, notices about upcoming events both on and off campus, and more, electronically. Don't miss out. **Please send your current email address to lmccormick@crms.org.**

Another way to keep up with all that is happening at CRMS is to check out the home page of the website at www.crms.org for upcoming events, the current calendar, and press coverage. Parents and alumni each have their own section on the site—click on the tabs in the upper right for the latest. CRMS is working hard to keep you informed about YOUR school!

Plus, you can follow us on FaceBook, Twitter, and our Blog:



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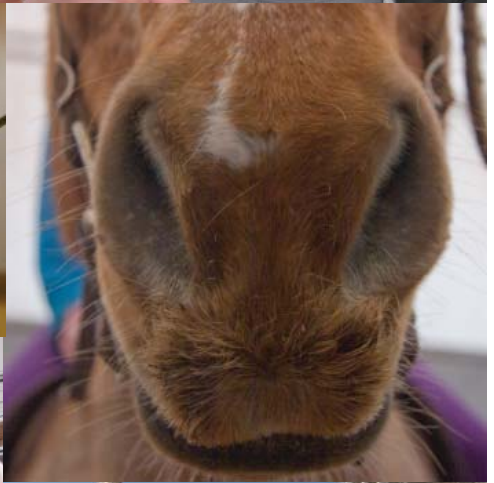


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ALUMNI

INTERIM 2010 (SLIDE SHOWS AT WWW.CRMS.ORG/PARENTS/2010-INTERIM/)





ALUMNI





daughter is touring Costa Rica, Columbia, Argentina, and Chile. Chris and his wife went to Costa Rica last year and Chris hiked up the highest peak in Arizona - 11,600 ft. Mt Humphreys, north of Flagstaff. He says "Hi to all CRMS friends!"

Linda Robinson '64 is teaching Tai Chi Chih and is very active in a meditation group. She also is taking yoga and playing the flute. She and her partner enjoy their condo in downtown Seattle where they can walk to theatres, restaurants, shops, and parks. They also are in a singing group that meets once a month.

Terry (Frost) Graedon '65 just finished a small book as a premium for public broadcasting fundraising. "Favorite Foods from The People's Pharmacy" was a real family project, with both kids (now very competent adults) helping Joe and me complete it. Fun!"

M. Tamim Ansary '66, author of "West of Kabul, East of New York," has written a new book entitled, "The Widow's Husband." This is a tragic love story set in Afghanistan in 1841, the last year of that Afghan-British War.

Brad Ansley '67 writes, "It's been almost a year to the day when I had total knee replacement surgery done to both knees (bi-lateral). The doc said he wouldn't guarantee that he'd do both until he "got in there," but when I woke up they'd both been done. This qualified me for transitional care in a live-in institution; in my case it was NHC. They keep you pretty well stoned on pain medication while they rehab your legs, so I don't recall that much about April and May. They did have me walking the day after the surgery and would have had me walking the same day, but my surgery was in the afternoon and I didn't wake up until too late. It was very strange to walk around on knees that are only a few hours old. It's an amazing experience and it's changed my life. I can stand at my work bench all day instead of 15 mins. I don't have the range of motion I did when I was at CRMS, but I can hike again and dance with Kathy. Wahoo! My mother's doc insisted that it was time for us to put her in assisted living and we found a place that is very near my sister in Knoxville that specializes in Alzheimer's patients. This was in Dec of '08, and she's doing very well. If it had not been for Kathy, it would have happened a lot sooner. After 8 yrs. my ability to handle her increasing needs was just about played out. Being the compassionate and loving RN that she is, Kathy gave Jeanne another 2 yrs. of living outside an institution. Most of those inconvenient and often disagreeable jobs that can't be procrastinated were taken over by her during that time. Our whole family is indebted to her for that. My mother was always busy and creative. These qualities had diminished to the point where the docs and our family felt a more structured social environment would contribute to her quality of life in spite of not being home. This was a very tough decision and I know many of you guys have faced or are facing the same issues. In all this we have found out how lucky we are, especially that my father prepared for her life without him so well. Now I am back working in my little shop making furniture as well as moonlighting in my brother Donald's shop. I'm doing some AutoCad drafting and filling in on the production side as well. He has contracts with several large yacht builders, including Derecktor, who I worked for

in NY for all those years. I've also got several small personal boat projects going and I'm looking forward to spending a lot of time on the water this summer. I have lifelong friends in Haiti and Kathy and I are trying to find time to get down there to help out. We met on the Gulf Coast doing Katrina work and so Haiti is a natural for us. Our main contact there is John O'Malley Burns and he has been helping to develop a sustainable organic agriculture focusing on mango production."

Kat (Bradley) Bennett '67 says, "I continue to teach English as a Second Language to adult immigrants in Longmont, Colorado. I also work part-time for the Northern Colorado Professional Development Center as a consultant. This means I process library materials for teachers of adults in the northern part of the state and provide backup support for teacher trainers in the Resource Center. I also develop independent study courses for teachers of adults in Colorado to fulfill their annual professional development requirements from the Colorado Department of Education. Previous courses included teaching pronunciation and literacy level instruction for adult ESL. My current project is on the topic of learner-centered instruction. On the "side," birding continues to be my passion, along with learning the ropes with my SLR digital camera and getting decent bird photos. Some of my shots have been aired on one of the Denver news channels during the weather reports.

K.C. Clendening '67 reports, "Not much is different this year. I am still working with addiction and gambling clients and liking it! I did go to the beach every weekend last summer which was wonderful. I look forward to the beach again this summer. Still sober 25 years now! I seem to sleep more and life is no big deal finally after all these years. I think I took the drama out of life and I am not bored."

Sarah Cooper-Ellis '67 says, "Been wonderful to be talking to Debra Brittenum again - we even got together last April, when she came to Boston where I picked her up and brought her to my little New Hampshire meadow for a couple of days. Life is pretty darn uneventful, which is probably a good thing. I work, a lot, with infants, their families, and college students who are in training to be early childhood teachers. I live on a dirt road with a small dog and a cat for company. I enjoy watching birds outside my window, and writing my thoughts. My sons live in Brooklyn NY and are employed as a videographer and a sports photo editor, respectively. So, I am aware that I enjoy good fortune, and I wish the same for all of you."

Tracy Fitz '67 writes, "Well let's see - our senate is such a mess. Why can't people recognize their similarities and work together instead of fighting for ??? We are all human, we are female and male in one body - colors don't matter, nor sex, nor species matter. War is from too much testosterone. We live with too many chemicals and are making the diseases we make worse with x-rays (cancer, diabetes). We need socially conscious capitalism as a modus operandus in the world in order to keep living on earth. A consciousness of birth, growth, death and rebirth from a sustainable agricultural point of view - accumulation of excess things is ??? and sexism, good lord how long will we continue to let it rule the earth?"



Sarah Forbes '67 says, "Life here goes on much the same as it has for a while and I love it. My husband, Doug (of nearly 35 years), and I live on 5 acres, semi-rural, near Ashland, Oregon, in a lovely valley. After some different occupations, we are now 'retired.' Doug's current passion is petrified wood. Mine is history (mostly early American and some Scottish) and family history, though I seem to have other mostly family-related projects that consume time as the parent generation passes on. Generally, life is very good."

Stan Gibbs '67 reports, "Mary (Janss '66) and I are doing well, though our bodies have been giving us fits in the last year. I had two stents put in my heart because of bad genes and Mary has had knee surgery and two surgeries for ovarian issues. Otherwise, we continue to be blessed to live in Aspen and enjoy the mountains. Hiking and biking in the summer and skiing in the winter (along with cardio rehab). Our 5 kids are very grown up, but don't seem to require less worry somehow. All are doing well."

Celia (Metcalfe) McVicker '67 writes, "Who are these people? While going thru stacks of old family slides I came across some photos of graduation day 1967. (I sent copies of them all to CRMS). The contest prize goes to the person who can name these folks. At this time and place, I feel fortunate to have a job - I know many folks who are not so lucky (as I'm sure most of us do). Still living in Sunnyvale, California (beautiful downtown Silicon Valley), working for a high tech company that does R&D only. Amazing to be surrounded by such a diverse, highly educated workforce (scary, actually). I spend most of my leisure time at the golf course, as a volunteer one afternoon a week and then playing whenever possible. It keeps me out of trouble, out of the malls and off the street corners."

Kathy (Lovett) Moritz '67 says, "2009 was a slow year, and I'm glad the year and the whole decade is (finally) behind me! 2010 has been great, and lots of things are falling into place that I have been working on for quite a while now. I am still doing my alternative health consulting practice, and it is going well. The biggest project I have been working on is a new weight loss program aimed at losing weight by balancing brain chemistry. It has been very successful and is now taking off (whew...it's sort of like launching a child!). So now I am on to my other big projects. My son, Ian, is now married and living in Glenwood, where he started an alternative energy company. He loves living in the valley and his company is doing well (whew...launched another one!). We all go down to his wife's family's lodge in Silverton fairly regularly, but other than that haven't had the chance to do the kind of traveling I would like to do. I would love a chance to see everybody at a reunion, or anyone passing through Boulder."

David Nutt '67 writes, "It feels a little like I have spent the year like a dinghy tethered behind the ship of life. Not really in control of the course and subject to the whims of the weather and the seas of time. Perhaps the ship of Danza (the boat we sailed around the world upon) is more to the point. I replaced 80 square feet of deck after removing the teak. The interior and systems have been and in many cases are being totally reconditioned. She will be in better shape than when we began our circumnavigation. David the

younger is working with me side by side and day by day now that he has a fancy degree from Dartmouth. Time will send him off in another direction all too soon, however. Sarah and Jasper continue their university careers and both find huge rewards in their endeavors. Charlotte chafes at being 14 and a freshman in high school and loves every minute of it. Judy continues to spend untold hours at the hospital where she is working as a hospitalist. Three more years and there will be light at the end of that tunnel. Plans are to head towards Greenland departing June 14th at 1300. We will move north as quickly as we can weather and ice permitting. It is all new territory to us so the learning curve will be steep. I understand the grading system can be harsh. Maybe in a few years we will be able to return to the tropics."

Emily Rosenberg-Pollock '67 writes, "I am plodding away with multiple part time jobs, spending much of my day quilting and enjoying the company of my newly retired sister. She forces me to occasionally travel. The boys are doing their thing. Philip is in NYC, Max is at Cedars-Sinai in LA and Noah is in Long Beach. My parents are living next door...a nice addition to the neighborhood. I appreciate all those who responded to my request for information, and I look forward to hearing from everyone over time. Our 45th Reunion will be in 2012!

Sharon Sprague '67 reports, "My husband Bob and I have been almost snowbound this winter - always odd descending from our winter wonderland in the mountains east of Albuquerque into the city, which is usually dry and warm. A friend and fellow British car enthusiast recruited me into reading for "Steel Magnolias" and so, after all these years, I am doing theatre again, something I first came to love at CRMS under the tutelage of Ed Rubovits. Although I never was the ingénue type (Ed cast me as "Bottom" - yikes!), it is startling to find that I don't have to stretch to play one of the old(er) ladies in Magnolias. I was lucky to be able to retire early from my work at the Alb. VA as a therapist primarily working with veterans suffering from PTSD. I miss the vets a lot, but not the bureaucracy. British car events have taken me to Tucson in the last couple of years and it's been great fun to spend time with Emily there. She has politely come out to admire whatever old semi-wreck (the latest one was my 1960 Mini) Bob and I happen to be driving"

Christopher Thomson '67 writes, "Susan and I continue to run Christopher Thomson Ironworks Studio and Gallery together. We live on 90 gorgeous useless acres in the Pecos River valley 45 miles east of Santa Fe in our still unfinished house with our daughters and their significant others, unwittingly continuing the local tradition of the extended family compound, which seemed so strange to us when we moved here 31 years ago. We all get along quite well now that the teenage years have passed. I am very much looking forward to returning to CRMS to work with blacksmithing students during interim again this year. Seeing all of your names on Emily's email makes me nostalgic. In many ways I feel I am still living the lifestyle we learned together all those years ago."

**For the complete set of alumni notes, please go to:
www.crms.org/alumni/alumni-news**



("Reunion" continued from page 11)

Sunday morning, a small group gathered in the Barn to remember alumni and faculty who have passed on after treading these common, beloved grounds. Smiles shone and tears welled in this simple remembrance ceremony which has become one of the most important facets of reunions over the years.

Completing the weekend, brunch in the Bar Fork filled travelers' bellies and farewell hugs warmed them before they headed out to points East, South, West, and North. At this reunion, connections were made not only with important memories and dear friends, but also with the powerful, continuing realization of Anne and John Holden's brilliant, life-changing vision.

The "award" for returning after the most years away went to alumnus Ed Maynard '59. It had been 30 years since he'd been able to return! He and his wife Mickey were delighted that CRMS was holding reunion in the winter this year, as it is the only time they are able to visit the school. They spend summers in Alaska and relatively "balmy" winters in Montana.

Alumna Merlyn Wenner Ruddell '66 writes of her experience at Reunion: "Our 16-year-old son is in his Junior year at CRMS, 44 years after I graduated. I have only been to one other reunion, 17 years ago. It was in the spring and was wonderful. This reunion was great in many of the same ways. We told stories and reflected on how truly powerful our education at CRMS has been. We caught up on what had transpired for whom. This time, however, we had

the opportunity to see and experience the generation who will soon be our leaders and to meet this crop of amazing teachers. Jeff Leahy gave a retrospective view of the Holdens and demonstrated his regard for all they gave to future generations. Three alumni speakers addressed the student body, faculty, and alumni. What a thrill to hear about the contributions each of them has made and how CRMS inspired them. I was in tears listening to a speaker from Kenya express the importance of alumni returning to CRMS to support its rich mission. Almost every speaker expressed how important our interdependence is, how it is all about connection. That's how the Holdens did it, and that's how the world is going to see its future of peace and well being for everyone: working together, trusting and supporting one another. The food was great. The snow was magic. I loved having the reunion in the midst of the students and all the hullabaloo of the school in motion. It was a thrill."

Bob Campbell (CRMS Faculty, 1984-1996) sums it up: "Having reunion happen in conjunction with Founder's Day in particular added a powerful dimension that I've not experienced since the school's 50th. The excitement of interactions between alumni of all eras and current students was extremely palpable and further accelerated already rich program discussions. Coupled with the fine meals, social gatherings, and two nights of Mountain Film presentations, the campus exuded incredible vitality and resonated deeply with the core spirit of the school. I really enjoyed it and am already looking forward to the next one."

IN MEMORIAM

SABRA PALMER STEELE '57

Contributed by Linda Halloran

Sabra died in October 2009 following a battle with brain cancer. Having graduated from CRMS in 1957, Sabra and her husband Andy returned to Carbondale so that their son Robert could also benefit from the CRMS education that Sabra greatly valued. She immediately became an integral part of the school community: establishing friendships, organizing the Wilderness room and taking on the job of preparing all the food and gear for trips, helping out in the kitchen, co-leading spring and fall trips, attending Board of Trustee and Parent Forum meetings, volunteering wherever she was needed—in the garden, library, theater department, and dorms. Sabra had an insatiable curiosity about the inner workings of people, organizations, and things. She was a problem solver who loved the pursuit of a solution and could make or fix anything. From her volunteer work in the CRMS garden, there is still evidence of her influence in the tools we use and in projects she completed. She was the first to invite new faculty to her house for dinner because she genuinely enjoyed hearing about their lives and wanted to understand what they, as individuals, would add to the mix at CRMS. All of Sabra's efforts were undertaken with humor, humility, generosity of spirit, and the loving support of her son and husband. When Sabra and Andy left CRMS to retire to Wyoming, they left a void at CRMS not easily filled.





AUSTIN ANDREW CORRY '02

Austin was born in Glenwood Springs, CO, on May 6, 1984 and left us on Feb. 11, 2010. Austin grew up in Silt, CO, attending Roy Moore Elementary school and graduating from high school at Colorado Rocky Mountain School in Carbondale; he then graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He also graduated from SEA, Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

He loved the outdoors, hiking, kayaking, rafting, and motorcycling. His real passion was Telemark skiing throughout the Rocky Mountain region.



When not outdoors, Austin loved to listen to hip-hop music and read a good book. His friendliness, thoughtfulness, compassion, and quick-witted sense of humor will be missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service was held in the CRMS Barn on February 14, 2010, where several alumni and friends from far and near shared their memories of Austin's kindness, humor, and

adventures. The following is an excerpt from (faculty member and Austin's CRMS advisor) Kayo Ogilby's remembrance:

"If I were to close my eyes and visualize one moment that captured it all, it would be a spring morning Austin's senior year, a few weeks before graduation. Someone sprung the idea that we needed to do an advisee group predawn South Canyon wave surf session, so Eleanor Perry '02, Brent Bradley '02, Austin and I found ourselves surfing a monster wave on the Colorado, before first period class, as the sun came up and lit up the red wall surrounding us. Austin, in his delightful way of finding words for the moment, leaned over as we sat in the eddy and said something like, 'Pretty nice morning to be in church, huh?'"

"We have all searched the depths of our souls over the last few days to try to wrestle with the departure of such a spirit. Let us thank and honor the memory of such a delightful human being. Let us be glad that such a person existed on the face of this earth. I aspire to pay forward his energy and seek continued growth, excitement, and love in my life.

"To capture what the time spent with Austin meant to me, I would like to close with a quote from Feodor Dostoevsky, passed along by former CRMS teacher Dutton Foster:

"Let us make a compact – that we will never forget another, and whatever happens to us in life, even if we don't meet again – even if we attain honor or fall into misfortune – let us still remember how good it was once here, when we were all together, united by a good and kind feeling."

Note: The first three paragraphs on Austin ran in the Glenwood Springs Post-Independent on February 13, 2010. The accompanying photo is from one of the many CRMS alumni gatherings Austin reliably attended.

JOHN ROBERT ALDEN '03

John died from injuries received in a car accident January 3, 2010 near Laramie, Wyoming. He was born February 19, 1985 in Laramie, Wyoming, the son of Eric and Deborah (Kroenlein) Alden. John was raised in Wheatland and Torrington, Wyoming. He attended Colorado Rocky Mountain School, freshman through junior years, and graduated from Chugwater High School in Chugwater, Wyoming. He attended Carroll College in Helena, Montana, and was presently attending school at the University of Wyoming. He had worked various times at the Wyoming Territorial Prison Historical Site in Laramie, Wyoming.

John enjoyed hockey and other outdoor activities, and especially loved animals and children. He was an Eagle Scout and had earned the Wyoming Congressional Award.

John is survived by his parents Eric and Deb Alden of Torrington and Wheatland, Wyoming; grandparents John and Ann Alden of

Delmar, New York; aunts and uncles Kathy and Tom Davis of Torrington, Carol and Bruce Fincham of Mariposa, California, John and Beth Alden of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Andrew and Fleur Alden of Oakland, California, Stephen and Carol Alden of Lyme, New Hampshire, and Lawrence and Penny Alden of Altamont, New York; many cousins; his dear friend and soulmate Amber McKee of Torrington and Laramie, Wyoming; and his lifelong friend Jeff Clark of Cheyenne, Wyoming. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Robert and Betty Kroenlein; uncle L. Robert Kroenlein; and aunt Rebecca Kroenlein.



Eric and Deb Alden welcome contact from CRMS friends of John at ealden@wyoming.com.

The above is based on the obituary published in the Platte County Record-Times, January 6, 2010, and provided to CRMS by the Alden family.

CRMS archival photo of John when a CRMS student.



**COLORADO ROCKY
MOUNTAIN SCHOOL**
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PARENTS OF ALUMNI:

If this newsletter is addressed to a son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please e-mail ddarrough@crms.org with his/her new address.

ALSO: if you have a recent alum in your family currently in college, send us that student's new e-mail address. Thank you!

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SPRING GARDENING TIPS

from Linda Halloran, CRMS Garden Program Coordinator

UNDERSTANDING THE NPK RATIO

When you purchase plant fertilizers, there will almost always be three numbers separated by dashes somewhere on the container. The three numbers represent the percentage of three major plant nutrients: nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium (always appearing in that order) that are present in the fertilizer. While entire books have been written on the nutrient needs of plants, in the briefest form, nitrogen promotes green leafy growth, phosphorous and potassium promote flower and root development, respectively. The availability of those nutrients to plants depends on the overall health of the soil, but too much or too little of any of the three can be problematic depending on the plant. Lettuce and green leafy veggies use more nitrogen. Fruiting plants like peppers, tomatoes, and squash will need a more balanced fertilizer. When in doubt, pull out a good gardening book and read about the individual plant's needs and apply fertilizer accordingly.

THE RIGHT TOOL FOR THE JOB

Anyone who works with their hands usually has a favorite tool and can wax poetic about its charms. In the garden, one of my favorites is the stirrup hoe. It looks like its name - shaped like a stirrup on a saddle, but the location for the sole of the foot is replaced by a blade sharpened on both sides. With a cutting action on both the push and the pull of the hoe through the ground, weeds disappear with speed and ease. The only problem is that it is so effective that if your focus wanders, it is just as easy to hoe down the plants you want. So use with care!

MISSION STATEMENT

Colorado Rocky Mountain School cultivates a learning environment in which students discover their potential to excel as individuals, contribute to their communities, and participate thoughtfully in the world we share.

DID YOU KNOW...

The students from the Politics of Food class came to the garden on March 5th and discovered and cleaned over 80 pounds of carrots that had been in the soil since last fall. A covering of straw and row covers protected them from winter damage. They came out of the ground crisp and sweet and were taken into the CRMS kitchen for future meals.