

Colorado Rocky Mountain School

Spring 2015



Metal and glasswork on the wall of the stairway that leads to the state-of-the-art Science Center. Artwork by David Powers. Photo by Renee Ramge.

AT CRMS, IT IS ROCKET SCIENCE — AND SO MUCH MORE

— BY BOB WARD —

A school classroom may not seem like the best place to fire off a rocket. But let's not jump to conclusions.

First, consider that launching a rocket involves chemistry — specifically mixing certain gases in the right proportions to achieve maximum propulsion. Second, add in a friendly teacher in a white lab coat to monitor the proceedings. Then imagine “rockets” the size of your pinky finger, weighing less than a paper glider.

Is this beginning to sound like fun? Especially for a group of high-schoolers?

Welcome to Dr. Jim Gaw's Period F Chemistry class in the new \$1.5 million state-of-the-art Science Center in the lower level of Colorado Rocky Mountain School's Jossman

building. Gaw's class — at least on the day of this rocket challenge — is the antithesis of the mind-numbing chemistry classes of yore. In this exercise, Gaw issues a few basic instructions and then lets the kids loose.

Working in teams of 2-4, these sophomores and juniors swing from quiet, laser-like concentration to loud cheers and high-fives, as they mix liquids in small plastic pipet bulbs, mount the bulbs on a wood-and-nail launch pad, and apply a hand-held Tesla coil to ignite the mixtures and send the projectiles flying.

“Clear the launch pad! Clear the deck!” Gaw barks.

To pass each challenge — the first involves methane gas, the second acetylene — each team must send a

rocket flying over the center line in the classroom — not once but three times. There's a lot of trial and error, a few disappointing “duds” and more successes when bulbs sail like well-hit baseballs across the room.

“If it hits the ceiling, I count that as a success,” Gaw clarifies.

Students seem to feel the whole exercise is a success. When the challenge is over and students depart for their next class, each one thanks Gaw for the lesson.

THEORY FIRST,
APPLICATION SECOND

The CRMS Science Department is all about student engagement. There are plenty of lectures, and students must master key concepts before

...continued on p. 5

LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL: 21st CENTURY LEARNING

— BY JEFF LEAHY —

The phrase “21st Century Learning” is used a lot in educational circles these days to differentiate the new challenges of educating students. It is important for all of us associated with Colorado Rocky Mountain School to have a sense of what this phrase actually means for the simple reason that our central task is to educate students for their future responsibilities and to prepare them for the lives they will be living. As a starting point, it might be best to share a few misconceptions about 21st Century learning. Often it is associated with technology and there is good reason for this, as schools are increasingly using the availability of recent advances in technology to enhance the student’s learning environment and experience. Yet, technology, while valuable to a remote independent school such as CRMS, is not the primary driver in understanding the skills and knowledge we want our students to possess in this era. Instead, technology most often serves as a resource for us to gain access to information far more easily than was available in the past. Equally confusing may be the recent introduction of the Common Core, a piece of educational reform that seeks to have a framework of skills, knowledge and teaching practices that has been standardized throughout the United States; while the skills it proposes often correlate with 21st Century learning, the Common Core is ultimately an independent initiative, that has unfor-

tunately gained most of its attention through its testing initiatives. What 21st Century Learning is about is addressing the fact that the world is changing: we have a more global economy that has brought with it opportunities, competition, and collaboration. Perhaps one of the most significant shifts is that doing well in school no longer guarantees a life-long job or career; our graduates can expect to have multiple jobs throughout their working careers, perhaps in different sectors. Even more, many experts are of the opinion that we do not even know what many of those jobs will actually be.

How does a school address this type of uncertainty and ensure that it remains relevant? Are the skills and programming that John and Anne Holden emphasized and developed throughout the 1950s and ‘60s still important in a United States culture that is moving further away from manual labor and routine tasks, and do they prepare our students for successful and vibrant lives?

It may not come as much of a surprise to many of you who have graduated from the CRMS program that it is my belief that as much as we have experienced a shift in our culture, that our programming is actually as relevant and necessary now as it ever has been. To be clear, I don’t hold the belief

The Newsletter of Colorado Rocky Mountain School is published three times a year by Colorado Rocky Mountain School
Spring 2015 (Vol 63 / Issue No. 3)

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that the purpose of education is simply to ensure a paying job. While I embrace some of this thinking, I tend to look at education as having a much broader goal. In preparing them for life, which includes a job, we are creating thoughtful and engaged citizens. In preparing them for the work that they will pursue in college, we are providing them options and opportunities to pursue their passions and interests. In developing within them an agility to take on various roles and responsibilities, we give them the capacity to adjust to the changes that will take place throughout their adult lives.

21st Century Learning is about responding to an era of rapid global change. This requires Colorado Rocky Mountain School to have clear outcomes in terms of proficiency in core subject knowledge and skills that will be valued later in their lives — skills that are viewed by some as breaking

new ground in education, and yet many of us will find them familiar to our programming: creativity and innovation, flexibility and adaptability, leadership and cross-cultural skills. These are the skills that educators believe are going to set people apart, and they have really been a part of our program as an international boarding and day school for quite some time.

While externally there has been a shift in thinking about education, that shift has not

DID YOU KNOW?

The CRMS Board, Staff and Faculty have been engaged in fulfilling Goals and Objectives outlined in the school’s Strategic Plan for 2008-2013. Given the advancement that has occurred at CRMS as a result of this plan, and the changing environment of administering an independent school, the Board of Trustees has launched a new strategic planning process. The new plan entitled “Building on the Foundation of Success” will augment the previous plan by focusing on goals that lead to improvement in Academic Excellence, Financial Strength, Transference of Knowledge and Attitude Behaviors, and use stewardship of Campus Resources.

The plan will be organized around these four goals, each supported by more specific measurable objectives, and strategies for achieving those objectives. The objectives and strategies will stay clearly connected to the Mission.

TELEMARK

— BY DAN PITZ —

What a great season to reflect not only on the end result but also on the means employed to reach such a wonderful finale. The Tele Team started with an impassioned and committed dry season training regimen that prepared all athletes for a strong ski season. The workouts were relentless and only overshadowed by the determination and enthusiasm of all the athletes as they strengthened their bodies and minds. With a big mountain focus, the group excitedly took to the slopes in early December and enjoyed the great early season conditions, developing steep skiing skills and challenging each other to ski better and harder than



Members of the Tele Team riding the lift.

ever before. With a strong group of seniors and returning skiers leading the charge, the Telemark Team placed two finalists in the first big mountain competition at Ajax within a field dominated by alpine skiers. This success motivated the entire team to continue forward together, bonding throughout various diverse skiing challenges and expanding the skill set of each and every skier. There were numerous personal achievements along the way and each step forward propelled others to their own personal gains. As a team, the telemarkers traveled to Grand Targhee to culminate the season in mid-February at the nation's only telemark-specific big-mountain competition. CRMS walked away from the competition with three members on the podium and quite a few others knocking on the door. More impressive than their achievements in the

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2014-2015 BOT MEETING DATES

September 12 and 13, 2014
 December 12 and 13, 2014
 February 20 and 21, 2015
 May 15 and 16, 2015

competition was the relentless support and enthusiasm throughout the team, observed and commented upon by many of the other telemark competitors at the event. Once again, the CRMS telemark team produced a fantastic team effort that resulted in positive achievements for all.

-INSIDE-

ON CAMPUS.....1-7
 DEVELOPMENT.....8-10
 ALUMNI FEATURES.....10-13
 ALUMNI NOTES.....14-17
 20-22
 INTERIM.....18-19
 IN MEMORIAM.....22-23

...continued from p. 2

moved away from what John and Anne envisioned so long ago. Participating and collaborating in meaningful work, an appreciation for the arts/design, an ability to work in a co-educational environment with students from all over the world, has long been a part of the CRMS experience. Rigor in the 21st century has been defined by having both the content and the skills “to apply and transform knowledge for useful and creative purposes and to keep learning as content and circumstances change.”

At the end of the senior year at CRMS, our seniors depart campus in May to participate in senior projects that serve as a capstone experience for all the work they have done at CRMS. These are projects that they have designed, often a testament

to the knowledge, skills, and passions they have acquired during their time here. On occasion these plans fall through and the student is forced to design and adapt to a new project, sometimes on site. Even in the case of the later and these adverse circumstances, CRMS students always seem to have valuable experiences. At the end of the year they present their experiences to the entire school, family, and friends. These have proven to be inspirational and validate so much of the hard work that has taken place both in and outside the classroom here. John and Anne believed in meaningful work as an antidote to modern easy living and no doubt that understanding how to work will not go out of fashion no matter what educational reform is taking place in the future.

NORDIC SKIING

— BY CHARLEY ABERNATHY —

This Nordic season was a blast! Three girls and eight boys comprised the team, many of whom split their time between Nordic and Freestyle, Telemarking, Snowboarding, or Climbing. What a



The Nordic Team at Spring Gulch

great way to get out into the “back of beyond” after school, get in shape, and smile as you zip around on light skis! First, we found feet of powder to classic ski through during Thanksgiving Break at majestic Grand Mesa. Then, fall dryland training met us with trail running, circuit-training, and roller

skiing. At Spring Gulch (ten minutes away!), we were some of the first on snow after it fell; we did a variety of workouts, constructed a few jumps, played games on our skis, competed in relays, explored, tried a slalom course, went tubing, ate some good meals, “crust” skied in the spring, and raced our hearts out. Racing is what differentiates the Nordic Team from the Recreational Program. It instills team camaraderie, preparation, equip-



The start of a Nordic race.

ment care, mental might, and tests our physical limits. Overall, racing proves to us that we harbor much strength as individuals and as a team. Our races took us to Snow Mountain Ranch, Minturn, Eldora, Cordillera, Frisco, and to the State high school competition, where two racers competed. We had a blast and learned a lot! I hope these students continue to race and Nordic ski for life!

CLIMBING

— BY BJ SBARRA —

It was another great season for the CRMS Climbing Team. Starting in October and finishing up at the end of February, we competed in seven different competitions, some as close as our home gym and some as far as the City Rock gym in Colorado Springs.



The CRMS Climbing Team at the State Championships

The regional competition took place at the new Grand Valley Climbing Center in Grand Junction, where we had 25 students who qualified for the state finals. Even though they were coming off interim just a day before, our students rallied at the state finals in Colorado Springs, with the boys’ team placing first and the girls’ team in second. We couldn’t be more proud of our climbers, as our students work incredibly hard, are motivated, and most of all, know how to have fun!

ALPINE SKIING

— BY ROBIN COLT —

The CRMS Alpine Ski Team enjoyed a great season of races in Colorado this winter. Collectively the team accomplished a great deal, traveling around the state of Colorado to races each week, on top of a rigorous training schedule. Led by enthusiastic captains Erin Rush and Heidi Small, the alpine team competed in two season openers in January at Beaver Creek, followed by events at Winter Park, Steamboat, Ski Cooper, and Aspen mountains. Veteran Ski Team members Zoey Steel and Megan Cassetty helped set a fun and energetic tone, and first-year team members Anne Marie Lewis, Hayden Austin, and Luci Belaklova jumped in with both feet. Erin Rush continued to the State Championships held at Keystone Ski Area. She braved challenging courses and even tougher weather conditions, but finished all of her runs with a smile. Way to go Alpine Team!

...continued from p. 1

they undertake challenges or solve problems. But the real magic happens when students apply scientific concepts to real-world problems.

In the case of Gaw's rocket challenge, students first had to balance equations that illustrate the proper, most explosive mix of gases to propel their rockets.

"It's about translating the balanced equation to the actual volumes in the bulb," Gaw explained after class.

Gaw especially enjoys the rocket challenge because of the "immediate feedback" it provides to the student chemists. But there are other ways to apply scientific theory to real-world questions, and one could be seen just a few days before in Kayo Ogilby's Geology class.

The class had taken three field trips to different locales in the Roaring Fork Valley to inspect soils, rocks and topography. The aim of the field research was to answer this question: Is Mount Sopris a volcano?

The question about the 12,965-foot peak that overlooks Carbondale is not open-and-shut. There is evidence in local rocks, geothermal features and land forms to suggest more than one answer.

On Feb. 6, four groups presented their findings and conclusions to the

class. Three of the four decided that Sopris, despite its classic, conical shape, was not a volcano. Strictly speaking, they were correct — there was a body of hot magma beneath Sopris, but it cooled at depth and never erupted. The volcanic rocks strewn about the middle Roaring Fork Valley came from Basalt Mountain, several miles to the northeast.

But the most revealing presentation may have come from the fourth group, which claimed, incorrectly, that the mountain was a volcano. While presenting the group's conclusions, one student became visibly upset as she delivered what she had realized by that time was the wrong answer. What she failed to realize — Ogilby later informed her — was that she had developed what the teacher called a "wonderfully defensible premise" by being the only group to correctly



Dr. Jim Gaw, Science faculty member, working with two students.

interpret the evidence at one of the field sites.

The point, he added, was for students to explore and think analytically. The field exercises and collaborative presentations were more about the journey than the destination.

"We want our kids not just learning and absorbing the material, but to be problem-solvers and critical thinkers," Ogilby said. "It's not about right or wrong, but diving in a deep way."

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

A deep dive of another kind occurred in Robin Colt's Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science class, when a different group of students explored the murky world where science meets public policy. In a mock United Nations meeting, students representing different continents and interest groups attempted to reach a consensus on global population issues.

Students representing Africa, Asia, North America, South America and Europe each presented data from their regions, discussing birth rates and death rates, and how those measures hinge on other conditions such as poverty, public health, technology and the carrying capacity of the land. The social and economic factors



Robin Colt's AP Environmental Science class prior to lift-off with EcoFlight.

...continued on p. 6

at play in rural Africa and Latin America differed enormously from industrialized societies in Europe and North America. Proposed remedies to overpopulation, and the demands that millions more people exert on the natural environment, ranged from better water management to improved education for women. Legal limits on the number of children per family, as in China's so-called one-child policy, were discussed as well.

But as the mock delegates debated and struggled to reach agreement, it became clear that, when it comes to global policy, one size does not fit all. Cultural and religious practices in certain countries present barriers to data-driven solutions, and virtually no nations like it when others tell them what to do.

"We're pushing other countries to be more like us," said one delegate.

When the lively discussion was finished, Colt was satisfied that the students had wrestled with the subject and understood the social, political and economic factors that influence human population.

"This was student-centered learning," she said. "I put it in their court and tried not to speak."

Colt's students were given the

requisite tools and then asked to tackle a problem. As in the geology class, this exercise wasn't about finding a right answer, but about students engaging with the material.

"This reveals their understanding so much more than a bubble test," Colt said.



Jim Gaw working on solar power technology with a student.

KEEPING IT REAL

In describing the Science Department's overall aim, Department Chair Ogilby says he and his fellow science teachers try to build each learning unit around authentic, genuine questions.

Ogilby's field-based geology course ties into the physical landscape surrounding Carbondale. In considering whether nearby Mount Sopris might someday erupt, Ogilby also asked, "Are we all doomed?"

Colt's mock UN exercise was driven in part by the AP exam, but it too linked scientific fact-finding to a real-world problem. The wide-ranging population discussion touched on both

the politics of abortion in America and the cultural differences at play in the recent media dust-up over First Lady Michelle Obama's wardrobe during a January visit to Saudi Arabia.

Gaw really goes the extra mile in search of authenticity for his chemistry students. He's been known to dress up in a lab coat or business suit and play the role of a visiting bureaucrat with a problem to solve.

For example, he once played a Transportation Security Administration official with a confiscated bag. The TSA guy suspected the bag might contain something radioactive, so he asked students to design an experiment to find out.

On another occasion, Gaw played a guy from the Food and Drug Administration who believed that some vinegars on the market didn't meet acceptable concentration guidelines. Solving this problem required knowledge of pH, acids and bases.

"In between being presented with the problem and actually dealing with the problem, they learn specific concepts and lab skills that enable them to undertake the challenge," Gaw explains.

The students also tend to warm up when the teacher dons a costume, or mentions the word "rocket."

"That's what it's all about," says Gaw. "Student engagement."



Kayo Ogilby (right), works on the self-sustaining aquaponics system with two students.

A WORD FROM A CRMS SENIOR

— BY SOPHIE KORNICK —

It has become CRMS tradition that every year, each member of the senior class gives a short speech at a Formal Dinner or All-School Meeting that highlights how CRMS has impacted them. In addition, it is a chance for the seniors to share words of wisdom with underclassmen who will soon be leaders of the school. Below is a speech given by Sophie Kornick, class of 2015.

Hi — my name is Sophie Kornick and I am a four-year senior. I would like to start with a quote that Maude said to Harold in *Harold and Maude*: “Everyone has the right to make an ass out of themselves, so you can’t let the world judge you too much.”

Harold and Maude is my favorite movie we have watched in Film Lit because it speaks to something that has been core to my experience here — not being afraid to fall on your face and have everyone laugh at you.

Let me rewind to four years ago, on wilderness. I was your quintessential slow kid. I thought that breaking in my hiking boots meant walking my dog in them, so of course by day two I was covered in blisters. I was the only kid on my trip who had never slept outside, I was the slowest hiker, and I still have no idea how to read a topographic map. Long story short, I kind of hated it. This is because I was not used to doing things I was bad at. Having a group of ten kids I did not know watch me fail made me feel really exposed and I did not like it at all. Before I came to CRMS, I would never have tried to do anything that I thought I would fail at. I was scared to fail because I thought that it would make me seem weak or dumb or stupid. I did not want to let the world judge me, so I did not try.

But here you have to try new things - like it or not. I learned this pretty soon after wilderness when, during orientation, we had to pick an active. I grew up in Chicago not able to bike, or climb, or paddle, so when I saw the list I thought, “great, yet another opportunity to embarrass myself.” But I also

was a little pumped. Maybe I did not have fun backpacking but maybe I would like whatever active I was placed in.

I got into beginner kayaking and it was surprisingly really fun. I was not the only person who had never been in a boat before. That fall trip we all went down Ruby Horsetheif and most of us swam once or twice...or twelve times. My lack of steexe was probably laughable, but I was having such a good time that I did not notice. I was loving the culture of being on a river. Between paddling and cooking and setting up camp, we would all try to make each other laugh. I remember that on Rosh Hashanah I decided to teach everyone the apples and honey song game, which is basically where you run around singing apples and honey apples and honey apples and honey till you cant’ breathe and you fall over. I was honking and coughing and thoroughly not cute by the end of the game. I made a complete fool of myself...and I was stoked.

At CRMS, I have had so many opportunities to make a fool of myself. From the times that I have gotten up and attempted to rap with Rotceh, to Coffee House where I sang dumb ways to die with Nicole Lipe — not being able to contain the honk. This school has made me super uncomfortable, but through dealing with this discomfort I have learned how to put myself out there. But not too out there because I am working on reining it in and...you know, filtering. Pushing myself to get out of my bubble to try new things that I am bad at is still hard for me; ask Darryl and he will tell you that I have not been on a backpacking trip since wilderness — but it is something I want to keep doing.

There is value in pushing yourself to be vulnerable, it is where you learn and grow and change. If I had not pushed myself to do things that make me uncomfortable, I would probably be the same kid I was freshman year, and ask anyone who was here my freshman year and they will agree that me changing is a good thing. I am not done changing. Hopefully when I come back

as an old person all of you who knew me will agree that I have changed for the better, but this means I have to keep going outside of my comfort zone. I have to risk being uncomfy or embarrassed.

For example, in AO’s class we are going to a monastery and we have to meditate, which is hippie talk for sit still and quietly, and nothing makes me more uncomfy than sitting still and quiet. But I am excited because even though it is not going to be fun, I think I might learn something from it, and who knows, I might come back to campus having found inner peace.

So here is the part where I try to give you some advice. Maude said don’t be afraid to make an ass out of yourselves, don’t let fear stop you. Vos los Hovel speaks to this and calls this commitment to being true, an “inner emancipation.”

This fearlessness starts small, so try new things, say what you want except for when you’re filtering - because having a filter is important. But don’t let fear stop you. Ignore the fact that it will be on snap-chat and have a dance party in the common room. Drop jah stouts in your kayak even if your roll is not 100%, but you know, set safety first. Just have the courage to be inspired. Don’t be afraid to put your faith in what you believe in.

In Gretta Wilson’s senior speech she likened CRMS to the island of misfit toys, and I think that is important to remember, because we are all here for different reasons, and we are all trying new things, we are all bizarre, in our own special way. Through making ourselves uncomfortable, through putting ourselves closer to truth, we are attempting to be authentic.

This is a constant struggle but there is no place better to find the truth. Here we can find our truth together, and we can do it while in costume. And when scared, when blisters seems too big, when the drop seems too stout, when the struggle is real, we can find solace in the fact that we’re not the first people here to make this attempt, and we won’t be the last.



Sophie, class of 2015, kayaking on Fall Trip.

THE ANNUAL FUND GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

— BY LISA RALEIGH —



This year's Annual Fund and Special Events goal is the largest in the school's history at \$625,000. We are currently 75% of the way to our goal in commitments, but we still need to raise \$150,000 prior to June 30, 2015, the end of our fiscal year. By joining us with your support, you are providing the best possible independent school education for

our students and helping us underwrite the actual cost of a CRMS education. Please consider supporting this important fund with a gift of any size. And if you have already given to this year's Annual Fund, thank you for believing in CRMS; your support is invaluable.

LEADERSHIP-LEVEL ANNUAL FUND GIFTS

Every year we ask donors who have the financial capacity to consider joining us at a Leadership level of giving. The success of the Annual Fund is founded on the principle of many donors contributing to the cause, and we are incredibly grateful for those donors who are able to support us in the \$5,000-and-up family of supporters. The following donors have already committed a Leadership-level gift to this year's Annual Fund, and we want to thank them for their generosity. Please consider joining these donors and help lead the way with your support:

- Eric & Deborah Alden
- Ralph Beck '73, Beck Foundation
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FORGING THE FUTURE // PRESERVING THE PAST CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

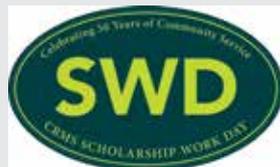
— BY LISA RALEIGH —



We are delighted to report we are now over 96% of the way to our \$10 million goal in capital improvements. Thanks to the generosity of many, we have been able to bring our academic and residential facilities in line with the teaching excellence that takes place here daily. As we approach the home stretch of this campaign, we will now shift our focus to the remaining facility improvements which include a new Welcome Center and Active Center.

We recently secured the necessary gift commitments to embark on the new Welcome Center (we will continue to fundraise the balance during construction). This admission-oriented facility will be located in the former New Boys Dorm at the entrance to campus and is designed to receive all prospective, current and returning families. In addition, it will provide a centralized location for the administrative team. Construction/remodeling will begin this spring and we are hoping to be in the new facility by January 2016. As always, a tremendous thank you to the CRMS Board of Trustees for their leadership and generosity, and to the many other generous donors who have helped us achieve these goals. For more information on joining us in our efforts, please contact Lisa Raleigh, Director of Advancement, at lraleigh@crms.org or 970-963-2562.

DID YOU KNOW?



50 years of community service work by raising \$50,000 — double what we raised last year.

Proceeds from this event support the CRMS Scholarship Fund. Be part of something special — help us honor 50 years of community service. If you are interested in supporting this year's event or to learn more, please contact Elizabeth Murphy at emurphy@crms.org.

MEET RAVI VENKATESWARAN '69 CRMS TRUSTEE

— INTERVIEW WITH LAURA MCCORMICK —



Ravi Venkateswaran, class of '69

What inspired you to join the CRMS Board of Trustees?

I was privileged to be a full scholarship student at the school. However, my circumstances were somewhat different in that I was 'adopted' by the school as my parents and sister left for India for the two years I was at CRMS. Hence, school was really home for me during that period. Therefore, the school always has been very special to me and I have always looked forward to an opportunity

to become more involved with the school.

What role has CRMS played in your life?

My two years at CRMS were truly transformative. Having come from a conservative, South Indian family background, plunging into CRMS was challenging, difficult and at the same time eventually rewarding. I was exposed to new activities like mountain climbing and camping during the first summer which pushed me to the limit to cope and keep up – which I did by the end of the summer. My career interest in geology formatively began with Jack Snobble's geology class and wonderful field trips all over western Colorado. My development led me to a wonderful college education at Columbia and beyond. To say that the school has played an important role in my career and life development would be no exaggeration.

What does CRMS mean to you?

CRMS means personal development – challenging your physical and mental capabilities to bring out the best in you – like being out on the snowy trail cross-country skiing under a moonlit sky. It means the sheer enjoyment of the wonderful physical surroundings of the school in a beautiful valley, mountains, fresh air, changing seasons, the sounds of the flowing Roaring Fork and Crystal Rivers and the Fall and Spring trips that we have all made. It means asking questions to your teachers and fellow classmates without fear and in a spirit of learning. It means an effort to understand who you are and what matters to you in life.

What are you most excited about as you embark on your new role as Trustee?

My recent interactions with the school showed me that the board and the school leadership are committed to maintain the motivation and principles with which John and Ann Holden established CRMS more than 60 years ago. However, this has to be balanced with accommodation to the vast changes everywhere starting with the valley, the country and the world. We are very fortunate to have an outstanding and committed faculty. However,

to ensure that CRMS stays viable and relevant in the years ahead, there has to be a robust financial foundation including a sufficiently large endowment. This is a major challenge of all private educational institutions at all levels. We want to be able to offer financial aid to students so that we have a diverse body of students. We want to upgrade the physical facilities of the school so that it is compatible with the current expectations of all the stakeholders. We must remunerate our faculty to keep them at the school. We want to see CRMS to be innovative and a leader in its class. All of this requires the combined efforts of the board, the headmaster and his leadership team, faculty and the alumni. This is both a challenging and exciting time for the school and the board. I am quite pleased to be part of the board as the school undertakes these efforts to maintain its uniqueness, which we all love and respect, and still respond to the challenges of the times.

MEET VIRGINIA TOUHEY '74 CRMS TRUSTEE

— INTERVIEW WITH LAURA MCCORMICK —

What inspired you to join the CRMS Board of Trustees?

I have been contributing to CRMS for many years now. So, I get calls and visits from Jeff and Lisa and Laura on a regular basis. I used these times to catch up on the "current workings" of CRMS. I have also attended recent reunions, including the 60th Anniversary celebration in April of 2014. The more I heard and saw the more I was interested in CRMS. I guess that fed into being asked to join the Board of Trustees; which I accepted.

What role has CRMS played in your life?

I would say mostly, CRMS saved my life in those years. I wasn't going to die or anything. I was looking for an adjunct to my academics. I needed to learn outside the classroom as well as inside. I loved the outdoors so it ended up being a perfect fit. Throughout the rest of my life I believe CRMS fostered my continued love of the outdoors and the environment. After graduation I thought I was headed towards forestry or agriculture. That didn't happen perhaps due to inadequate college counseling. So I'm delighted by how much CRMS has invested in college counseling since then. They are doing an excellent job today – YEA!

What does CRMS mean to you?

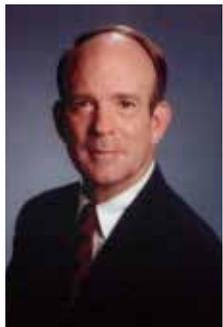
CRMS is a place for students to learn to learn. A place to learn to think outside the box, through such invested passionate and creative teachers, a dynamite campus and Roaring Fork Valley, and a progressive curriculum. Students are spoken to as intellectual participants as opposed to a separate class of people whose opinions are too inexperienced.

What are you most excited about as you embark on your new role as Trustee?

I'm excited to be a part of this creative and competitive academic school. I will continue to help preserve the outdoor curriculum as well as student responsibility in contributing to their community (small and large) around them.

MEET ROBIN RYMER '60 CRMS TRUSTEE

— NEW BOARD MEMBER REFLECTIONS —



New CRMS Board member Robin Rymer shares some memories that reflect why staying involved in our school is important to him.

I am excited to be in the new group of three on the Board of Trustees (BOT). A few random memories may tell you why CRMS is still important to me.

John Lowry, extraordinary physics and math teacher...helped me build a modified Blackburn Double Pendulum which created Intricate harmograms with sand. Dick Cobb helped us build it. Google the patterns.

John Holden taught me that until I had absorbed every word in Strunk and White's, "The Elements of Style," I was to place it under my pillow every night for the rest of my life. It was pretty crowded there as I had two books of Robert Frost's poetry in the pillow case.

And what of the three "R's": Ted Rickard, Flo Rickard and Tommy Russell Ted, our extraordinary musical director, could transpose Handel's Messiah for 3 trumpets, 1 flute, 7 guitars and a pitch pipe. There was no need for this as he had superb pianists: Ursula Goodenough, Lynn Bradley and Pat Swartzwood. Of course, Tommy Russell had a voice from a yet unnamed God: yes, they broke the mold after burst from it. And Flo, thanks for sharing your glorious voice with CRMS and the entire valley.

On the Board, I hope to learn how these talented board members have kept the CRMS dream alive. When I attended CRMS we were the "little engine that could," and now we have a bigger engine but we need more and more power to pull our freight. My hope is that we continue to graduate critical thinkers.

ALUMNI FEATURES

— COMPILED AND EDITED BY LAURA MCCORMICK '93 —

Each year, we ask alumni to share with us about their work in a specific field or area of interest. This time, we asked alumni-entrepreneurs to tell their stories. We hope you enjoy these tales of imagination, inventiveness, creativity and resourcefulness which map the journeys of these alumni in their bold endeavors.

SCOTT BLAU '73

— IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW... —



Scott Blau, class of '73

I knew I was destined to have my own business from a very early age. I remember when I was around 10 discussing with a friend the challenges we faced. He worried about running a business, but I couldn't face working for someone else. After all, my father had his own business, as did his father.

For high school, I escaped inner-city Chicago and found previously untapped muscle, stamina, and determination in the Rockies when Fritz Erzinger took me under his wing for dryland training, and then Roger Paris threw me into a kayak on the Roaring Fork. I never was a jock, but I learned to love endurance, from running the hills above the soccer field, to down-river kayaking.

In college "back east," I was drawn to computers by a strong feeling that they were something "big" and were going to have an impact on "everything"... I sold the downriver kayak I had made under Roger's watchful eye, but kept running, even when I moved to New York City for graduate school at Columbia. An English girl I met at the Committee for Human Rights in Chile was aghast when I declared to her that I would "go into business!" She may have been dismayed, but I managed to

assuage her fears – we have been together for over 35 years since.

After a Masters of Philosophy, I left academia for full-time programming at Harlem Hospital. With virtually no formal computer training, I had complete responsibility for data processing on a long-term, epidemiological study. Two years later I jumped to a start-up developing operating-room scheduling software. It never dawned on me that maybe I wasn't qualified – as when I was learning to kayak, I just paddled like hell down the river.

After 3 or 4 years of working for others... finally it was time to start my own business. A friend showed me a document scanner connected to a Mac – a rarity in the mid-1980s. In a fever (literally, since I was prostrate with chicken pox), I envisioned that if we could scan paper forms used in the OR, then we could figure out how to digitally read them. With my scanner friend, we started a company with our small savings and a little help from my father.

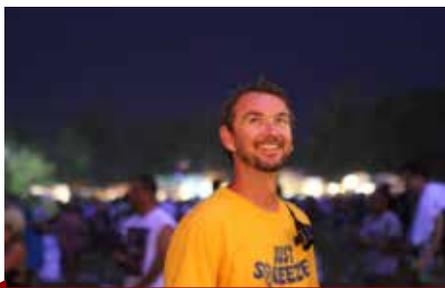
As the cliché goes, "If I knew then what I know now..." What I know now is that we were way ahead of our time, and that this was no get-rich-quick scheme. It took patience and endurance, something that I quite enjoy – if it is running or cycling. We did something that is relatively rare these days – we built a successful software business with no loans, little money, and on our own terms. We treated employees fairly and those who stuck with us (some for almost 20 years) were well rewarded when IBM acquired us.

Funny, I always knew that I would have my own business... but since leaving Big Blue, I have no appetite for starting another. I would rather help others face their own business challenges. I am the Chairman

of a small Hungarian software company, I volunteer for the Princes Trust (Prince Charles that is) in England, and I work with the offspring of various friends and family facing career and business challenges. I think of Roger, a Chamonix Guide, taking the time to help a klutzy city boy like me, or Fritz goading me on to do what he knew I could do, but I didn't have a clue about. Now it's my turn to follow their example.

JOSH LANGE '93

— LIVING A JUICY LIFE —



Josh Lange, class of '93

I started Just Squeezed Juice, back in 1998 when I was 22 with \$100 and a goal to create a business that rewarded "time freedom." I was pursuing my pro snowboarding dreams and had just returned home from a season in British Columbia. Broke and eager to earn as much money as possible, I set out to create something that would keep my winters 100% work free, in order to travel, compete and train for my sport.

My first juice cart opened in Santa Fe, NM in a busy tourist area called Canyon Road. I developed a very simple menu with emphasis on delicious and fresh. The results were fast and exciting. I quickly moved from the streets of downtown to hitting art markets, music festivals and even landed the New Mexico State Fair, my first season out.

The next years proved that I was onto something. The work moved rapidly starting with in-state business and expanding to chase festivals from coast to coast. Our next big break came in the form of acceptance into the biggest fes-

tival of the time, Woodstock '99. What a crazy and wildly profitable three-day ride that was (but that's a story for another time).

Today the Just Squeezed Company has multiple carts and stands that operate at large festivals across the United States. Our emphasis on keeping the work season profitable and short (under six months a year) remain the same. This life is meant to be lived, work should provide a fun and rewarding experience. Success to me and my crew is not only the money but the "time freedom" achieved.

We employ as many as 70 people at a time and empower others to start their own "freedom machine" businesses with our new SQUEEZiversity training program. Our brand has expanded to incorporate five sub-brands including our super-popular coffee company, Just Brewed, that can be found at popular music festivals like Coachella and Bonnaroo.

After 18 years in business Just Squeezed continues to inspire me, showing the possibilities of creating something from nothing. A well-planned and short work season gives lots of time to breathe and create in between. Time to travel the world, time to build upon new passions, time to be healthy and time to love. After all, what better reason to be here than to live fully, thrive and inspire ourselves and others!

It's my opinion; the reason Just Squeezed worked from the beginning is I had a great passion for something. If the passion is deep enough, anything is possible, anything is achievable and the coolest part is it doesn't matter what your passion is. My mind was set on chasing my dreams; all I needed was the funds to pull it off. It's my belief when an individual sets their mind to achieve a very focused outcome and then puts it into action, results and success are inevitable! It's a truth I find that we all have access to in our existence here on planet earth. Go get it, don't give up, never, no matter what, chase those dreams!

CRMS gave me the tools I needed to set my path in motion. Work ethic, community, finding my individual strengths and the endless pursuits of fun, adventure and happiness. I learned to never settle for anything from this great school and always go for what's in my heart. I feel so lucky to have been taught and inspired by so many at CRMS, from teachers to fellow students. I thank all of you and strive to pass any part or piece I can along of my experience there to human kind and society. This life... oh the possibilities!

www.JustSqueezedJuice.com

SASADI BOOTHE ODUNSI '94

— BUMP BROOKLYN —



SaSaDi Boothe Odunsi, class of '94

Bump Brooklyn was born in 2007 after I and another new mother decided we weren't ready to go back to our 9-5 jobs but also wanted to stay connected to our adult lives and careers. It started as a flittering idea and then quickly became a reality. Initially we started with trying to find the right space but quickly realized we needed to have a strong business plan to prove that we were serious and ultimately find a landlord willing to rent a space to us.

From conception to opening day was a matter of months. We did all the work ourselves (with the benefit of having talented and supportive husbands who pitched in as well). We sourced products and started with a small selection of products. The benefit of being in NYC meant we had access to many showrooms without having to travel far. We had very little room for error

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and put in many unpaid hours. After a few months, we hired our first employee. Almost eight years later, it is pretty much the same boutique we opened on day one but with a much broader outreach.

Business has changed significantly over the years and we have had to evolve - online shopping was nonexistent when we started, today it's practically impossible to exist without having an online presence. It also means a lot more competition. While the beauty of a small boutique is the personalized experience and having a wide se-

lection at your fingertips, as a shop owner it is about constantly marketing and finding new customers - especially in maternity where your client base is constantly changing.

When we opened, we really wanted Bump to be a gathering place for expecting and new mothers. Over the years, we have invited doulas, nutritionists, photographers and other experts in the baby field to come and speak at informal & informative "mocktail" events. We do a Mother's Day charity event every year which is always a

wonderful celebration of motherhood and a way to give back to our community and mothers in need worldwide.

We took a leap of faith (something I think every CRMS student and alumnus can relate to) to make it happen and though there have been plenty of bumps in the road and transitions over the years, the focus and beauty of Bump remains the same - bringing expecting women together in a warm environment that is all about making them look and feel great. Please stop in and say hi if you are ever in Brooklyn!

MARK SCHMID '82

GREAT, I CREATED A NEW PRODUCT...

NOW WHAT?

THE STORY OF CLICK CARABINER



Mark Schmid, class of '82 with his children Muriithi & Kimathi

In July of 2009, I walked into my industrial designer's office with a new product idea. I brought a butterfly knife and some wrenches that adjusted all the different parts of a skateboard. My goal was to create a skate-tool that had a danger aspect to it. Knives and skateboarders...Whatever could go wrong? The "Danger Sk8 Tool" never made it into production but after spending an extensive amount of anthropologically-based research on the very subjects we were building the part for, we discovered several insights that led us to combine the tools needed with a carabiner form. Most importantly we found that skateboarders kept their keys on carabiners and that the carabiner could hold & elevate their backpacks on chain link fences common at most skate parks or spots. Several trips to our patent lawyer and CAD files e-mailed to our manufacturer in China

and we were in business selling our Skateboard Carabiner under our www.sk8ology.com website and to shops and distributors worldwide.

Those same skateboarders happen to snowboard in the winter. So, back to our industrial design firm we went with all the tools needed to adjust a snowboard. While doing the same anthropologic research on the mountain with the snowboarders, we found that the skiers wanted a version as well to tune their ski bindings. Excellent! We could amortize our development costs between two products. Insights about our snowboard and ski carabiners included having easy access to your tools (not having to dig into a backpack or pocket) and being able to do adjustments with your gloves on your hands. Back to the patent attorney and our manufacturer and we weren't just launching another product...We had created a new category: Lifestyle Carabiners. We launched on www.kickstarter.com and raised nearly \$53,000 along with another \$300,000 from worldwide distributors. While sales of our carabiners have grown significantly year over year, events out of our control still have the ability to rain on our high growth "parade" (this season's domestic orders are still on a container ship courtesy of a West Coast Port Strike). Seasonal business...What could go wrong??

These entrepreneurial challenges are all comparable to the exact challenges I faced at CRMS 35 years ago. I needed to balance

academic life with my favorite sports activities, dinner crew and getting along with different roommates. When I compare the cruise control I operated on at public high school to the struggles I faced at CRMS (both on the trail and in the classroom), there is no question as to where my entrepreneurial values came from. The rigors of CRMS let me know what real life had in store for me and for that I'll always be thankful....That, and the great group of CRMS friends I still stay in contact with to this day.

SADYE HARVEY '07

THE WHOLE WORKS:

REFLECTIONS ON DOING GOOD WORK



Sadye Harvey, class of '07

Late last year I co-founded The Whole Works, along with my mom Kelly Alford, Janie Rich, and Julia Marshall (mom of Thorne Warner CRMS class of 2012). The Whole Works is a for-profit cut and sew facility in Rifle, Colorado, that works with small designers to create high-quality

ity, small-run clothing production in an ethical and sustainable way. We work in partnership with GarCo Sewing Works, a non-profit training program that teaches production sewing to women who are transitioning from Federal assistance. We started this company with the belief and understanding that when you foster the connection between work and family, public and private, industry and the environment, things work well.

My love for clothing has been a constant, weaving in and out of every aspect of my life, connecting my experiences. It is the filter through which I view the world. I don't love clothing in a fashion sense; instead, I love clothing the way someone might love food, a basic necessity that is beautiful, important, and complex. Unless you live in a very specific type of community, everyone around you is wearing clothing, every day. It's incredible! Even more incredible is to imagine the thousands of hands that made the clothes we wear, the thousands of faces, thoughts, personalities and lives that touched our T-shirts and jeans. When we get dressed, we engage with this amazing origin story, even if we are not aware of it.

Sewing clothing is an incredible skill. It builds confidence, problem solving skills and creativity. There is nothing as satisfying as finishing a garment – it almost magically transforms before your eyes. When we started The Whole Works, we envisioned a space in which our sewers could take ownership of what they create, and be proud of the work they do. We wanted to demystify the process of production and reconnect the makers to the buyers. We wanted to do work that was good – good for the environment, good for the people, good for the soul. With this simple vision, and very little formal training, we began.

Starting a business is a little like playing make-believe, except with confusing paper work and higher stakes. It is the ultimate act of creation. Helping to found The Whole Works has been a wild experience, challenging the very core of my sense of self. There is no education that can fully

prepare you for hurdles you will face, but the best education can give you the tools to face them with grace. To start a business you have to be optimistic, irrationally so, or else the impossibility will overwhelm you. You must be fearless, humble, and accountable. You must be honest. You must communicate. You must be comfortable feeling small. You must be comfortable saying “I don't know.”

As it turns out, knowing is not the most important part. Simply begin, do good work, and the knowing will follow.

LUCY PERUTZ '09

— DOWN THE RABBIT RABBIT HOLE —



Lucy Perutz, class of '09

I didn't mean to start a business. I was going to head to New York City to try my hand at the Big Apple and cooking for the masses. I wanted to work my way up the culinary food chain—from dishwasher to chef de cuisine was the plan. Being an early-twenties something meant slaving for your boss, long nights and struggling, or so I was told. After graduating from the University of Vermont in 2013 (Thanks, Betsy Bingham-Johns, CRMS college counselor!), I planned on spending one more summer in Telluride, CO working as a bartender at the local hotspot, “There Bar” and just for fun spending my Fridays at the Farmer's Market serving locally sourced and organic salads. The latter was a plan I cooked up with longtime friend, artist extraordinaire and Telluride local, Drew Ludwig. Rabbit Rabbit was the name I came up with for the business, an ode to an English grandmother, a severe devotion to bizarre superstitions* and a nod to the veg-

etarian green food I was serving. The business took off due to a lack of existing food of its kind and the low overhead model. I always believed in the “start small” ethic, keeping costs low and being 100% truthful to your customers.

Going to college in the great state of Vermont prepped me with all of the knowledge I'd ever need about local food sourcing, and growing up working for my Mom at her booth in the Telluride Farmer's Market put me in touch with all of the farmers around the Telluride region. I was armed with a degree in Community Entrepreneurship and a severe distrust of authority. Those two elements made me savvy in the business language and gave me enough fire in my bones to disable me from working for just another boss. I somehow managed to channel my anti-authoritarianism into activism and a devotion to changing the injustices that happen daily. As a very involved activist in college, I knew that I wanted to make positive change in the world and I knew that the best way I could do that was trying to shift the way that people thought about food. I had a passion for getting communities to really think about where their food was coming from and what the negative implications of eating corporately produced food were. I knew that if I could just change what one person had for lunch, I was on the right track. Food is not only a remedy for a grumbling belly, it is the world's simplest medicine. I've always felt this way.

After a supremely successful summer at the farmer's market, I opened a pop-up restaurant in a local restaurant space during their off-hours. People went crazy for it! So much so that we expanded to a larger area of the restaurant and added new staff within the first couple of weeks. Currently I am working as a private chef and caterer under the Rabbit Rabbit name, until I can open a restaurant of my own, a daunting task, but one I know I was born to do.

*In parts of England, there is a superstition that saying “Rabbit Rabbit” first thing on the first day of each month will bring good luck.

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

— COMPILED BY LAURA MCCORMICK &
ANA MINEO —

At Colorado Rocky Mountain School we treasure news from our alumni! And our vibrant alumni community loves sharing updates on their lives with CRMS friends. In an effort to keep our print newsletter a size that reflects our dedication to sustainability and minimal waste, we have printed a portion of the alumni notes in the following pages, and the full set of alumni notes is available on the CRMS website. Find it by visiting crms.org/tri-annual-newsletters. We hope you enjoy catching up with news of our alumni as much as we have!

Former Faculty News:

Patty Burke Hickey: “I teach full-time now in the English department here at Phillips Exeter. Our sons Quinn (age 16) and Gavin (age 14) are both students, so the experience has become quite a family affair. We live in a girls dorm - no complaints from the teenage sons! Besides teaching and committee work, I am the assistant coach of the cycling team.”

Katie Scott is teaching at the Hawken School in Gates Mills, OH. Her children Madeleine and Annie (both age 12) and Duncan (age 8) are thriving.

Barbara Snobble and husband, Dick Allenby, write in a holiday letter, “We are in Ft. Walton Beach which is on the gulf mid-way on the Florida panhandle. We are living in a retirement community which

is a six story building with a nice dining room and a large atrium. It’s a short drive from Barbara’s daughter, Cristi, and her husband Tim. We came here in October ’12 expecting to stay a couple of months-but we’re still here. We don’t have to worry about snow, food, laundry or cleaning but-most important, Barbara doesn’t have to be on oxygen. Planning a short stay, we left a lot of needed stuff in Colorado-including both cars. We hope to get back to Carbondale in June and get organized. For July 4th, Cristi, Tim and Conne and Jim Bazley, and Brad and Carolyn Allenby joined us on a dinner cruise in the bay and we watched a great fireworks display. We had a marvelous Thanksgiving at Tim and Cristi’s house with Conne and Jim and grandson Cameron and Meghan. We ended up on the beach taking group pictures in ribald Christmas sweaters and silly Santa hats—much to the locals’ bemusement. Barbara’s book “Barbara Snobble Remembers CRMS” was published by Bazely West Studios and is available at Amazon.”

1950s

Winnie Koch Fernandez ’57, writes, “My sister, Laura Elizabeth Koch Emanuel, one of the school’s very first students, 1955, lost her 3rd battle with cancer on May 26th, 2014 and I am missing her dearly.

Editor’s note: The school printed an In Memoriam for Laura Koch Emanuel in the Fall 2014 newsletter. Please see that for a full obituary.

Rick Shapiro ’58 reports, “Rick and Gayle are enjoying our winters in our

home in Arizona. During summer, Rick works as a missile warning subject matter expert consultant to the Air Force. The newest addition to our household is a triple black 2015 Stingray convertible.”

Class of 1960

Jim Amos says, “Still living in Denver. Keeping busy as a volunteer with The Colorado Fund for People with Disabilities where I support case managers by assisting them by performing administrative tasks that would take away from the time they spend with clients, and provide IT, accounting and administrative support for the organization. Helped restore a 1929 Chevrolet Landau at the Forney Transportation Museum. CRMS Memory: Christmas break, taking the Glenwood-Aspen Stage bus to/from Denver in some pretty awful weather. They didn’t close highways back then!”

John Chase reports, “Still alive and standing” ... when I’m not sitting or lying. Still in Belfast, ME, peering over the snow drifts. Liz got her passport renewed, so maybe we’ll get out of town some.

Dick Durrance writes, “As I push toward Malcolm Gladwell’s 10,000 hours of practice ... the responses get better. Selected as one of the top ten sessions (out of 125) at the American Society of Association Executives Annual Meeting. But far more important is finding another use for the photographs, a use that seems to light up people’s lives, including students at CRMS. Sad to say that my skis

Save the Date!

CRMS Alumni Reunion & Celebration: August 7-9th, 2015

While all are welcome, we offer a special welcome to alumni and faculty from: '54 through '79, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10

Questions? Interested in helping?
Contact Laura at lmccormick@crms.org or 970-963-2562

are gathering dust in the garage. Much as I love carving tracks down hills, so many friends and teammates from ski teams have been hit or gotten hurt over the last couple of years that I am simply unwilling to put the speaking at risk to go skiing. However, my wife, Sue, and I love to play golf and are off to Scottsdale on Monday to visit with friends, give a talk, teach a photo workshop, and play a couple of rounds of golf.”

Cathy de Schulthess Galitzine writes, “Does the time ever go by fast! The Galapagos Islands - I do think that was the most fantastic trips we ever took. We were on a week cruise and enjoyed every minute. These volcanic islands give an idea about the creation of the earth and the fact that the equilibrium between humans and animals is fragile. We need to protect the earth we live on and realize the animals need their place for us all to survive. We visited Peru: Macchu Picchu and south to the Nazca lines that were very interesting. In April we are off to the Amazon River, Easter Island and the Atacama Desert in northern Chili. Our son Cyril is moving to Boston for a post-doc at Northeastern working in statistics needed in the medical field.”

Ursula Goodenough says, “Still not ready to retire but backing off in some ways from wet-lab work to make room for other research projects. Two grandsons, Luciano and Theodore, born in the last year, raising total to 7. Both, of course, are perfect in every way. Still no signs of cancer recurrence, with every month that that’s the case being a better sign, but living in the moment as we all are called to do.”

Andy Gould writes, “Rita and I are back at our winter home in Patagonia, AZ until April. We continue to be on call as volunteers at Patagonia Lake State Park, but this season we hope to get much more involved in local environmental organizations such as the Borderlands Restoration Institute. The high desert grasslands where we live may not appear as conducive to growing food, but as we learn more about the resilience of

our local ecosystems we can do a lot to develop the natural potential of this land and how natives grew food in this terrain in the past. In the face of climate change, learning from arid areas such as this is essential. This past summer Rita and I spent two weeks on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon, the trip of a lifetime. Just after our return, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and had my prostate removed in September. My latest PSA test indicates the cancer is gone. I will continue to have these tests every three months for a few years. Along with all that, I was still able to visit CRMS and other beloved parts of Colorado. I was very happy to hear that the riding program, an important part of my CRMS experience, is being re-established.”

Mary Whitford Graves reports, “Nick and I continue to travel to places near and far away. We are enjoying our “golden years” of retirement where our time is our own, pretty much. When at home, we divide our time between Napa and San Francisco: the city for cultural enrichment (opera, ballet, symphony, theater) and for being our home base. Napa is for the warm sunshine, total relaxation, good hiking and biking spots, and being close to nature. So I spend time supporting that endeavor. I’ve taken up yoga in the last couple of years as it keeps my spine in the right place freeing up the nerves. I love it and think it is a great way to manage my aging body enabling me to enjoy several sports. Nick and I enjoyed a great trip to Eastern Europe last fall inspired by Patrick Leigh Fermor’s great travel books of his walking from Holland to Istanbul in 1934-35. We spent the first 10 days with a biking group riding from the Czech Republic along the Danube River and into Bavaria, ending in Vienna. We continued on our own flying to Bucharest Romania to meet our travel guide there. After a day and a half of sight-seeing in the city we began a 10 day car tour into areas that had been part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire....We loved our trip. It was an unusual country filled with lovely people. Nick and I also had a good time at the CRMS 60th anniversary celebration. I enjoyed seeing old friends and viewing all

the new work in the dormitories. It was so good to see that the school is thriving.”

Lynn Bradley Leopold says, “Another busy year for me with my duties as a Village trustee, President of the board of the Finger Lakes ReUse Center, involvement with the Floating Classroom on Cayuga Lake, visiting family in Colorado, Seattle and Bellingham, Washington. I visited my friends in Galway, Ireland again last year in late summer, another wonderful trip to a magical place. My sons, Michael and Eben Grace are still at their audio electronics company, Grace Design and working hard to keep the company above water...They make pre-amplifiers for recording studios, broadcast and individual musicians who wish to record their own work. My daughter, Lise Grace is still working at the North Cascades National Park in the resource management area, doing a lot of reports for many other parks in and outside of their network. My grandchildren, Maizie and Owen Grace (almost 17 and 15) are thriving in school and extra-curricular activities. Maizie shoots a mean basket in basketball (she is 6’2”!) and Owen has fallen in love with mountain biking. Both are superb skiers and I got to join them with my sons for a nice day at Loveland Basin in January. In May, I will attend the 50th anniversary of the Colorado College Tour Choir, which I was in for a few years as an undergraduate. Our wonderful director just turned 80 and is willing to lead one more reunion. We will learn music and then perform it over the graduation weekend at CC. Life is good and I find much for which I am grateful - a wonderful family, great friends, a nurturing, interesting community, and good health. So far, so good!”

Michelle Rosenbaum Lesser writes, “My husband, Gershon, died this last August after years of pain and suffering. I believe his obituary is on my Facebook page. Poor Mr. J (our dog) went nuts. For at least six weeks he looked everywhere for him including his favorite chair. I finally decided to redo my living room, and that seemed to ease Mr. J’s problem. Mr. J would sit next to Gershon for five

or six hours at a time; now he has super latched on to me. It's quite O.K. I love his companionship. Jason, Jen and family live in West L.A., so I visit them often. They just spent the past three day weekend here and loved it. They swam and swam. I took them to the Air Museum which houses early planes, World War II and later planes. The kids got to climb through various old bombers, etc., and I think they loved it. It's quite different than the planes that they fly to Boston to see Jenn's family. Air Force 1 was sitting on the tarmac of our airport, and it was the first time they saw that. I think that Jason and Jenn were more overwhelmed by its size than the kids were. I am taking the family to Maui the very end of March for a week. That should be a lot of fun for everyone except Mr. J who is staying home with my housekeeper and her husband. We had no winter at all - at least so far. It has been in the high eighties since October and it appears that we shall have an early and long summer. One can never tell though. I am trying to put the house in some sort of order. I'm sure you can appreciate how difficult a process this is. I am redoing my bathroom completely, and then I'll leave things alone for awhile. I am hoping that by the time that is finished, the nights will be warmer and I can do some planting and gardening. Cathy de Schulthess and Georges Galitzine were in L.A. this past September. I was fortunate to have dinner with them and enjoyed it thoroughly. Hopefully I'll see them again this coming fall. I have season tickets to a number of different events and as usual enjoy very much. In general I find my days are filled with all kinds of things to take care of and do. Yes, it is very lonely at times, but my friends and family try to keep me occupied. A fifty year relationship is a life time."

Bill Moore says, "Life is pleasantly quiet and stable for Lorna and me and we are very much enjoying our return to Denver from North Carolina. I'm long retired, though Lorna is resolutely still at work with her high-altitude research. I don't climb as much as I used to, but still manage to do a few peaks each summer, plus get in a bit of downhill and cross-

country (which all started for me with Jack Snobble!) skiing, and do a couple of ski-hut trips each winter. I get up to Loveland Ski Area where folks our age can get a season pass for \$89 and be on the lift within an hour from Denver; can't beat that!). The highlight of our 2014 was, like Andy Gould's, a 12-day dory trip down the Grand Canyon with our (mid-thirties) kids. The Canyon is very different looking up at it than down, and, though rugged, it is also fragile and strongly affected by operation of Glen Canyon Dam. We look forward to the wedding of our daughter in 2015 and a possible trip to the Galapagos. I still think of Rolleen Stricker each time I try to write a coherent English sentence. Hope some more of our classmates will make a donation to the fund in her name at CRMS that Andy started some years ago. All is well. Best to all."

Robin Rymer writes, "I was recently asked to join the CRMS board. Just returned from second meeting: many wonderful, engaged people with great ideas. It reminded me of the school's early days with so much energy and promise. If you have not visited in a few years, do so and see if you recognize the new buildings. I was very excited to be going back to the future. Marilyn and I spend quite a bit of time visiting our two children: one in Anchorage and the other in New York.

Quite a crew now with 5 grandchildren under the age of 6. Much activity and exploration.

We had the best skiing in my lifetime just 3 weeks ago in Vail. The Christmas crowds had disappeared, the FIS races were in progress in Beaver Creek and that left main Vail wide open. Beautiful snow and few people - reminded me of early Aspen. Great to see some of you at the 60th celebration. Enjoyed reconnecting with Bill and Becky Parzybok, Helen Muller, Pat Stein and Mike Flax. Great memories...."

Pat Stein Spitzmiller reports, "My 2 upcoming trips include hiking from W. Ukraine to Kraków, Poland and, a few months later, hiking in the Japanese Alps."

Class of 1961

Mickey Blake writes, "Still live mostly in Taos although I spent much of this winter in San Diego. I decided I had shoveled enough snow for one lifetime. Let's see if I make it to the reunion. Best, Mickey"

Class of 1962

Madge Gordon Gleeson, Spring appears to have arrived two months early on Lummi Island this year; I am definitely not ready to plant my garden and it seems absurd to think of mowing grass in February. My 12 year old granddaughter and I will be taking a trip to Norway and France this summer. One of my daughters and her family live in Seattle and the other is in the process of moving from Shanghai to Hong Kong, another possible travel opportunity later in the fall."

Arthur Hughes, "Helen Muller will be in town next week (2/25/15) to give a presentation on the life of her father, the geneticist Hermann Muller, at the Cold Spring Harbor Lab on Long Island. Another speaking about Muller's work will be geneticist James Watson, the co-discoverer of DNA. My wife Lanie Fleischer and I will be having a couple of dinners with Helen, one hosted by Ted Hepp '61 at his Upper West Side apartment. Ingrid Blaufarb Hughes and her husband live around the corner from Ingrid's and my daughter Stasha, her daughter Iliana (now seven), and her husband Sotiris Melissis. In New Paltz, NY, about an hour and a half north of the city."

Ingrid Blaufarb Hughes, "I can't say I have much news. I'm happy that my daughter and her family are now living near us, and I can see my granddaughter often. Right now I'm watching the snow come down in the Hudson Valley, on top of a couple of feet of old snow. I finished my book about Arthur's and my son Aaron, which describes his life and death, his mental illness and how it reverberated through the family. I'm trying to find a way to get it out to readers."

Carol Sandersen Hughes reports, "The problem with being retired is a lot of time

on our hands. Yet, it seems we stay busy. I am doing weird things, like Yoga and muscle activation therapy. Dick is sort of trying to start a handyman business. I will have to say, nothing he ever built has ever or will ever fall apart. Glued and screwed. His attention to detail never fails to impress me. Our two youngest grandchildren have discovered musical theater. They both had roles in "Annie" and have auditioned for "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" at the dinner theater in Longmont. Tatum is even giving up ballet in order to have more time for theater. At least we won't have to endure yet another "Nutcracker." The 16 year old lettered in football, and I am told he won't take his letter jacket off. We spend a lot of time transporting grandchildren around. Loving it!"

Christi Mueller McRoy says, "Like many of my fellow classmates, I turned 70 this year. I really "Milked it." Right after Telluride ski resort closed, I flew to Rome with my son Will and spent the week in Rome and Venice. He flew home and I continued to Austria to meet my daughter Kitty and her family. I got to introduce the grandchildren to many family members and Salzburg. Then over Memorial Day weekend we had a girls gathering of cousins, family, and friends in the beautifully renovated ranch house that I grew up in near Winter Park. My actual Birthday was spent near Moab. I am thankful that I can continue to ride, compete riding (even won a saddle), and teach skiing. In October, I went over to CRMS to visit the spectacular new and renovated campus, and observe the riding program, which is once again part of CRMS. I was so impressed with where the school is now."

Helen Muller writes, "I am working on a memoir of my parents - both mother and daddy as they each lead fascinating lives especially in Europe in the 1930s where they both escaped from totalitarian dictatorships only to meet and fall in love in Edinburgh, Scotland and then left for the USA (my mother as an illegal immigrant as she had TB whereas my dad was a New Yorker), so the memoir is

also a love story. It has taken me to very interesting places and I hope to go to Bonn, Germany where my mother was brought up this summer. This weekend I will be in NYC where I will have dinner with Ted Hepp and Arthur Hughes. We have been more in touch these past few years as I have been to NYC several times and Ted and I were at the CRMS 60th celebration in April of 2013. That was a fine event and I saw quite a few of our classmates from 1959-62 including Bill Parzybok, Kiki Gould, Robin Rymer, John Stickney and Mary Whitford and Lynn Bradley (I know I am using their names from CRMS days here!). A wonderful event - Thank you CRMS staff!"

Jean Alschuler Reed says, "I've pretty much retired from the publishing and book-selling business. I still get books for friends and neighbors but it's more as a hobby. I'm learning to play the piano and back working on my classical guitar again. In the winter when it's not too nasty out I get out with my dog and I snowshoe on the old logging trails around my place and I still ski a lot. Summertime I'm working part time in a green house in exchange for plants, trees, and shrubs. It's a wonderfully peaceful place to work and it's outside and I like that. I have my own flower and vegetable gardens here at the house. I love kayaking in New Brunswick (Canada) and northern Maine. I also like to travel and visit with my kids and grandkids any time of year."

Alix Mitchell Sullivan reports, "We sold our place in Sydney and it was bittersweet. We still love Sydney dearly, but a major building going up and blocking the view dictated the sale. However, staying put in a place I love, Kalispell MT is a good thing too. Life continues to be full of surprises and one of them is my actual age-I don't look it, feel it, act it or think it. It's a puzzlement! But then, 70-year-olds in this century are quite different from those in the last century....Now that you presumably have more free time, Glacier National Park is still spectacular, and the spare room still exists."

Class of 1964

Suzanne Ringer DeLesseps says, "Nothing much has changed. I keep painting, traveling and enjoying life in Maine with my husband of 44 years and one cat. Life is very good!"

Class of 1965

Ben Barney reports, "I stopped working as the Dine College instructor in Tsaile, AZ Fall of 2008. It was a decision timed soundly in a life. I have brought my T'iis Nit'i' house more to life hosting friends and relatives. There is work to do, not only in the houses but on the land around it. I no longer keep sheep, cows or horses; nor a corn field; all that had been the life of my parents, and they took it with them at the end of their lives. I keep a dog, some fruit trees and a small garden. It makes me think of Voltaire's *Candide*. The past three years I have worked as a faith Member of the Navajo Nation Regional Board of AZ First Things First which funds early childhood programs. I am learning about pre-natal, birth, babies, toddlers, and kids to age five. During the same years I have been attending the Blessing Way ceremony directed by a practitioner who studied with my uncle who studied with my Grandfather. Last September I returned to Germany for 3.5 weeks. Stayed mostly in Frankfurt but visited friends in Berlin and Freiburg. Walking the historical information walkway in Berlin made me think of the "divided" Germany. I knew so little about Germany from 1945 to the present. Now I am reading books on German history. The Divided Germany is a safe comparison of what I have been piecing out the past few years on growing up in the Navajo family and the United States schools; the Navajo and English speaking worlds. It is part of understanding my deeper self. If you, your relatives or friends happen to visit the Southwestern USA let me know. You are welcome to my house for a stay. The land out here is ever amazing. Always under blue, open sky. Hope to keep up with each of you in the coming months since I am the CRMS class of 1965 representative."

...continued on p. 20

INTERIM





...continued from p. 17

Terry Frost Graedon writes, "Our big news this year: Our daughter's first novel was published. The Word Exchange by Alena Graedon got some wonderful reviews and is out in paperback next week. Science fiction, adventure, romance and literacy - I think it is wonderful, but I am hardly unbiased. We also got our website redesigned. We are working with a young man (younger than our kids) who is American but lives in Germany. He has been a pleasure to work with, and although the new website still has some kinks to work out, we are happy with it. We also said Yes when our religious group, the Society of Friends, asked us to chair the volunteer committee planning the national conference. Lots of work, but very exciting. It takes place this July in Cullowhee, NC-Cherokee country, very different from Lukachukai. It was really nice to visit with Ben however briefly at the Founders' Day 60th anniversary celebration at CRMS last spring. I really believe that my one year at CRMS made such a big difference for me; it showed me that I could actually accomplish something if I worked hard enough at it."

Margaret Graham says, "Last year we had to put our efforts into our Estes Park house which was pretty flooded in the storm of 2013. We were lucky though as whole neighborhoods were swept away. Walter and I reopen our native plant nursery for the coming year. I'm torn between wanting to retire so that I can devote my time to hiking, and wanting to keep working because I really love growing native plants and I really like a lot of our customers. We've been doing this for 31 years now and some of the same people have been coming for almost as long. We're lucky enough to be living where everyone is pretty environmentally conscious and is very supportive of businesses like ours and they let us know that. But...there are so many wonderful hikes to be taken and I'm not getting any younger. Nice to have a pleasant dilemma. Otherwise, things are fine. Our kids are growing up; hopefully they won't stop growing or at least changing; and we're grateful they are happy, successfully employed and fun to be around."

Ivar Sandvik says, "After returning April 2014 from the wonderful reunion at CRMS I spent my working hours finishing four family houses on our family property at Lillevann, Oslo. Now we are trying to sell the houses. Selling is a scary process. I have not experienced selling. I only know how to buy. I still work every day but slowing down. No more full working days. Kristin and I had a nice time visiting CRMS the first part of January. Melanie Wyler and friends stopped in Oslo on their way to Bergen. They took a boat along the Norwegian coast seeing most harbors all the way past the arctic circle. They experienced the Nordic light. Kristin and I enjoy our children and grandchildren. We enjoy our lives. We are looking forward to golfing in Mallorca in March."

David Strouse reports, "After a 27 year career selling custom fabricated stainless steel equipment to the food, dairy, cosmetic, pharmaceutical and beverage industries, it was time to retire, so that is what I did at the end of last month. I met and worked with many great people and established friendships with many of them, so that has been wonderful. Now it is time for friends, family and some travel. I have four grandchildren ranging from 12 to 1 in age, it is always wonderful to be with them and see the innocence of youth, the wonder in their eyes and faces when they learn new things, and get surprised and expand their experiences. While I have lived my life in the Los Angeles area, it is time to think of moving. I will be exploring the central California coast in the next few months; looking for a quieter lifestyle, where I can garden, have a workshop, build furniture and enjoy less traffic, noise and crowds."

Class of 1966

Tamim Ansary writes, "I'm living the quiet life in SF, with occasional sudden forays to exotic places such as Spain last summer. The highlight there: a sangria in Seville. OMG. Who knew? Next greatest: the Alhambra. My wife Debby's still working frantically to produce this one huge conference every year. My kids are grown and living in Brooklyn; one just graduated from art school (Pratt) and beginning to discover that the really big

money isn't in conceptual sculpture: the other is a casting producer for reality and documentary TV shows, and working on her own films and screenplays. I can't understand preferring New York to San Francisco but no accounting for taste. As for me, I spend a lot of time gardening--I have a tiny backyard, which is all I can handle. I mow the lawn with a pair of scissors--that's how small. My other project is another history of the world, but this time I'm tackling the meta-narrative: the birds eye view, the human story that includes all the parochial somebody-centric narratives. Needless to say, I'm going to need 10,000 assistants willing to work 24/7. Right now I'm working on it by myself, so it's looking like it might take 10,000 years. And I'm already 66 years old, so time's running out, gotta' go."

Bart Chapin says, "So you might well ask what I have been doing? For the last few weeks at least, shoveling and putting in high quality tractor time. Penance, I presume, for daring to go to California for two weeks in January. Lucy and I did, however (Wells liked however's), have a great trip. We drove from LA where my brother lives during the winter to Olympia where Lucy's sister lives all the time. Prior to that I got in a few amazing days of sailing Yellow Bird, my forty-year-old ice boat. Pre-Christmas, we soaked up some grandchild time in Vermont. Too chaotic to be with the wee ones during Christmas. The in-laws go nuts. Daughter Margaret is trying valiantly to move to London to be with her intended, but work visa problems have landed her with us for the fall and happily so. She is a NP and has landed multiple jobs in England, none of which has followed with a visa. 10,000 nurses short in England and they won't give her a visa. Love those politicians. Both sides of the Atlantic, same types. All well otherwise on the home front here. Got five great weeks on the boat this summer, the luxury enabled by the retirement of Lucy in July. I am still working, at least sort of, designing fire poles and drafting for various companies. If you buy an L.L. Bean tote bag, I built the machine that stitches the bottoms on them. Small claim to fame, I realize. Best to all of you out there."

Topher Delaney writes, "I am in San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall... intermission of the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra about to launch into Prokofiev's Symphony No.5, a wonderful metaphor for this moment in time..an intermission before the next performance all in concert together."

Mike Kitchens says, "Life has been greater than I possibly could have imagined in 1966 when I graduated. Congressmen call me all the time for my feeling about which direction the country should head. They want to know how I imagine Democracy working fairly for all. The Secretary of The Interior wants to know what safeguards he can put in place for wolves, wild horses, mountain lions and the Red Darter. Disney has been contacting me recently about my opinions regarding making American film 'edgier' and more 'soulful', which is nice. And the young women at Peets are constantly curious about what I think of their latest tattoo, or piercing. Life is full. The one area I hope to improve is the tenuous relationship I have with reality. I am so excited about waking up every morning and hearing the birds. Hope you all are experiencing the same."

Steve Leary writes, "All is well in Dallas. I retired a year ago, but have been doing some consulting for my former Engineering/Architecture employer. The joy of my life is our granddaughter, Hattie, now 14 months old and just starting to walk (tiny drunken sailor). I stay busy with woodworking and have added welding as well. I'm immersed in designing a new house for us to downside into. Our daughter Callie shuttered her fabric store and is moving to Denver, so we will buy her house for the lot and build on it. We get to Black Hawk, CO, several times every year. Always some work to do on the house there while we enjoy the air and the scenery. Retirement allows me to stay longer in the summers now. Last year I got my heart fixed (atrial fibrillation) with a very cool procedure called Pulmonary Vein Isolation. I've added swimming to my regimen. Nan, Callie, Peter (son) and I all love to cook, so we have fun cooking together or sharing recipes and try to cook healthy."

Wick Moses reports, "It has been 2 years now since the BIG C tried to send me to the choir invisible! Recovery has been steady, but a real slog. I am now almost back to where I was thanks to some really great docs, medical treatment and drugs that cost more than my house (praise be to Medicare), and Kathy Moritz (AKA Lovett). I have been doing quite a bit of cross skiing up at Spring Gulch (thank you, Chris Landry) when the snow has cooperated - yes, it has been weird weather. I was able to ride my motorcycle on Valentine's day, which is at least a month earlier than any time since I moved back in '92!

In other news: I restarted my cat sitting business and it provides some good 'walking around money.' I keep expanding my musical horizons - both in contemporary rock and the voluminous remasters of GREAT Jazz classics on vinyl. Being our age, you may have heard that the 12" LP that was pronounced dead as last week's fish has risen from the grave and actually sounding better than ever. My other great audio revelation is Internet Public radio which has way matured in sound quality since I first heard it! Any of you who might be interested in what I have uncovered can feel free to contact me. I spend many happy nights in my electronic Zanadu with my 3 sons - Findley-the-Wonder cat, Jazzman and Dexter (Gordon, not the blood Dexter)!! I have friends, both young and old, over and remind them that listening to music without video content is very hip!

I have found a happy home volunteering at our incredible Public Library, which is a source of great social contact in its new building. Carbondale continues to grow, again, and is working at trying to maintain its funky past. I will remain here 'til the fat lady sings.' Now that I am back in sorta good shape, I plan on doing a little motorcycle touring - probably not on the epic scale of before. Glad I cranked out those 300K miles when I could. Anyone interested in my great Western US ride knowledge can contact me. FYI: there are



Hannah Clark Hutchison '99, Louis Metzner '99, Pascal Shirley '99, Tyler Lindsay (the Groom) '99, Jesse Johnson '00, August Thurmer '99, Jeanie Clark, Mark Clark, before Tyler's 2014 Summer Wedding.

at least 3 great day loops out of C-dale! I could go on, but I have kitty chores to do!!! RUN WILD IN YOUR FANTASY KINGDOMS!!"

Merlyn Wenner Ruddell reports, "I am sitting here watching the Stevie Wonder grammy special and thinking of you and all the Rocky Mountain kids I knew, drinking milk with graham crackers behind the barn at morning break, all the stellar individuals we were back then, knowing each other in the woods, the desert, on rivers, in classrooms with Joe Frank, Wells Kerr, Lyman Allen, Ted Rickard... walking around by the irrigation ditches when we learned of the death of John Kennedy. Anyway, ripe old age of 65, just found a letter from John Holden to my folks about how defiant I was, just blew his mind that I had the record player on while I was doing homework having been given special permission to stay up late to study... Ah, the transgressions! Living on Kauai with my husband, goats, chickens, fair share of geckos and spiders, even cockroaches, loving life, grateful, my middle child, Robin, now 22 got to attend CRMS all high school years, such a great school, best education ever. Sending love to you all in my class and others."

Nat Shipman writes, "Hola Chicos y Chicas. I realized, after enjoying updates from the bunch of you, that I never give updates. So, in a break with an unintentional tradition, here ya go. I am still happily entrenched in Santa Fe. I am still doing real estate even though the business has changed so much due to technology that it really is not a whole lot

of fun anymore. The personal interaction that used to be the key to this business is all but gone. It is now simply scan/email, texting of very impersonal messages, and trying to explain to clients what the mountain of paperwork they are required to sign and or initial. I miss the people part of the business. To combat this, about three years ago I started Tours U Design, LLC, which is just what the name implies. It is a private custom tour business that covers about a 80 mile radius of Santa Fe. It is all about people and playing in the backyard that I adore. Yes, it is very fun and gratifying for me and tour guests alike. It provides an opportunity to meet and spend quality time with people from all over the world. In addition to being overwhelmed by the incredible diversity of scenery, geology and topography, guests are totally blown away by the

incredible “untold” history of this area and the three distinct cultures that for the mosaic that is Northern New Mexico. I am actually just in the process of final revisions to a short book about the 12,000 years history of people in the area. There are certainly no shortages of printed matter on the subjects but they either have a specific focus on a certain era or they are written from a very scholarly academic point of view. I am simply trying to tell a fascinating story as though we were sitting around a campfire enjoying a cold one and some salsa & chips. My family is fine. Leslie, my dear wife, is still putting up with me and actually seems happy. Our oldest daughter, Lauren, lives in San Francisco and is planning her wedding for this September. Karen, my middle child is in Bogota, Colombia with her boyfriend, Estevan. She is teaching English to private

clients and she and Estavan are also doing a lot of video work with various groups trying to help them with promotional efforts. Sawyer, our son, is here in Santa Fe working in the restaurant biz. He is trying hard to bang some bucks so he can get on with his pursuit of acting. So, that kind of does it. If any of you are feeling restless and feel the need for a break, I would love to play with you here in Santa Fe. For those of you who have never been here, I think you would find it a most enjoyable vacation.”

In an effort to keep our print newsletter a size that reflects our dedication to sustainability, the full set of alumni notes is available on the CRMS website. Find it by visiting crms.org/tri-annual-newsletters.

REMEMBERING GREG FRIEDLER '89



Greg Friedler, class of '89

Gregory Stephen Friedler was born on December 9, 1970 and died February 2, 2015 in Denver, Colorado at 44 years old. He was the loving son of Cecille and Gerald of New Orleans, brother David and his wife Shawna of Danville, Ca. and nephews Jake, Michael, Nicholas and niece Sophie. He also leaves many loving aunts, uncles, cousins and friends across the country. After attending Colorado Rocky Mountain School and graduating from the University of Colorado, Greg received his MFA from the School of Vi-

sual Arts in New York. While he painted and drew portraits, Greg was most passionate about his career as a photographer, imaginatively seeking avant-garde forms of expression to capture the diversity of human beings found all around the world. He garnered acclaim for his “Naked” series which began with “Naked New York” and was followed by editions shot in Los Angeles, London, and Las Vegas, as well as his book ‘Mattress.’ His life and work was featured in a documentary film called “America Stripped.” Greg was an avid participant in yoga instruction.

Robyn Clark '88 writes “I remember he had a twinkle in his eye and a big smile. He was quick witted and kind hearted.”

Mags Miller '90, “The news of Greg’s passing was a real blow. I sat there remembering the first time I met him. He was clean cut and nicely dressed - not something that was always seen at CRMS in those days, so he stood out. When he asked me on a date I was surprised and honored. We went to Peppino’s Pizza...I remember how open he was, how confident he seemed and how he asked “big

questions,” like what I was planning on doing for the rest of my life. He was always thinking big, asking deep questions and was very thoughtful...and we remained friends until he graduated.

“I was thrilled to reconnect with him years later via Facebook and was awed, but not surprised, by the beauty and depth of his work. We talked a few times over the phone about creative endeavors, how we had transitioned through murky parts of life and how to create meaning that would last beyond ourselves. I loved talking with him because he was still questing, still seeking, and wanting to make a difference.”

Memorial celebrations of Greg’s life and accomplishments were held in Denver on March 15 and in New Orleans on April 19. The Greg Friedler Fund for Creative Expression is being established to enable others to pursue their dreams. The Friedler family is allocating a portion of the funds contributed to benefit the arts programs at Colorado Rocky Mountain School. Please visit www.gfffce.org for more information on this memorial fund and to donate. You may also send messages to the Friedler family at the “con-

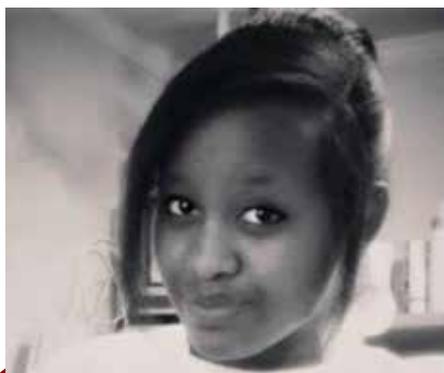
tact us” link on this site. They welcome your memories.

A note on the fund in Greg’s memory: The family first intends to use any donations and the proceeds for the sale or showing of his artwork to set up scholarships and grants in his name at the schools that helped him learn and grow.

Over time, they also hope the fund can grow to support many more individuals and organizations that are trying to express themselves creatively in many different ways (other art forms, writers, dancers, and more). In addition, as Greg produced an amazing volume of work, he bravely battled depression. He never

stopped trying to overcome this disease, nor did his family and friends ever stop trying to help him. The family also intends for this fund to be used to help other individuals and their families coping with depression.

REMEMBERING SANDRA NIYIBIZI '11



Sandra Niyibizi, Class of '11

Sandra was born on January 25, 1994 in Kigali, Rwanda to parents Julia Uwamwiza and Bonaventure Niyibizi. Years later, they were so pleased for her to attend school in the United States. She entered CRMS for her sophomore year in 2008. Already, she was an accomplished young woman having volunteered to raise money for victims of the genocide and helped in orphanages of her country, as well as being a high achiever in her schoolwork. At CRMS, she immersed herself fully in the program and thrived. On December 31, 2014 she died as a result of injuries sustained in a car accident in Bedford, Texas after attending the graduation celebration of a fellow Rwandan student. The driver of the van she was a passenger in was intoxicated. At the time of her death, Sandra was studying pre-med at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA.

CRMS Friends of Sandra shared these memories:

“Sandra, as I write these words, I just keep picturing your beautiful smile. No one could help but smile when you

entered a room. You had an infectious laugh that I will never forget. One of my favorite memories was decorating Easter eggs with you for the first time. We were young and carefree in that moment. You were taken from our lives way too soon and I will never understand that, but I will smile everyday for you and miss you so. All my love, Maggie Deveny - class of 2012”

“I remember when I first met Sandra; we were in the weight room at CRMS. We were sitting in circle on the floor with our new wilderness group, getting ready to go on our 10-day orientation-backpacking trip. Our leaders had asked us to bring our backpacks, packed as if we were ready to leave. So we sat and proceeded to unpack our things. The leaders then went through the gear checklist we’d been sent. One by one, they read the items off aloud, having us place our things in front of us. I thought I had been pretty prepared, but as the list was called I was surprisingly missing many essentials--a headlamp, a warm jacket, rain pants and jacket, a pack cover. I felt embarrassed for not having so many of the things I needed. I felt unprepared and incredibly scared of the unknown. When I looked around the group, I met eyes with Sandra, and saw that she too was missing many of the items from the list. We exchanged a look of dread and confusion. In our silent communication, I felt totally understood. We both burst out laughing. I could sense that she would become a good buddy. Over the next 10 days, I learned more about her and had many good laughs with her...I learned that Sandra was from Rwanda, and that she had never been camping or backpacking before. I learned that she had never seen snow. I learned that she had three brothers.

I learned that she was tough, and had a hilarious sense of humor. ...Her whole essence radiated authenticity. Thank you Sandra, especially for the laughs. I will miss you dearly-- though I know you live on.-- Angeline Sugnet – class of 2010”

“You can never fully prepare yourself for the passing of a loved one and never did I imagine that a peaceful soul such as yours would be taken away from us too soon. Sandra, you are a true blessing to us all. Your smile has such warmth that I cannot help but smile thinking of your little giggles. I really miss you. From day 1 of wilderness, to seeing you jump with glee once Jeff Leahy handed you that nice leather diploma. Never have I seen someone blossom into such a magnificent human being as I did with you. I learned so much just by sitting next to you. The way you looked at life was more than inspirational. Wherever you are right now, I know that you are shining a light so bright. You will forever hold a special piece of my heart. I love you to infinity and beyond. - Madison Cantu – class of 2012

“I’ve never had a friend quite like Sandra, nor do I think I will ever meet anyone like her. She was one of the first friends I made at CRMS, and she made me feel so welcomed in the dorm from the get go with that contagious laugh and radiant smile..... Sandra never failed to brighten the day for everyone. She always approached every aspect of life with tenacity, enthusiasm and compassion. It’s hard to imagine that someone with such a kind heart and vibrant spirit could be taken away from this earth so prematurely, but I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to call her my dear friend.”- Michelle Vaughan – class of 2012



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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.