Seventeenth Annual Pennington School Scholarship Golf Classic
The Bedens Brook Club
June 11, 2012

All proceeds benefit scholarships for disadvantaged students attending The Pennington School

The Seventeenth Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday, June 11, 2012, at the Bedens Brook Club in Skillman, NJ. Proceeds from the Classic will provide financial assistance to disadvantaged students attending Pennington. The Page and Otto Marx Foundation has challenged Pennington to match their gift of $60,000!

The Golf Classic is a great opportunity for the entire Pennington community to share a great day on the links!

Golf Classic Committee members:
Jen Green P’14 Chair, Jon Bowden ’91, Jordan Gray ’91, Jim Hyman, Chris Long ’91 P’12’17, Michael Jingoli ’85 P’11’15, Wally Kyle P’05’08’11, Rich Simkus P’14

To volunteer for the event, or if you are interested in learning more about the many sponsorship opportunities available, contact Rob McClellan at rmcclellan@pennington.org, by phone at 609–737–6126, or visit our website at www.pennington.org/alumni/golfclassic.

Thank you to our Gold Sponsors!
MEET THE SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE
Students tweet to keep fellow students, parents, and alumni connected.

THE YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR
Alex Kline ’12 has gained respect in the college basketball recruiting world with his website and Twitter feed, but he also uses his connections for a good cause.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2012
All Pennington alumni are welcomed back for a weekend of reunions with friends and opportunities to see the Pennington of today. Classes whose numerals end in 2 or 7 will have special celebrations of their milestone reunions.

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Students tweet to keep fellow students, parents, and alumni connected.

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Scotland-bound Pennington Drama presents The Winter’s Tale and The Sound of Music.

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Pennington soccer standout returns to college after military service in Korea.
What is the recipe for a successful school?

We start with great children. The students at Pennington are all individuals with one thing in common: a deep desire to explore their own potential. Supporting a diverse student body takes resources. The Pennington Fund provides 5 percent of the cost of our financial aid program.

We add great teachers like biology teacher Dr. David Hauser. “I teach the students excellence and set the bar high. When they clear a hurdle—that’s what gives them self-esteem.” The Pennington Fund is crucial, paying 5 percent of each teacher’s salary.

We mix in a full rainbow of activities from athletics to art and music. The Pennington Fund contributes 5 percent of the cost of these essential ingredients.

We add one more ingredient: YOU! Tuition provides only 86 percent of our operating revenue, and the Pennington Fund helps bridge the gap. Your annual support helps this great school grow even stronger and more successful.

To make a gift to the Pennington Fund, contact Rob McClellan at rmcclellan@pennington.org or (609) 737–6126.

2012 Graduates Get a Taste of What Being an Alumnus Means

On January 5, recent Pennington graduates Andrea Ricketti ’11 and Ben Colalillo ’11 returned to campus to speak to the Class of 2012—Pennington’s future alumni. Building relationships and staying connected were common themes as Ricketti and Colalillo reminisced warmly about their experiences at Pennington.

Ricketti spoke about her senior-year internship at Susan G. Komen for the Cure, arranged through the Horizon program at Pennington, and how it has led to an opportunity working in public relations at Judith Ripka in New York City. Meanwhile, Colalillo credited his abilities to converse with his college professors, connect with older students, and talk with alumni to the strong relationships he had with his teachers at Pennington.

Ricketti and Colalillo were joined by Director of Alumni Relations Joanne McGann and Director of Leadership Giving Jemima Attanasio. McGann and Attanasio spoke to seniors about the importance of staying involved and connected, once they graduate, in order to maintain the many close relationships that they have built over their years at Pennington. They demonstrated the importance of annual giving with a graphic of Pennington’s annual budget as a cake, explaining that without the support of alumni, parents, and friends, there would be a large piece of that cake missing every year. The seniors then received a Pennington cupcake to thank them and encourage their future support.

We think Colalillo expressed it best when he urged the seniors to “take pride in your school. Go out and represent Pennington in its finest light, and give back in whichever way you can.” Well put!
Welcome to the Spring 2012 issue of Pennington Magazine. I hope that many alumni are making plans to join us in May for Alumni Weekend, which the Alumni and Development Office has been working toward since last year. We especially look forward to seeing those of you who are celebrating a milestone reunion this year.

No matter how long ago you graduated, you will find much at your beloved alma mater that is familiar. Old Main, the Lodge, Lowellden, Lake Lowellden, and many of the athletic facilities—as well as the wonderful town of Pennington—are ready to greet you. For those of you who haven’t returned to campus in many years, you will see some changes. What makes Alumni Weekend so special, however, is the people, and although they may not all look the same, they will be immediately familiar. You will find that they really haven’t changed. You will have ample opportunity to catch up with great friends, spend time with some of your favorite teachers (many of those who have retired will be returning for the weekend), and explore and hear about what is new at the School.

The fundamentals of Pennington haven’t changed—great relationships between teachers and students and parents—and you will be amazed by how easy it is to reconnect with friends and mentors from a crucial period in your life. Relationships forged at Pennington last a lifetime.

Pennington is continually evolving, however, and this magazine tells you a little about that, too. We are taking greater advantage of the world around us, not only to enrich the educational experience of students and faculty but also to provide them opportunities to have a positive impact beyond their comfort zone. Technology is broadening their horizons, but there is an incalculable value to setting foot in a land far different from your own.

In this magazine you will read about how senior Alex Kline brought together his love of the game of basketball with an understanding of the potential of Twitter to carve out a niche for himself as a media-savvy, dynamic talent scout. His tweets about promising high school basketball players and their college prospects are followed by over 18,000 people, including many college basketball coaches all over the country. That kind of drive, intelligence, and versatility exemplify qualities Pennington encourages and celebrates in our students.

Other students are also using technology creatively. The Senior Class Committee, led by their president Will McComb, responded to a challenge from the Alumni and Development Office to use social media to reconnect young alumni with the School community. Through Twitter, Will and his classmates give their followers a flavor of School life, from the fun of a student-faculty dodgeball game, to the beauty of the campus after a snowstorm, to the joys of the Varsity Girls’ Basketball team’s winning the playoffs, to students’ wishing each other luck on exams. The liveliness of this flow of tweets has brought many alumni back into the life of the School.

I hope that you will continue to take part in the Pennington community. However long it has been since you studied here, you will always belong.

See you in May!

Stephanie G. Townsend
Guest Speakers Add Perspective to Curriculum

Several Pennington parents or relatives were guest speakers in Upper and Middle School classes recently, bringing the real-world perspective of their professional experience to subjects students were discussing.

Judge Mitchell S. Goldberg P’12 spoke to the Advanced Placement Government class, taught by Marc Epstein. A federal judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Goldberg talked with the seniors about various aspects of life as a federal judge. Appointed by President George W. Bush in 2008, Goldberg explained the process by which federal judges are chosen and the rigorous vetting that takes place after they have been nominated and before confirmation. He also discussed the types of cases that come into federal courts.

Michael Provine P’10 ‘12 discussed the stock market and investing with Peter Chase’s senior elective class on Financial Planning. The chief executive officer of Candor Wealth Advisors in Summit, NJ, Provine stressed to the students the importance of developing a personal budget and that it should include amounts set aside for investment and retirement. He also explained how financial planners calculate the progress of an investment portfolio.

The controversial subject of hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) in oil exploration was tackled by John Pecora P’12 ‘13 ‘16 when he visited Jamie Moore ’03’s eighth-grade Global Perspective classes. Pecora, who has a degree in petroleum technology from the University of Pittsburgh and a degree in geology, as well as an M.B.A. degree from the State University of New York, has worked for, owned, and financed several oil and gas companies from 1975 to the present. He was frank with the students about his long involvement with the petroleum industry but led an open discussion about the pros and cons of this method of extraction.

Earlier in the term Moore’s classes had read primary sources about the conflict in Sudan, including They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky. Sonia Vazirani, aunt of Samir Navani ’16, added a dimension of understanding when she came to speak. Currently a doctoral candidate at the University of California–Berkeley, Vazirani discussed her experiences for about ten years as a health worker in both Darfur and South Sudan, developing health interventions for refugees and internally displaced populations. She has given special emphasis to issues related to reproductive health and gender-based violence in areas of armed conflict.

Twenty-Nine Inducted into National Honor Society

Twenty-nine Pennington School students were inducted into the Tri-Steps Chapter of the National Honor Society in a ceremony at the School on November 16. The seventeen seniors and twelve juniors were selected on the criteria of scholarship, character, service, and leadership. Those qualities were the subjects of brief presentations by current seniors and NHS members Steven Tydings, Tyler Burns, Savanna Dasgupta, and Geena Molinaro.

The NHS inductees for the 2011–12 year are Seniors Alexander Bauman, Nicole Baxter, Irina Celentano, Carly Deeter, Christopher DeSapio, Katherine Dorph, Tristan Fried, Morgan Huth, Marisa Kaplan, Christopher Manning, William McComb, Adam McGill, Laura McNeill, Elizabeth Meneghin, Emily Paragamian, Philip Pecora, and Diana Wilkinson; and Juniors Anna Gregg, Hyeon Seon Ju, Collette King, Kayla Krause, Dane Kunkel, Grant Lawlor, Gianna Lalota, Hope MacKenzie, Jaclyn Moses, Peter Secrest, Sophia Su, and Jesse Van Marter.

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Former U.S. Senator Rudy Boschwitz ’47 came to the Pennington campus on February 27 as the 2012 Stephen Crane Lecturer. In his talk to Upper School students, faculty, and other members of the community, he recalled the significance of his years as a Pennington student and discussed his view of the United States’ role in the world. He also spoke about his role as President George H.W. Bush’s emissary to an unstable Ethiopia in 1991, where he negotiated with the dictator to release the endangered Ethiopian Jews and allow them to emigrate. As a result of his work, in the course of one weekend in May 1991 over 14,000 Ethiopian Jews were transported by Israeli planes from Ethiopia to Israel in a huge airlift now called Operation Solomon. In recognition, later that year President Bush awarded him the Presidential Citizens Medal.

After concluding his remarks, Senator Boschwitz took questions from the audience, which included School trustees, regional Jewish community leaders, and several of his Pennington classmates. Later in the day, the senator enjoyed a visit to an AP Economics class, where he related memories of his personal interactions with influential twentieth-century economists, including Milton Friedman, Arthur Laffer, and former Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker. Teacher Holly Jones cheerfully gave him the floor, saying, “It’s not every day that a former senator comes to class!”

After graduation from Pennington, Boschwitz studied at Johns Hopkins University and went on to earn degrees in business and law from New York University. He practiced law in New York for a time before going into business in Minnesota, where he was founder and president of Plywood Minnesota Inc., later renamed Home Valu Interiors. He served as a Republican National Committeeman from Minnesota and was elected to the U.S. Senate from that state in 1978, serving two terms.

The Stephen Crane Lecture Series has a long tradition at The Pennington School. The series commemorates the author of The Red Badge of Courage, who was a student at Pennington in the 1880s and whose father was headmaster of the School. Among the artists and lecturers who have taken part are philanthropist and former NBA star Dikembe Mutombo; the Paul Winter Consort; French ambassador Jean-David Levitte; author and musician James McBride; environmentalist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.; Apollo 13 flight director Gene Kranz; noted football coach Herman Boone; and filmmaker Martin Doblmeier.
Laura Desai ’97 Charts New Global Studies Program

Although Pennington has had international connections for much of its history, especially through the presence of students and alumni from all over the world, last summer the School expanded its reach through the establishment of the Global Studies Program. Under the energetic leadership of Laura Desai ’97, who joined the faculty in September as the program’s director (and as a teacher of Spanish), Global Studies has both centralized and enlarged the scope of Pennington’s involvement in the world community.

Desai, a graduate of The College of New Jersey, where she majored in business and Spanish with a minor in human resources, began her career at Merrill Lynch but turned to teaching to use her Spanish degree in a non-business setting. She taught in three Mercer County Catholic schools and then at Crockett Middle School in Hamilton Township, where she was named the 2009–10 District Teacher of the Year. Throughout her years as an alumna, she has retained an active connection to the School: she has been a class correspondent and a member of the Alumni Association’s executive board. Her interest in helping Pennington’s students think globally is what brought her to the faculty, however, and her enthusiasm and accomplishments in a few short months have left her colleagues admiringly breathless.

Desai’s vision for the program encompasses international and domestic travel and learning opportunities for both Middle School and Upper School students and faculty, and she hopes parents and alumni will be involved as well. Among the options are opportunities for full- or partial-year study-abroad programs at ”sister schools” around the world; service learning and community outreach trips, both domestic and international; home-stay exchanges; language immersion programs; and a variety of personal interest opportunities. The program also acts as a nexus for pre-existing study and service trips.

Spring Break 2012 will see several journeys made in cooperation with Global Studies. Teacher of German Peter Chase will take a group to Regensburg, Germany, and the Middle School will have its first official international experience with a trip to Costa Rica, combining ecology, community service, and travel. The Pennington Singers will be taking a long-anticipated tour to South Korea.

Dean of Community Life Thomas Liwosz will lead an Upper School service trip to Henderson Settlement, in Frakes, KY. This will be the second year in a row that Pennington students have gone during Spring Break as a volunteer work team to this United Methodist-affiliated community outreach center in rural Appalachia. They will assist with home repair and construction and possibly with other programs at the settlement.

Ten students—including one from China—will spend most of their Spring Break on a service trip to Haiti, traveling with Keri Willard-Crist and Aaron Twitchell, both from the Department of Religion. This group is working in partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville and a regional consortium of Haiti supporters known collectively as Harmony Ministries. Also part of the group will be Robyn Campbell P’14 ’16 and School physician Richard Levandowski (both of whom were in Haiti on a service trip when the earthquake struck in January 2010), as well as Lisa Tucci, wife of Board of Trustees Chair Peter Tucci ’79. Several other health professionals will join them. While there, the group will be repairing schools, building desks, providing much-needed dental and medical care, and assisting with the distribution of food and water to families.

The relationship with Kent College is developing quickly. In addition to the Upper School exchange, Kent College will be sending an exchange group of middle schoolers to Pennington for a week in October; Pennington’s Middle School group will visit Canterbury during Spring Break 2013. It isn’t even necessary to leave the campus to take advantage of the connection, however. Sixth-grade teacher Lisa Fitzpatrick has established a connection with her counterpart at Kent, and they are working on shared lesson plans for their students. Their students now have become pen pals.

For more information about Global Studies, see www.pennington.org/global-studies or contact Laura Desai at LDesai@pennington.org or 609-737-6155.

Japan-based Cinemic Films the Middle School Experience

Alumna Joohee Ha ’96 brought a film crew from the Japan-based company Cinemic to Pennington in December to get a view of life in an American middle school for an educational project. The resulting video will be a supplement to a new English language textbook called A Total English Course; all English language texts in Japan are currently being revised under the authorization of the ministry of education. The textbook and video will be used exclusively in Japanese middle school classrooms beginning in April.

The crew explained that elements of middle school life in the United States—such as having a locker, moving to different classrooms for each class, and playing different sports each season—would be unfamiliar to Japanese students of the same age. They filmed several classes as well as students passing in the halls, interviewed several Middle Schoolers, and took in basketball and swim practices. Ha, who works in Cinemic’s New York office, said that she was especially pleased to feature Pennington in the video because “the memories and experiences that I had in school were great.”
Revitalizing a Passion for Music and for Teaching

by William M. Alford; Chair, Arts Department

After a conversation last summer with Dean of Faculty Bill Hawkey and Head of School Penny Townsend about “what to teach” and what directions I could pursue as a teacher after eighteen years at The Pennington School, I received an email from Village Harmony inviting me to apply for their January South Africa camp. I applied, was accepted, and was given the opportunity and support of the School to take a three-week study leave to sing in South Africa.

Village Harmony, an organization based in Vermont, offers singing opportunities in various places around the world where indigenous forms of harmony singing have existed for generations. Locations have included Corsica, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Caucasus Georgia, Bosnia, and South Africa. They also offer singing camps in Vermont, Oregon, and the United Kingdom. Teen and adult opportunities are available domestically and around the world.

I left for Johannesburg on Thursday, January 12, and arrived Friday evening. After a night’s rest, on Saturday morning I met twenty-four other singers from five different countries at the airport, and off we went. Our first week was spent at the D’Nyala Game Lodge near Lephalale. We started rehearsals at 9:00 each morning, had breaks for lunch and dinner, and finished our work each day at around 9:30 p.m. We learned about twenty-five pieces of music (some with dance) from South Africa, Georgia, Croatia, Romania, Macedonia, and the United States. Our group was made up of people from the U.S., Canada, Colombia, Switzerland, the U.K., and South Africa.

After our week of rehearsals, we performed in various cities, towns and villages in the northeastern quadrant of South Africa. Our audiences cheered, danced, and sang along with us as we performed. Many of them were surprised to see white people from outside South Africa singing black South African music. They were happy to see our enthusiasm and love for their music and traditions.

The purpose of the trip was to gather a variety of singers from different places and, learn and perform choral music from different cultures around the world. We had opportunities to sightsee where we were awed and surprised by the beauty, depth and struggle that has been and is South Africa. What is impossible to convey in advance of the trip is the experience of working and rooming with South Africans, the graciousness and generosity of hosts regardless of their economic resources, and the exchange of thoughts and feelings between choristers and South Africans at a deeply personal and emotional level. In a very short time, the singers had become a community, each supporting the other, eager to share and draw from one another our personal best.

Watch the School website for more reflections from Alford on the impact of this experience.
Entertaining some of the younger guests were Pennington students:
1 Rachel Shavel ’14.
2 Christopher DeSapio ’12.
3 Collette King ’13.
4 Lizzie Brown ’13.
5 Nicole Baxter ’12 and Derek Reilly ’12.
6 Susannah Marttila ’15.
7 Armani Mendez ’15.
8 The senior Peer Leaders.
Andrew Lloyd on Land and Sea

Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing—absolutely nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.

—Kenneth Grahame

From sailing on the Chesapeake as a youngster, to rowing freshman crew at the U.S. Naval Academy, to making three transatlantic crossings under sail, Middle School science teacher Andrew Lloyd has done his share of “messing about in boats.” Yet the call of the sea is just one of the calls he has answered; he also has felt called to service and to teach.

Lloyd grew up in Jenkintown, PA, and was graduated from the highly regarded Abington High School, where he was captain of the basketball and cross country teams. “I really had a great adolescence,” he says, “and felt like the luckiest guy in the world. Amidst all of this, a deep sense of service and a profound idealism emerged, enough that I became determined to enter the U.S. Naval Academy as a midshipman—and was again lucky enough to do so.”

At Annapolis, Lloyd received a “high caliber of academic and professional training.” His opportunities included flying a T-34, spending forty-eight hours below the surface in a submarine, training for a month with the U.S. Marine Corps in Quantico, serving aboard a guided-missile destroyer out of San Diego, and helping pilot a small vessel from Annapolis to Boston and back.

Yet the same idealism that had led Lloyd to the Naval Academy caused him to leave it. “As much as it broke my heart, while I was a midshipman I began to question the wisdom of the country to command, which had recently taken the country to the First Gulf War.” After study of the situation, although he had completed the hardest part of his training and was about to reap the benefits, he made the difficult decision to leave the Academy after two years and three months because “I could not in good conscience take my pay and stand my watch once I had lost faith in the rationale used to determine when and where to perform lethal action.”

Lloyd transferred to New York University, where he studied literature and anthropology, wrote poetry, and tutored students with learning difficulties—a period he describes at “two very formative years.” After graduation, “itching to go to sea again,” he made the first of his transatlantic crossings, working as crew on a Norwegian vessel headed for the Caribbean. “I sailed under an incredible Viking explorer and learned skills that would serve me well later.” When autumn came, he returned to New York City for another year, working as a tutor and legal researcher. The next summer began a new phase, however, when he took a job delivering a boat to Newport, RI.

While in Newport, he landed a position as a writer and editor for an offshore sailing magazine. “It was a dream job: heading out on blue-water voyages on the best sailboats around, writing articles reviewing the boats and gear, taking pictures, and getting paid for it!” One journey he covered was eventful, however. On a trip from Florida, the boat’s engine’s alternator arm broke, twice; the boat took on water, was hit by lightning, and took on water again. The ten-day trip stretched to six weeks, and once again conscience trumped pragmatism. “I felt obligated to stay with the people until we made it to our destination, and this cost me my dream job.”

In what he describes as “not a woeful end—just another turn,” he began six years of delivering boats all around the Atlantic, mostly in spring and autumn; in the winter and summer he worked on harbor schooners, workboats, and house-painting crews. One winter he lived in the Caribbean and managed a yacht maintenance crew by VHF radio from an old farm on top of an ancient volcano. During this period he earned his captain’s license for vessels up to 100 tons in inland waters. He crewed aboard a 144-foot steel schooner from Newport to Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Iceland, and through the Irish Sea to southern England. He double-handed a 30-foot sloop from Annapolis to Newport. He also was crew on a 62-foot racing catamaran across the equator from Brazil to Grenada, a trip of 2,300 nautical miles that took only nine days and on which he experienced the fastest sailing of his life (top speed of 22.5 knots). Of his many long sailing trips, the longest leg was between Madeira and Tortola, a distance of 2,700 nautical miles.

Lloyd’s youthful idealism and desire for service had never left him, however, and he says he “began to seek something larger than myself and my adventure.” One of his trips had taken him to Wales, the land of his forebears, and he learned of a master’s degree program in environmental sustainability at Cardiff University. “Before I knew it, I was back in school again. Living and studying environmental science in Wales was a huge growth experience for me and helped to root me in something older, simpler, and truer than anything I had ever felt before.” He perhaps unconsciously uses a metaphor a seaman might as he continues, “I knew that my path would be a long one, but this leg of the journey affirmed the truth of my course overall.”

After returning to the United States, he pieced together post-baccalaureate study in the basic sciences. He observes that “there was always some teaching going on in my life somehow.” He had spent six weeks at the beginning of four seasons aboard a harbor schooner, teaching groups of school children how to sail. On an informal basis, he had taught English to acquaintances who wanted to learn it.

Lloyd then decided to “give teaching a real go of it.” He found an internship program at The Park School in Brookline, MA, where he helped teach a fourth-grade class for half of the year and was a co-teacher of middle school science the other half. “Everything began to come together for me professionally. I had finally found a way to bring all of my seemingly disparate experiences to bear in one setting,” he says. In the fall of 2010 he joined Pennington’s Middle School faculty, where he has taught earth science, physical science, and math lab. His seventh-grade earth science class made a topographical map of the Pennington campus, using homemade surveying tools. He has also taught an exploratory elective on knot-tying and hopes to add one in basic orienteering.

“There is a word in Welsh, dysgu, that encompasses both teaching and learning,” Lloyd says. “It does not distinguish between the two but pays homage to the fact that it is all one process.” It is perhaps because of Lloyd’s devotion to that concept that he and Pennington fit together so well. Like all Pennington teachers, he interacts with students in many ways beyond the classroom: as a hall parent to Middle School boys, some of whom are from other countries; an advisor to eighth-graders; and a freshman boys’ basketball coach.

“I have been blessed to dwell in dysgu my whole life through,” he says, and in Pennington he has found “a new home at which I can finally see myself staying for a good long while.”
Stay Connected, and Keep in Touch

Social media are playing a significant role in how people communicate with one another around the world. Here at The Pennington School we’re actively engaging in various forms of social networking to reach out to our community of students, parents, faculty/staff, alumni, and friends. You can find us on the following sites, all of which are designed to keep you informed and connected in different ways.

“Like” our Facebook page, The Pennington School, to receive all of our updates in your news feed and to show you’re connected to the School. Here you can find current news on everything Pennington, as well as upcoming events and links to your favorite affinity groups. When you’re on campus, visiting or enjoying one of the many events that happen all year, check in to the page from your mobile device so everyone knows you were here!

Alumni can join the Facebook group, The Pennington School – Alumni, to reach out and connect with friends, view and share photos from events or school days, and to catch up on the latest alumni news and upcoming events. Alumni can also join their class year groups to engage with classmates and plan reunion events when those milestones come around. Links to the alumni group and all class year groups can be found on the The Pennington School Facebook page under “Groups.”

Follow @tps_news on Twitter to get real-time updates from students, faculty, and staff on campus and to see who’s connecting with us around the world. Read more about the Social Media Committee’s efforts to reach out using Twitter in the article on the next page.

Follow @tps_sports on Twitter for the latest news from the Pennington School Athletics Department. Get the results as they’re coming in, and find links to media features on students and alumni.

Connect with our LinkedIn group, The Pennington School, to instantly network with Pennington alumni and colleagues around the world. Engage in topics of conversation and strengthen your network of contacts.

Pennington’s Campus Gets a Fresh Look

The Pennington campus hummed last summer with various construction and renovation projects. In addition to the quiet improvements always under way were exciting ones students noticed immediately: new lights in the dining hall, a handsome fence along Delaware Avenue, a reconfigured reading room in the library, a new walkway to Stainton, and a transformed B Floor in Old Main.

Quick Links to our Social Media Sites

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Zenfolio thepenningtonschool.zenfolio.com
Back in October, the Alumni and Development Office was confronted with a problem. The office wanted more interaction with alumni, particularly the School’s young alumni (those who graduated in the past ten years), in anticipation of Homecoming Weekend and for future events. When Steven Tydings ’12 and I were approached about the issue during a student government meeting, it immediately seemed that there could only be one great solution: Twitter.

Pennington has had its own Twitter feed (@tps_news) for a couple of years, but not until the School’s new Social Media Committee was launched had there been frequent action on the page. Steven and I agreed to lead the new project at that early autumn meeting with Director of Development Joanna Storrar and Director of Alumni Relations Joanne McGann. We knew that reaching out to a wider alumni base might be initially challenging, but we were confident that Twitter would be the best method for making new connections.

The Social Media Committee has turned out to be much more than a simple experiment. It has become a very successful group whose main goal, extending Pennington’s communications with School alumni, is being met with much success. Twitter is the committee’s primary focus, and since the group was formed in October, the number of followers has increased by 50%, and we are adding new followers at more than double the rate we were before. Pennington’s new followers include young alumni, students, teachers, and parents, all of whom are now receiving daily updates from various sources on campus.

“Whenever I check my Twitter feed, I see Pennington’s tweets, and they’re some of my favorites,” says Ali Hiple ’11. “They provide a glimpse into what’s happening on campus—the excitement, news—and I feel closely connected to the activity even though I’ve been gone almost a year now.”

Hiple and the School’s hundreds of other followers see the many pieces of news and activity at Pennington through the eyes of the committee’s main tweeters: juniors Collette King, Grant Lawlor, Hope MacKenzie, Michael Bergen and Jahmir White, plus faculty members Jamie Moore ’03 and Justin Langlois, as well as Director of Drama Lisa Houston, among other contributors.

In the beginning, student “tweeters” were assigned different days to tweet, with a main “theme”—such as reflections on chapel (#TwitchellTuesdays) or the latest campus buzz (#CapsLockMonday). Now most are so used to the job that they’ll tweet to the Pennington feed constantly.

Images are paired to tweets as frequently as possible, so viewers can be even more engaged in the excitement. For instance, live shots of the Homecoming football game were uploaded as the game progressed. Sometimes a picture can show off the campus’s beauty, such as when Mr. Moore uploaded a picture of O’Hanlon Green blanketed in snow during a sunrise.

Mr. Moore believes that the group has been successful “because we have opened up communication between students and faculty on the great stuff that is happening on campus,” no matter the subject; even just for “a friendly conversation, it is a lot of fun to follow everyone on Twitter.”

If you have a Twitter account, I encourage you to follow our feed (@tps_news). I’m confident the Social Media Committee will continue to grow long after my graduation, and I suspect that it will become one of Pennington’s main methods of communication with the community. I’m looking forward to receiving these daily updates while in college and as an alumnus, from the athletic scores and teacher posts to the pretty pictures and campus news. I feel even closer to Pennington now; I think you’ll feel that way too.
Local Artists Illuminate Silva Gallery

This academic year’s exhibitions at the Silva Gallery of Art have included shows by prominent local artists.

Cindy Besselaar and Cynthia Groya joined forces in Spheres and Foundations. Both also have Pennington connections: Besselaar is a Pennington parent (Olivia ’14 and Nicholas ’17), and Groya served as the Gallery’s director last year. Both artists presented gallery talks to students.

Mel Leipzig, whose Silva Gallery exhibit Mothers closed in January, is represented by Gallery Henoch in New York City and has had over forty solo exhibitions, including a retrospective at the New Jersey State Museum. He has been a featured artist on NJN’s State of the Arts program, and his life and work are chronicled in the documentary film Mel Leipzig: Everything is Paintable.

Besselaar’s spheres and elliptical shapes floating in space move beyond the photographic subject and focus on the connection between color and emotion. She explains, “The images offer an ethereal expression of the ebb and flow of the present self, while at the same time are meant to suggest and emanate from the existence of something larger than the self.” Influenced by the interplay of the ancient and the contemporary, Groya describes her work as “a concurrent process of digging up old foundations, unearthing gems and mysteries, envisioning new site plans, evaluating resources, and then the cycle of building, tearing down, and rebuilding that eventually becomes a painting.”

Leipzig has dedicated his career to painting people in their environments. He is fascinated with the seemingly accidental ways in which figures relate to their chosen surroundings, and his compositions reflect the psychological connection that he observes between the two. During his visit Pennington School art students were privy to a painting demonstration that brought to life the artist’s four-color process as written up in the November 2011 issue of Artnews magazine, the world’s oldest and most widely circulated art magazine.

TOP Artist Mel Leipzig exhibited at the Silva Gallery this fall and demonstrated his process to the art students.

MIDDLE Cindy Besselaar P’14 ’17 gave a gallery talk to art students.


BOTTOM LEFT ABOVE Ebb and Flow 1 (detail), Mixed Media on Panel. Cindy Besselaar.

Anna Gregg ’13 Photo Selected for Book Cover

Pennington School junior Anna Gregg got a message from publisher Simon & Schuster last fall, asking permission to license one of her photographs for a book cover. “Of course, I said ‘yes,’” says Gregg, who has established a photography business, Anna Kay Photography, in addition to her busy life at the School. She speculates that the publisher found the chosen photo, entitled “Backs to the Wind,” either through Flickr or her website, www.annakayphoto.com. Flickr, she says, is “the land of opportunity” for aspiring photographers.

Gregg’s photo will grace the cover of both paperback and Kindle editions of Glimpse, a young adult novel by Carol Lynch Williams, which will be published in May 2012.

Clever Spaces Gets National Ranking

The Pennington School’s 2011 literary magazine, Clever Spaces, has been awarded second-place ranking in the American Scholastic Association’s national competition. The full listing is available on the ASA website: www.asan.com.

By entering the School’s literary magazine in the competition, the publication’s staff members were given advice on design, layout, graphics, and so forth. The School met the criteria for a second-place award and were listed with the other schools in the United States who met the same criteria.

“Needless to say, the staff is very proud,” says advisor Michele Ruopp.

Students Host Night at the Movies

On February 7, Pennington’s Video Production students held the third Night at the Movies in the Stainton Hall Lecture Center. The event, which showcased the accomplishments of students during the fall semester 2011, included the screening of five feature films, five short films, and a music video. Video Production teacher Joel Potorski presented the Alfred Hitchcock Award for overall excellence in video production to Adam McGill ’12 and the Red Raider Award for dedication and spirit to Christopher DeSapio ’12. In addition, DJ Dane Kunkel ’13 presented his own music video, and Megan McMichael ’13 read her screenplay, Aspiration.

The feature (approximately five-minute) films were Out With a Bang (story by Oliver Murphy ’11 and directed by Philip Baldoni ’12); Out to Lunch (Alexandra Cooper ’13); CSI: Pennington (directed and edited by McGill); Simple Life Decisions (story by Hope MacKenzie ’13 and directed by Rachel Meyers ’13); and Late (story by Ben Kramer ’14 and directed by Madeleine Derveloy ’13).

The short (under one-minute) films were The Chase (Matthew Butler ’13); The Confession (Baldoni); Unconventional Love Story (Gabriella Pulley ’12); A Marker’s Misfortune (Daniel Provine ’12); and Left Behind (Katharine Rintala ’14).

In addition to his work for class, as a community service project McGill took raw footage of interviews with clients of HomeFront’s ArtSpace and turned it into a video the organization can use in its publicity and fundraising efforts.
The Winter’s Tale by William Shakespeare
TPS Drama Returns to the Fringe

Pennington Drama has once again been chosen to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (August 11–24, 2012). Pennington will be one of about thirty North American high schools traveling to Scotland for this largest performing arts festival in the world. The students will be performing Wonderland, which is an adaptation by Darby O’Hara ’09 and Director of Drama Lisa Houston of Lewis Carroll’s stories Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass. O’Hara worked with Houston on the play as her senior Horizon project in 2009, and it was performed on campus as the fall play that year.

As soon as they knew of their selection for the festival, the students began raising funds to make the trip possible. Before Winter Break, they had made $47,000, with $16,000 of that total from a marathon spin-class event on December 4, called Spin 4 Scotland. They hope to garner $12,000 more for an additional chaperone and two unexpected student scholarships. A dinner and benefit performance of The Sound of Music in February were slated to help. “We may need to have another car wash this spring,” says Houston, “and of course, donations are always appreciated!”

The Sound of Music by Rodgers and Hammerstein

More drama production photographs can be found at http://inversophoto.zenfolio.com.
Fall Sports

Cross Country

(8–5) Girls
(7–6) Boys

What started out as a small group of runners in the boys’ and girls’ cross country programs grew to twenty-five team members, many of them underclassmen, by season’s end. Coaches Richard Ritter and Raymond Aklonis praise girls’ captain Savanna Dasgupta ’12 and boys’ captains Jiakai Huang ’12 and Steven Schreiber ’13 for their leadership. Dasgupta was named Third Team All Prep by the Star Ledger. The future looks bright. A boys’ freshman team took third place in the ‘B’ division of the prestigious Shore Coaches Invitational meet. The entire boys’ team finished an impressive fifth at the Prep B States, and freshmen Sophia Mavella and Ryan Rizzuto completed several remarkable races, placing very high among the individual finishes. All twenty-one runners who entered the Mercer County Tournament ran personal best times, so next year promises to bring more exciting races for Pennington’s cross country teams.

Girls’ Soccer

(16–1–2)

The girls’ soccer team kept the tradition of winning alive and well this year as they won their ninth consecutive State Prep A championship and their fifth consecutive Mercer County Tournament championship. Seniors Nicole Baxter and Brooke Boland led the team to a 16–1–2 campaign. As four-year starters on this nationally ranked team, Baxter and Boland were part of a championship squad that compiled a four-year record of 65–3–6. This year’s team saw several players receive post-season All State and All County honors; a highlight was junior Erica Murphy’s being named the Player of the Year in both The Trentonian and The Times of Trenton. With the loss of only two seniors, Coaches Bill Hawkey and Patrick Murphy are looking forward to the return of a very talented team next year.

Girls’ Tennis

(6–4)

The varsity girls’ tennis team enjoyed a winning season and several highlights along the way. Highlights included Nina Brander and Tori Mayer’s making it into the second round of the MCT’s, a 5–0 win over Lawrence High on Senior Recognition Day, and thrilling wins over Stuart (3–2) and Rutgers Prep (4–2). The team’s seniors were Cristina Boyle, Natalie Levine, Mayer, Axé Owens, Taylor Russo and Diana Wilkinson. Owens completes her tennis career after having played on the varsity team since her freshman year. A healthy junior varsity program, along with the return of sophomore Brander, the only underclassman on the varsity team, ensures another good season ahead next fall.

Field Hockey

(6–12)

A record number of girls came out for the Pennington Field Hockey team, making it possible for Coaches Wendy Morris and Joe Fanning to add a few junior varsity games. During their preseason the team took an overnight trip to watch the ACC/Big Ten Challenge Cup hosted by the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, seeing outstanding field hockey and touring several colleges. During the season, the girls hosted their second annual “Play for the Pink” game and sponsored the first annual “longest hit contest” to raise money for the Race for the Cure. The high point of the season was the victory over Stuart Country Day School in a Prep B State Tournament game. The team and its coaches bid a fond farewell to seniors Kayla Bencivengo, Jessica Gravalis, Morgan Huth, and Geena Molinaro, who made significant contributions to the growing success of Pennington Field Hockey. Gaining all-star recognition were Annie Horsley (First Team All Prep B, Central Jersey Second Team) and Jessica Gravalis (First Team All Prep B).
Football
(3–5)

The 2011 Varsity Football team had another successful season. Success is not always measured in wins and losses, and this year’s team was faced with a rebuilding year after the loss of ten seniors to graduation last year. In addition, the team faced a highly challenging schedule, one which included opponents with extraordinary talent and even a few post-graduates. However, the team persevered and will be known as one of the most improved Varsity Football teams in many years and one that gave every ounce of effort possible. The team thanks its three seniors: Phil Pecora, Chris Manning, and James Anderson. Coach Eure says that it was their leadership and dedication to the program that kept this young team together. Success is a journey, he adds, and the returning group is already on its way.

Water Polo
(7–5–1)

Pennington Varsity Water Polo had an excellent season, earning a 7–5–1 overall record under the direction of coaches Bill Hutnik, Michael Keogh, and Cammie Phelps. The season had many highlights, starting with a great showing at the Pingry Invitational Tournament and ending with a 20–6 victory over St. Peter’s Prep at the snow-shortened Garden State Championship. One of the brightest moments of the season was the Homecoming victory over arch-rival Pingry. Those at the pool witnessed a great water polo match and a historic victory for the ever-strengthening program. Three seniors move on this year: Captain Derek Berman, Jon Yoskin, and Robbie DeMartin. These seniors have earned the respect of the coaches and their teammates for mentoring new players, keeping it fun, and leaving Pennington Water Polo stronger than ever.

Boys’ Soccer
(15–4–1)

The Pennington School Varsity Boys’ Soccer team finished with a 15–4–1 record and made its third consecutive appearance in the New Jersey Prep A State Championship game. The team lost in the finals to St. Benedict’s, which would eventually finish as the number-one-ranked team in the country. Pennington also made its second appearance in the Mercer County Tournament Championship game, where it fell 1–0 to Princeton High School. Junior Ethan Decker was named Prep Player of the Year and Area Player of the Year; he was joined on the First Team All State list by senior Steven Hawkey and junior Patrik Devlin. Seniors Joe Alesio, Derek Reilly, and Doug McCord also gained Second- and Third-Team honors on the All State list. Head Coach Chad Bridges ’96 was named Coach of the Year by all three of the major newspapers, The Trentonian, The Times of Trenton, and The Star Ledger.

Seven Seniors Commit to NCAA Division I Schools

On February 1, 2012, seven seniors at The Pennington School signed National Letters of Intent to play sports at NCAA Division I college and universities.

SEATED (l to r):
Carly Deeter–University of Maryland–Baltimore County (swimming)
Brooke Boland–Old Dominion University (soccer)
Nicole Baxter–College of William and Mary (soccer)

STANDING (l to r):
Stevenson Hawkey–Quinnipiac University (soccer)
James Bunn–Virginia Commonwealth University (baseball)
Philip Pecora–Bucknell University (football)
Douglas McCord–University of Maryland–Baltimore County (swimming).
Pennington senior Alex Kline doesn’t have a lot of time—but he makes time for the things that are important to him. Doing so hasn’t been easy recently, however, because the national news media have discovered that he is a great story.

Kline has a men’s college basketball recruiting website, TheRecruitScoop.com, which has become a highly respected source of information for college coaches all over the country. His Twitter feed has more followers than those of many celebrities, and the number increases by about a hundred every few days. At press time there were about 18,000 following Kline.

Where does he get his information? As manager of the Pennington basketball team, he sees players on opposing teams as well as his own, of course, but on weekends he also haunts “showcases” with four or five games between different high school teams. Outside the school year, during the season for AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) teams, he goes “all over the place,” hitching rides with AAU teams to various competitions. He also visits basketball camps in the summer. How does he get to them? “I have to find a way.”

His best sources, he says, are the players themselves. “They’re the ones who know their own game, their strengths and weaknesses. Most of them are honest about it.” He reaches out to the players he knows, mainly through Twitter. He asks them about what colleges have expressed interest in them, whether they have any favorites, and when they expect to make a decision.

He also asks players to tell him something people don’t know about them. That question doesn’t always yield significant results, but now and then he gains an interesting story to round out the student’s profile. “One kid said ‘I like to draw,’” Kline recalls. The student’s tutor at boarding school picked up Kline’s note and asked to see the student’s sketchbook. “It turned out that he was a fantastic artist,” Kline says, as well as a good athlete.

Kline has watched a lot of basketball in his young life, and he sometimes adds his own assessments of the players on his blog or Twitter feed. He talks with high school and AAU coaches “mainly to keep in touch.” With college coaches, however, the relationship is different. They text or email Kline, sometimes to solicit his opinion of a certain player, sometimes to let him know of their interest in a particular prospect. “Some schools want their information out there; others are off the record.” Kline is careful to respect requests for confidentiality from players or colleges. “I have to stay true to the people I work with,” he says.

Kline’s eyes really brighten, though, when he talks about his work’s having helped players get a scholarship offer from the college or university of their choice—especially when they are students who may not have gotten much attention initially. Drawing attention to such players comes from “proving that you are reputable,” he says, but he is clearly sincere when he says, “I’d rather celebrate their successes than mine.”

The first national outlet to notice Kline was The Wall Street Journal, which had a feature story on March 9, 2011, entitled “A Life of Scoops and Schoolwork.” Later that month, ABC News Now broadcast a feature story about Kline, then sixteen, including video shot on campus and at his Lambertville house.

Both stories focused on Kline’s website and Twitter feed and the fact that many coaches don’t realize how young he is. Said WSJ reporter Ben Cohen, “Among his peers in the
recruiting world, Kline is not the most prominent. He just happens to be the only one still in high school himself.” Cohen quoted an assistant coach at St. John’s University who described Kline as being “as good as anybody in the business—or better,” adding, “I can’t imagine how good he would be if he didn’t have to do homework.”

Local media picked up the story, but the national press weren’t finished. The bible of sports enthusiasts, *Sports Illustrated*, came calling and published a feature article in the December 12, 2011, issue. Writer Jim Gorant dubbed Kline “the world’s first teenage recruiting guru.” He went on that Kline “has brought more than youth to the party, though. He’s innovated. He is the first to make widespread use of social media—Facebook, Twitter and Skype—to connect with and report on recruits.”

In January of this year NBC’s *Today* show brought a film crew to the Pennington campus and added the academic dimension to the portrait of Kline, shooting some footage of him in Erin O’Connell’s senior class on Irish literature, in the halls, and in the student center. The segment aired on January 31. Correspondent Jenna Wolfe, who had interviewed Kline on campus, joked with him about the fact that he has more Twitter followers than she does.

There must be a certain thrill at such a young age in having one’s knowledge and opinions respected by college basketball coaches all over the country. Kline seems to have his feet firmly on the ground, however. “With success comes humility,” he says. “No one wants to work with someone who gets full of himself.”

Yet to anyone who interviews him Kline makes it clear that basketball is not the only thing close to his heart. His mother, Mary, died of a malignant brain tumor when he was ten. His focus on sports was initially a way to deal with his sadness, but he told Wolfe that he believes his mother would “be really proud, and I think she’s one of the reasons I’ve gone so far. She kind of pushed me in the right direction.”

It was his desire to honor his mother’s memory that caused Kline to use his basketball connections to organize the first annual Mary Kline Classic on the Pennington campus last year. At his invitation, twenty-eight top-ranked high school basketball players from all over the region came to Sparks Gymnasium for a slam-dunk contest, three-point shoot-out, and all-star game. Unsurprisingly, the players were happy to assist Alex Kline with the project. The proceeds from the event—over $7,200—went to the American Cancer Society and the National Brain Tumor Society.

This year’s Mary Kline Classic will be held May 5. In addition to the slam-dunk and three-point contests, this year there will fifty-two high-ranking high school players involved in two games: twenty-six seniors and twenty-six underclassmen, coming from as far north as New Hampshire and as far south as North Carolina. Kline hopes to raise $10,000 for the National Brain Tumor Society with this year’s Classic.

Kline will attend Syracuse University in the fall, with concentration in its S. I. Newhouse School of Communications. He wants to stay involved with basketball and expects his future career to have some connection with it. In the meantime, he plans to try to continue his recruiting activities to some extent, “using vacations and showing my face as much as possible.” One thing is without question, however: He wants to continue the annual tournament.

The Mary Kline Classic is yet another reason Alex Kline’s mother would be “really proud.”
A Wonderful Homecoming

Welcoming Pennington alumni and friends!

Saturday, October 15, 2011, a beautiful fall day, was the perfect setting for the annual Homecoming celebration. Many alumni returned to campus, and there were activities for everyone to enjoy, from the many athletic contests to the students selling goods on Homecoming Row. Many great athletic contests took place, but the highlight of the day was the halftime ceremony inducting the 1945 Football, 1985 Football, and 1985 Girls’ Soccer teams into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2012 on October 20.
1 Homecoming king Derek Reilly ’12 and queen Carly Deeter ’12.
2 Former Chair of the History Department Mike Winkler P’87 ’89 and Dean of Students Chad Bridges ’96.
3 Head of School Penny Townsend with John Vaccaro 47, Tom Haje ’47, and Nick Colby ’46.
4 Fall decorations donated by the Parents Association.
5 Homecoming tent.
6 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony for the 1945 football team.
7 Kyle Runkle ’06 with his sister Kerry Runkle ’16.
8 Head of School Penny Townsend with Monica and Timothy Mulheren ’02 and their son Timothy.
9 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction for the 1985 girls’ soccer team.
10 Pennington football in action with freshman Elijah Wright.
11 Hall of Fame inductees the 1985 girls’ soccer team.
12 Caroline Morano ’14 with Kurt Winkler ’87’s daughter, Brynn.
13 Jon Lande ’85 and Joanne Hermann Tobiasz ’86.
REGIONAL ALUMNI RECEPTIONS  Head of School Penny Townsend traveled to San Francisco, as well as New York City and Philadelphia, to thank alumni in person for their continued support and to share plans for Pennington's future. Director of Drama Lisa Houston joined Penny in New York City while Dean Tom Liwosz joined her in Philadelphia.

YOUNG ALUMNI HOLIDAY CELEBRATION  Young alumni (graduates of the last four years) reunited with current seniors at the first annual Young Alumni Holiday Celebration, while they were home from college. The event was held at the School on Thursday, December 22, 2011, and saw area alumni come together to unwind, see friends and faculty, play basketball, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere. Thank you to all our alumni who joined us and a special thank you to faculty members Bill Alford, Elizabeth Clancy-Healey, Joe Fanning, Bernie Gurick, Lisa Houston, Tom Liwosz, and Blair Thompson, who joined in the fun. Plans are already under way for this year’s celebration.

1 Andie Perl ’10, Ashley Disbrow ’10, Alex Gaul ’10, and Dean of Students Chad Bridges ’96.
2 Jason Dawlabani ’11.
3 Young alumni enjoying the informal atmosphere with math teacher Liz Clancy-Healy.
4 Amanda Burns ’10, Paris Haas ’10, and Andie Perl ’10.

Pennington Alumni Events
You are part of the history.  
Come and be part of the memories.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

May 18 and 19, 2012

Come back and join us for an exciting weekend of fun-filled events for you and your family. There is something for everyone!

Pennington welcomes the alumni community back to campus to catch up with old friends and former teachers and to celebrate the milestone reunions of specific classes. Alumni have the opportunity to take campus tours, participate in athletic contests, and celebrate what it means to be a Pennington alumnus. See for yourself how much the School has changed and yet how it still retains the same Pennington spirit of community loved by generations of students.

For more information about Alumni Weekend, or for help with alumni-related questions, contact Director of Alumni Relations Joanne McGann by phone at (609) 737–6149 or email at jmcgann@pennington.org, or visit our website at WWW.PENNINGTON.ORG/ALUMNI.
**FRIDAY, MAY 18**

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Campaign for Pennington Open House.

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Chair of the Board Reception and Old Guard Celebration.
The Bedens Brook Club
240 Rolling Hill Road, Skillman, NJ

10th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 2002). $10 per person.
The Liwosz Home
21 Green Street, Pennington, NJ

5th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 2007). $5 per person.
The Houston/Harding Home
19 Green Street, Pennington, NJ

Young Alumni Celebration
(Class of 2008–2012).
Meet for an Ultimate Frisbee game under the lights, or just come and cheer on your classmates as they play. Light refreshments will be served. Complimentary.
Tom Liwosz Field

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
30th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 1982).
Hopewell Valley Vineyards
46 Yard Road, Pennington, NJ

20th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 1992).
Hopewell Valley Vineyards
46 Yard Road, Pennington, NJ

15th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 1997).
Hopewell Valley Vineyards
46 Yard Road, Pennington, NJ

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
25th Reunion Celebration
(Class of 1987). $15 per person.
The Hawkeye Home
9 Maple Lane, Pennington, NJ

For more information about Alumni Weekend activities, and to register, visit our website at www.pennington.org/alumni or contact Ashley Foltiny at (609) 737–6121.

**SATURDAY, MAY 19**

10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Registration.
O’Hanlon Green

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
School Store open.
Campus Center

Alumni Welcome Lounge.
The Lodge

Archival Exhibit.
Meckler Library

Performance and Wellness Center.
Sparks Gymnasium

Tennis courts open.

10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Annual Student Art Exhibit.
Silva Gallery of Art

11:00 to 11:45 a.m.
Alumni Memorial Service.
Pennington United Methodist Church
60 South Main Street, Pennington, NJ

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Supervised Children’s Activities.
O’Hanlon Green

Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Red Raider All-Alumni Luncheon including the State of the School Address and Order of the Tower Presentation.
$5 per person.
Dining Hall

12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Soccer Clinic for Alumni Children.
Tom Liwosz Field

1:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Children’s Story Time.
Alumni children and their parents are invited to enjoy a story time led by a School librarian. Parents must accompany children.
Meckler Library

2:00 p.m.
Alumni vs. Varsity Water Polo Match.
Michael T. Martin Aquatic Center

Alumni vs. Varsity Baseball.
Baseball field

**AREA ACCOMMODATIONS**

SpringHill Suites by Marriott
Ewing Princeton South (4 miles)
1000 Charles Ewing Boulevard
Ewing, NJ 08628
(609) 560–0900
Group rates available for reservations received prior to 4/18/12: $129-$135.

Element by Westin (5 miles)
1000 Sam Weinroth Road
Ewing, NJ 08628
(609) 671–0050
Group rates available for reservations received prior to 4/18/12.

Courtyard by Marriott (5 miles)
360 Scotch Road
Ewing, NJ 08628
(609) 771–8100

Chauncey Hotel and Conference Center (5 miles)
660 Rosedale Road
Princeton, NJ 08541
(609) 921–3600

**FAMILY KICKBALL**
Harold Poore Field

**ALUMNI VS. VARSITY LACROSSE**
Tom Liwosz Field

**ALL-ALUMNI BARBECUE CELEBRATION**
All returning alumni are invited to join Head of School Penny Townsend and her husband, Mike Townsend, at their home for a barbecue immediately following the alumni athletic contests. $7 per person.
Corson House
208 Hale Street, Pennington, NJ

**RAIDING SCOTLAND—SCOTTISH DANCING**
Learn to dance to bagpipes, led by the Edinburgh-bound drama students. Please join in the fun.
Corson House
208 Hale Street, Pennington, NJ

**PERFORMANCE OF WONDERLAND**
See the play that Pennington Drama will be presenting at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Tickets available at the door.
$5 per person.
Sparks Memorial Gymnasium

Please note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change.
CELEBRATING THE CAMPAIGN FOR PENNINGTON

In December 2011 the press box on Tom Liwosz Field was completed, putting in place the final piece in The Campaign for Pennington. Over the past five years, with the help of many donors, the School has invested in wonderful new facilities to support our teachers, coaches, and students as they work together. The people who teach and learn here deserve a great environment where they can give of their best.

Now it is time to celebrate. On Friday, May 18, the Pennington School community will come together to toast our success, unveil plaques and donor boards, and enjoy the satisfaction of seeing a job well done. Please come to the Campaign for Pennington Open House, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., when you will be able to visit the science classrooms, see Tom Liwosz Field and press box, and share some refreshments with alumni, faculty, students, parents, and many other friends whose support has made such a difference.

THE 2012 TOWER AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The School has announced the 2011–12 recipients of the Order of the Tower. This award is an important part of Pennington School history and recognizes alumni, teachers, or friends for outstanding service to The Pennington School or to the wider community. The Tower award ceremony will take place during Alumni Weekend.

Stanley Renshon ’62

Renshon is professor of political science and coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Program in the Psychology of Social and Political Behavior at the City University of New York Graduate Center. He received his bachelor’s degree in political science from Rutgers and went on to earn a master’s degree in international relations from American University’s School of International Service and a doctorate in political science from the University of Pennsylvania. Also a certified psychoanalyst, Renshon is the author of over one hundred professional articles and sixteen books in the areas of presidential leadership, American national security, and the psychology of immigration and American national identity.

Renshon’s most recent book is entitled Barack Obama and the Politics of Redemption. His psychological biography of the Clinton presidency—High Hopes: The Clinton Presidency and the Politics of Ambition—won the Political Science Association’s Richard E. Neustadt Award for the best book published on the presidency and the Gradiva Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis for the best published biographical work. Renshon has served as a consultant to the government on matters of national security, including issues of immigration and national attachment, and foreign leadership assessment and strategy. He and his wife, psychoanalyst Dr. Judith Beldner, have two sons.

Julio Gomez, Jr. ’77

A member of The Pennington School’s Board of Advisors and a former member of the Board of Trustees, Gomez is currently co-founder of Innovation Councils, a new firm that develops intelligence networks defined by technology/business pairs (i.e., cloud/banking). He is a frequent keynote speaker on market trends and strategic initiatives in financial technology and has developed major financial services technology events. He previously founded Gomez Markets, a strategy consulting firm specializing in financial services technology, and was also global head of research at Financial Insights/IDC.

Gomez, a 1982 graduate of Princeton University, has appeared on several lists in national magazines: “Fifty Most Important People Shaping Technology” (Time), “Fifty Most Influential People” (Institutional Investor), and “100 Most Influential Hispanics” (Hispanic Business). He has served on the governing boards of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the Concord Youth Theatre, and is a deacon of the Trinitarian Congregational Church, in Concord, MA. He and his wife, Carla, have three children and live in Concord.

Jane Sortor Keene ’77

Keene has lived in the area her entire life. While at the School she was a student leader, a member of the National Honor Society, and captain of the Cheerleading team. She also sang in the chorus, accompanied the choir on her flute, and participated in many plays. She is a cum laude graduate of Lycoming College with a bachelor’s degree in music; she also earned a Bachelor of Science degree, cum laude, in chemistry from Thomas Edison State College. She went on to study law at Temple University Law School, where she earned her J.D. degree.

She is a registered patent attorney and owns Keene IP Law, LLC, in Princeton, specializing in patents, trademarks, and copyrights. Keene has always been an enthusiastic Pennington supporter and has been a correspondent for the Class of 1977 for many years; she also served on the planning committee for Pennington’s celebration of twenty years of coeducation. Keene and her husband, Bob Keene ’75, who had dated while attending Pennington but had gone their separate ways, were married in 2007.
1942 70TH REUNION

Celebrate your 70th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Frank Peartree, (703) 892–6123, is your reunion class volunteer.

1947 65TH REUNION

Celebrate your 65th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Tom Haje, (302) 622–8233; and John Vaccaro, (609) 530–0331, are your reunion class volunteers.

1948

Congratulations to David E. Blum on the publication of his novel, The Last Pottsville Warrior: America, The Sea-Change Years, now available through Amazon Kindle. The initial setting of the book is the anthracite/steel region of Pennsylvania, not so far from Pennington. All proceeds from Penningtonians who purchase the book ($5.99) will be donated to the Pennington Fund. Look for David on Facebook; the first six Penningtonians who contact him will be sent a copy of his book. He has also begun work on a second book.

After graduating from Pennington in ’48, Ralph Sydney R. Klinepeter enlisted in July for four years with the U.S. Marine Corps. Sydney served time in Korea, received the Purple Heart, and was discharged in July of 1952. In 1954, he began working for H.B. Alexander & Son, a construction firm in Harrisburg, PA, and in 1995, after forty years of employment, retired. He and his wife did some traveling and spent some wintertime on Jekyll Island, GA, for the first fifteen years of being retired. In the spring of 2006, they traveled to the Pennington campus (Sydney’s first visit back) to attend their great-niece’s high school graduation, where he was given the honor of presenting her with her diploma. On April 1, 2011, Sydney and his wife celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. They have been blessed with “three wonderful children, six equally wonderful grandchildren (all college graduates), and two very delightful great-grandchildren.” They all live locally, so Sydney and his wife have had the good fortune of being involved in their lives, and that involvement has only enriched their lives beyond measure. They are both in reasonably good health and look forward to their seventieth anniversary!

Mary and James R. McKee are enjoying a respite from the cold weather until late March. Their children and grandchildren are getting along well, and they say they are thankful for God’s blessings. They enjoyed a trip to the Thousand Islands and Canada in the fall, “which was a delight, and many events this past year with our children and grandchildren.”

Thomas L. Todd and his wife, Elsie, retired from the business of farming about five years ago, and now their only farming is mowing five acres of lawn in season. In winter, Thomas assembles at least one balsawood World War II airplane; this winter, it is a thirty-five-inch-wingspan Spitfire. He is also in the business of black walnuts in a minor way. They enjoy the exploits of their five children, twelve grandchildren, and five (soon to be seven) great-grandchildren. They also enjoy reading and exploring Upstate New York. Thomas and Elsie have been married sixty-one years and are headed for sixty-two.

1952 60TH REUNION

Celebrate your 60th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Bob Beckett, (610) 270–9908 or RHBrobec@aol.com; Dale Holladay, (703) 945–8140 or vd hollanday@comcast.net; and Vince Rockel, (941) 554–4166; are your reunion class volunteers.

1954

Having fun, Lucille and George R. Gordon just returned from a cruise to the Caribbean!

1955

After several years as a dedicated and diligent class correspondent, Morris Fabian ’55 has asked us to seek a successor. Anyone from the Class of 1955 who is interested in volunteering as class correspondent, please contact Joanne McGann at jmccgann@pennington.org or phone (609) 737–6149.

Morris S. Fabian was pleased greatly to receive greetings from some classmates during the holiday season. Best wishes to all in the Class of ’55 and other classmates and friends associated with TPS over many years.

1957 55TH REUNION

Celebrate your 55th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. If you would like to be a reunion class volunteer, please contact Jenimma Attanasio at (609) 737–6141 or jattanasio@pennington.org.

1962 50TH REUNION

Celebrate your landmark 50th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Abe
Abadi, abraham.abadi@comcast.net or (617) 803–6171; Bob Carroll, (512) 280–1513; and Ben Shinn, bjshinn1@tx.rr.com or (214) 403–5574, are your reunion class volunteers.

1964
Francis X. Halligan, after leaving the bench, is currently in private practice, doing mediation, arbitration, and litigation.

Harvey S. Melamed and Alan R. Thress vacationed in Barbados in October. The two, and their families, have remained friends since graduation. Harvey is a retired newspaper journalist, and Alan is a retired teacher from the Philadelphia School District.

1967
45th Reunion

Celebrate your 45th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Steve Keesler is the Class of 1967 reunion chair. You can contact Steve at wheat314@comcast.net or (610) 246–5946.

1970
James H. Ober has two grandsons currently living in New York City.

1972
40th Reunion

Celebrate your 40th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 1972 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Scott Deutchman, sdeutchman@americanproperties.net; John Zuccarelli, jmzuccarelli@aol.com; and Scott Magner, smagne11@comcast.net, are your reunion class volunteers.

1977
35th Reunion

Celebrate your 35th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join the The Pennington School – Class of 1977 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Scott Gray, sggraphics@comcast.net; and Jane Keene, jane1776@comcast.net, are your reunion class volunteers.

1979
Emilie Z. McCardell recently started a new job at WebMD (Medscape Division) in New York City.

1982
30th Reunion

Celebrate your 30th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 1982 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Pat Hagerty, patrick893@aol.com; Armand Nardi, armandnardi@yahoo.com; and Kash Yazdan Bakhsh, kash008@yahoo.com, are your reunion class volunteers.

Patrick Hagerty, Jr., is a photographer for several LGBT events in the Philadelphia area.

1985
Michael D. Jingoli’s son, Joey, is a freshman at Pennington this year, so he is the Class of 2015 and will graduate thirty years after Michael did. Michael’s daughter, Alexandra, graduated from Pennington last year and just finished her first semester as a freshman at Rider University. The Jingoli family continues to reside in Princeton, although a great deal of their time is spent heading back and forth to Pennington to drop off and pick up Joey from events, sports, and all of the other wonderful things that make Pennington the special place that it is. Professionally, Michael has been traveling quite a bit as he has started new projects out west, and his company continues to grow.

Jane C. Malloy continues to thrive and embrace life. She is involved with numerous organizations, motherhood, and riding her ’09 Yamaha VMAX! Big ups to her Pennington Posse!

Georgia A. Manukas was nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for a Biography documentary she produced about the film Jaws. She is currently working at National Geographic television.

1987
25th Reunion

Celebrate your milestone 25th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 1987 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Mark Cipriano, markcip17@
George F. H. Ward (see photo) is keeping busy with his two children and his wife, Kerri. He often returns to New Hampshire (photo), where he’ll run into Jameel Talwani and Mike Kilfoyle ’87 (whose daughter, Logan, came to visit Pennington over the summer for a tour). George competed in the Escape from Alcatraz Triathlon and Atlantic City Triathlon in 2011. His daughter, Gracen (6), and son, Georgie (3), love the water and swimming as well! George also sees classmate Jeff Long often and attended the wedding of Jeff’s brother Nick Long ’00, who was married October 15–16, 2011, in Newport, RI, to longtime girlfriend Katie Fay. On the Admission front, George helped longtime friend Kenny Brown ’89 and his daughter through the admission process. Kenny’s daughter, Lauren, is now attending Pennington as an exceptional ninth-grade student/athlete wearing Kenny’s #11 (from his soccer days) on the Varsity Girls’ Soccer team. Hey, Class of ’88 alumni, our Twenty-Fifth is one year away—start planning now!

1993

Ryan J. Connolly was graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design and now lives in Brooklyn. He co-taught architecture at NYIT for a few semesters and founded dia/wrks, an architectural and interior design office currently located in SoHo. His clients include CBS, Showtime, NYIT, Madame Paulette, and Mission for the UN.

Shannon McGarry is teaching fourth grade in Philadelphia.

Also living and working in Philadelphia is Richard Symes.

1992

20TH REUNION

Celebrate your 20th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 1992 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Kimberly Borden Perri, (267) 566–6552 or kimberlyperri@yahoo.com, and Anisa Talwani are your reunion class volunteers.

Kim Borden Perri writes, “I enjoy getting updates through Facebook and hope to continue to stay in touch and I’m really looking forward to an amazing 20 year reunion.”

1995

Scott Brodie ’95 met up with Kathy and Dean Waters P’95 ’98, former athletic director at Pennington, in Antigua recently.

1997

15TH REUNION

Celebrate your 15th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with classmates, share your news, and see how Pennington has changed and yet still remained the same. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 1997 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Laura Desai, ldesai@pennington.org; and Rob White, RWwhite1178@yahoo.com are volunteers thus far, and we are looking for more volunteers to help plan this exciting event!
We are happy to welcome Laura Desai back to Pennington as our new Director of Global Studies.

1998

Jessica Goldberg was recently accepted to graduate school part-time for quality assurance/regulatory affairs, and began a new job as a CRA. She continues to participate in both Latin and ballroom dance.

1999

Christopher A. Doorley celebrated the two-year anniversary of his company Velocity in October, and since then he has started working with new clients in the sports and music industries.

2002

Celebrate your 10th Reunion at Alumni Weekend, May 18–19! Reconnect with the classmates you don’t see as often, leisurely walk through the halls where you once rushed to class, and tour the new facilities where current Pennington students flourish academically while still constantly pushing dress code boundaries. Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of 2002 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any reunion updates. Jf Armstrong, jarmstrong3@gmail.com; Chris Liwosz, Liwoszdog@aol.com; Diana Moore, dmooore@alumni.princeton.edu; and Tim Mulheren, TMulheren@yahoo.com, are your reunion class volunteers.

On July 3, 2011, Sarah Pachner ’02 married Chase Stern at the historic Prallsville Mill in Stockton, NJ (see photo). Christina McKitish and Meagan Kadlec were members of the bridal party. For their honeymoon, the couple traveled to Santorini, Greece, and Montreux, Switzerland. Sarah and Chase met in 2006 during their senior year at Emory University and have since resided in the Old City neighborhood of Philadelphia with their pug, Agnes. Life and work has returned to normal, post-wedding, Sarah says. She is a buyer at Terrain, and Chase works for ISSI, a New Jersey–based software company.

In June Douglas W. Whittlesey and Lauren Freedman left Manhattan behind and moved to Bellows Falls, VT, to enjoy a less hectic lifestyle and “more nature than can be found in Central Park.” On September 17, Doug and Lauren were married in Grafton, VT. They were joined by fellow Pennington alumni Pete Whittlesey ’97, Jon Zinsser, and Courtney Odening ’03 (see photo). After getting back from their honeymoon in Cabo San Lucas, Doug found out he had been bestowed his Chartered Financial Analyst designation. He also became the head coach for Pleasant Valley Hockey Association’s Peevee Ice Hockey team. And the Giants won the Super Bowl, so things are going well!

Christina Monaco has joined the Center for Learning faculty here at Pennington. Welcome back, Christina!

Christian R. Henderson and his wife, April, were married on May 29 in Nashville, TN. He has left CAA to join George P. Johnson, working in their Entertainment Marketing and Sponsorship Department.

2003

Christopher DeRose participated in the training program at Second City in Chicago after college, taking three of their improv programs and working on their professional theater’s front-of-house staff. He was getting his feet wet in other theaters around the city, while holding down another job as a tour guide and trolley driver around downtown Chicago. Chris was plucked for TV from a tour bus by a TV producer who took his tour, and he is now a regular contributor on WCIU’s morning show. He still guides tours once in a great while, and he acts all over the city and the country doing improv and sketch shows. He is an ensemble member at Comedy Sportz Chicago and a
include kids’ sizes in the spring! Concepts clothing line will be expanding to
success through the winter, the Magdalena
PENNINGTON MAGAZINE | SPRING 2012
completed his master’s thesis and is working
chemistry at the University of Buffalo. He has
student in the doctoral program in organic
(JACS), entitled “Copper-Catalyzed
Journal of the American Chemical Society
City as a social media manager.
Julia Bruskin
recently, as he’s substitute teaching for the
Peter Mercatanti ‘05 has returned to Pennington
a substitute teacher this year.

Christopher Utterback took a new job in April as
director of business development with Trans Perfect.

Clement Chan is working in the Philadelphia area.

Magdalena Yunke Santos reports that after much
success through the winter, the Magdalena Concepts clothing line will be expanding to
include kids’ sizes in the spring!

2005
Aaron A. Smyth is living in New York City,
working as a web developer, and is hoping to
start his own tech company soon.

Alex Pron is currently working at Merrill Lynch in Princeton, NJ.

Sean Murray is currently working for Johnson & Johnson in the operations department.

Peter Mercatanti has been on campus recently, as he’s substitute teaching for the
School. Welcome back, Peter!

Julia Bruskin is living and working in New York City as a social media manager.

Timothy W. Liwosz is co-author of a scholarly article published in December 2011 by the
Journal of the American Chemical Society (JACS), entitled “Copper-Catalyzed
Enantioselective Intramolecular Alkene Amination/Intermolecular Heck-Type
Coupling Cascade.” Tim is currently a graduate student in the doctoral program in organic
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found as a teaching assistant and doing research as he
progresses toward his Ph.D. degree. According to Science Department Chair Tom Horsley,
“The focus of the paper and Tim’s research are on
determining new procedures for synthesizing
organic molecules. Tim’s work bridges the gap
between organic and inorganic chemistry by
utilizing bonding between carbon and metals
to create unique bonding environments. This paper in particular utilizes organometallic
bonding to create conditions that favor a type of bond formation in cyclic structures that
previously had been difficult to attain in the
laboratory.” It was through Horsley that Liwosz
was first exposed to organic chemistry.

2006
Adam Toltzis wrote a screenplay called LuvBug,
which was named one of three finalists for the Irene J. Parisi Award through the Shoot in
Philadelphia Screenplay Competition.

Shawn M. Woodhull is working in investor
relations at Morgan Stanley.

2007
Celebrate your 5th Reunion at Alumni Weekend,
May 18–19! Reconnect with old friends and find out what everyone’s doing now, share any recent
updates, and see what’s new at Pennington as well as what’s still just the way you remember it.
Be sure to join The Pennington School – Class of
2007 Facebook group so you don’t miss out on any
reunion updates. Buddy Gardiner, bgardiner4@gmail.com; Julia Helms, jhelms@alumni.conncoll.
edu; and Gianna Russo, gianna.s.russo@gmail.com, are your reunion class volunteers.

Valeria J. Cogliani is currently living in New York
City, doing neuroscience research at Mount Sinai. She plans to apply to veterinary school in
the future.

Gillian R. Kemmerer was graduated with honors
from Columbia University in May 2011 with a
degree in economics. As a member of the Varsity Archery team, crowned National Champions in the spring, she won the Eastern Seaboard FITA gold medal. Gillian will be
attending the London School of Economics in September 2012 to earn her master’s degree in
international management. She has been
selected to spend a visiting term at Peking University’s Guanghua School of Management in
Beijing, China.

2008
After his freshman year at Amherst, Pennington
soccer standout Jae Hyeok Heo returned to
South Korea to complete his required two
years of military service. Heo played soccer as
an Amherst freshman with the same distinction
he had at Pennington, and his coach and
teammates eagerly awaited his return. Jae was
named to the All-NESCAC second team and
NESCAC All-Academic team. (See related article.)

Allegheny College senior Kira L. Kliment has
been named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NCSAA)/Continental Tire
Division III Women’s All-America Team. She was also the 2011 NCAC Defensive Player of the Year.

2009
Matthew J. Angelo is studying entertainment
and media management at University of California–Fresno and is a pledge marshal for Sigma Nu fraternity at UCF.

Quashon B. Nolan is majoring in international
business and accounting, with a Spanish minor, at Rider University.

Daniel J. Rick is attending Coastal Carolina
University in Myrtle Beach, SC. He enjoys
playing basketball, recently joined a gym, and
is taking boxing classes. He enjoys hanging out
with his roommates, and when the weather is
nice, he enjoys relaxing on the beach!
A World Away

by Ben Badua, Amherst Sports Information
Excerpted with permission

Nearly 7,000 miles away from Western Massachusetts, Jae Heo ’14 [TPS ’08—ed.] of the Amherst men’s soccer team sat quietly, reading in one of the two Starbucks cafes in his hometown of Changwon, South Korea.

Having scored 12 goals in his debut season with the Lord Jeffs en route to a national semifinal appearance, he proudly wore his Amherst sweatshirt while on winter break in 2008, knowing full well what awaited him in just six short months: the beginning of a two-year stint with the South Korean army as part of his nation’s mandatory military service requirement.

Sitting alone, he noticed a group of college-aged kids (two American, two Korean). They were speaking in English, a rarity on the southern tip of the peninsula.

“Seeing my Amherst sweatshirt on my way out, one of the Koreans stopped me and asked if I went to school in the States,” recalls Heo. “It turns out that he was a graduate of Bowdoin and an officer teaching English at the Naval Academy. He handed me his business card and I contacted him the next day.”

Following that chance encounter with officer Wan Ki Park, Heo switched his enlistment from the army to the navy and in June found himself at the R.O.K. Naval Academy, half a world away from the Pioneer Valley but just 15 minutes from his boyhood home. Arriving on the first Monday of the month along with 600 other new recruits, Heo was suddenly faced with his new reality.

Entering the navy as a seaman apprentice, Heo survived on three small meals a day consisting of: rice, kimchi and a bowl of soup. He dropped nearly 20 pounds during basic training. For the next four weeks, Heo endured a grueling regimen designed to transform him into a soldier. Days began with a shower at 5:30 a.m. and ended with military drills at 10:30 p.m.

Educated at the Pennington School in Princeton, N.J., Heo is fluent in English, a skill he eventually parlayed into a sought-after position at the academy following boot camp.

“During the second month of training someone from the English department came to interview me for a teaching assistant opening,” says Heo. “Those positions were so rare and unique, but I impressed the interviewer and got a spot.”

Needing to attain four stripes or the rank of petty officer 2nd class before being allowed to return to civilian life, Heo spent the remainder of his tenure as one of 12 English teaching assistants at the naval academy. He graded assignments, translated documents, tutored cadets and even taught class.

Having only kicked around the ball with the naval academy’s soccer assistants a couple times a month over the last two years, Heo was understandably anxious when he first stepped back onto Hitchcock Field for the Jeffs’ preseason workouts.

[He] was right. It started with a goal in the team’s annual preseason alumni game. Then another in the squad’s season-opener against Colby-Sawyer. Before long he’d added three more goals and an assist against Bates and Middlebury. His reward was a NESCAC Player of the Week honor and a 5–0 start for his beloved Jeffs. It was almost as if he’d never left.

2010

Alexandra L. Gaul is at Elon University studying exercise science for physical therapy. She is enjoying her professors and classes, especially anatomy. She had a great opportunity to study cadavers in a lab and is excited to be back in the States after studying abroad in Costa Rica.

Ashley A. Disbrow is currently studying astrophysics at Carnegie Mellon University. This past summer she did research in extragalactic astronomy at Bucknell University and also became involved in cosmology research, which she hopes to continue through this summer!

A sophomore at Duke, Kaitlyn K. Kerr has been named to the Division I All-America third team in women’s soccer.
Amanda N. Burns, a sophomore at the College of William and Mary, plans to major in elementary education and religious studies. This winter break she is going on a trip to Haiti to build an orphanage and some houses!

Dong Hyeok Heo has been doing military service at the Korean Naval Academy for almost a year and a half. He is looking forward to being discharged from duty in this May and is preparing to get back out in the “outside world.” Although his college career has been delayed, he says that he has gained a great deal from his service. He even accompanied the Naval Academy midshipmen on cruise training on a warship, visiting ten ports in ten countries, including those in Mediterranean Sea. He will be entering Cornell as a freshman in the fall.

Jennifer Osolinski is a Barbara Voorhees Mentor for the first years of Douglass Residential College at Rutgers University, as well as the executive board chair of special populations on the Douglass Orientation Committee.

Last summer Madeline D. Scherer worked on a horse ranch in Estes Park, CO. This summer, she will be taking a summer class in Greece and will live on a yacht for a month, following the path of The Odyssey. She is an economics and Spanish major at Colorado College and is also getting her teaching certification.

Lena Wellhoeffer has been involved in a lot of theater since arriving at Skidmore a year ago. She was cast in a production of You, Me and Wii by Sue Townsend, a dark comedy complete with British accents. This semester she considers herself lucky to be involved in an “amazing student-written piece” entitled After and has also had the opportunity to work in the costume shop, allowing her to design makeup for Sarah Ruhl’s Passion Play and this semester’s production of Ajax in Iraq by Ellen McLaughlin. In addition, she is taking part in designing costumes for Bert V. Royal’s Dog Sees God. Lena writes, “I guess you could say my world has turned into a stage or, more so, what’s behind it.”

Renee Washington was selected to the second team for Division I Women’s Soccer and was named to the Atlantic 10 All-Academic First Team. In addition, she was selected for the second year in a row as the offensive player of the year for La Salle University and made the First Team Atlantic 10 Conference. For Week Eight of the 2011 soccer season she was selected as the #1 player in the country on the national poll. When not on the soccer field, she is a volunteer tutor for inner city youth in a Philadelphia public elementary school.

In Memoriam

2011

Ryan N. Donovan, a freshman at Fairfield University, has signed a Letter of Commitment to play baseball for the 2012 Cooperstown (NY) Hawkeyes in the Perfect Game Collegiate Baseball League (PGCBL) this summer. Affiliated with Perfect Game USA, the largest independent scouting service in the country, the PGCBL is a developmental league for college players preparing for professional careers.

Amber D. Hoeffner plans to start her own event business with a friend. The events will range from house parties to school functions. She has also become an extreme couponer, but that’s just a sideline.

Before the start of the spring semester Shannon Roche transferred from the University of Miami (FL) to the University of Illinois. She joins the Illini Women’s Soccer team as the seventh member of the 2012 class.

Anthony Gaffney, currently at the Taft School as a postgraduate, has been accepted at Princeton, where he plans to play football.

Heather Bailey, who retired as teacher of Spanish last June, reports that she and her husband, Steve, are well into their training as Peace Corps volunteers in Panama. After being sworn in on March 15, they will serve two years in a town of about 1,400 inhabitants in Herrera province, west of Panama City on the peninsula of Azuero. Bailey will be teaching English with two local teachers there, working with students at the K–6 and 6–9 grade levels.

In Memoriam

With sadness we list members of the Pennington family who have recently died.

Charles Sutter ’34
William M. Cox ’41 P’78
Jack M. Friel ’41
Fred F. Morelli ’42
Joseph Ficcaro ’42
Arthur G. Georgaklis ’47
Donald C. Greenlee ’48
Walter J. McDonough ’48
John F. Peters ’48
G. Milton Zentmayer ’63
H. Walcott Brown P’65
Jeanne C. Weiler P’66
Robert R. Paul ’67
Ben Gazzara P’85
Leonard J. Salamandra P’93
Carmine DeMicco GP’09
Jeffrey S. Ratner P’13 ’14
Raymond C. Saalbach (former faculty)
Giving to Pennington Is in Your Future... Plan Your Reunion Gift Today!

Your classmates are working toward a goal of giving more than ever before in honor of your reunion. You may be able to give more than you think to Pennington with a planned gift to the Francis Harvey Green Society.

Please consider following the example of Abraham Abadi ’62, co-chair of this year’s 50th Reunion, who writes about his connection with Pennington and his desire to give back to the School through a bequest.

My arrival at Pennington in September 1958 was the beginning of four wonderful years of learning, establishing friendships, developing skills I never imagined I possessed. Most importantly, it was the start of a connection which endures after 50 years.

My first year at Pennington was also the first year of Dr. Charles R. Smyth as headmaster. Since there were a good number of Jewish students at Pennington, Dr. Smyth initiated a program where Jewish students would be bused to Trenton to attend Friday night services at a synagogue. I found this to be an exceptionally sensitive attention to the spiritual needs of all students. Vacation time was always difficult for me because my parents lived in Venezuela. The friendships I developed helped me to feel a part of many families, and for three consecutive Thanksgivings, I was invited to the home of my classmate, Joe McCormick. For years afterwards, I would call his parents every Thanksgiving just to say hello.

At Pennington, I took risks, participating in drama, oratorical contests, and glee club, and playing football and fencing. I would not have embarked on these adventures had I not felt that I was supported by friends and faculty. I still admire the unyielding academic standards held by many of the staff. As a public school teacher and administrator, these lessons echoed in my teacher’s consciousness. Now as a professor at the Graduate School of Education at Lesley University, I teach my students about the importance of balancing standards with support, caring with supervision, and tolerance with values.

Pennington made me feel at home. This is why I have chosen to include Pennington in my will. My modest gift pales in comparison to the influence that Pennington has had on my life.

To learn more, contact Jemima Attanasio at (609) 737–6141 or jattanasio@pennington.org.