

# the **ASPECT**

WORLD WIDE

CONNECTIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS AT ASP



ALUMNI EDITION

SPRING 2011

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*“As a long-time resident of Paris, ASP was the anchor I needed to keep me connected to the American community. The students and teachers were extremely interesting people who I remember to this day. The education I received was excellent and allowed me to continue my studies at a top notch college in the United States.”*

**- Marie Schwartz '76**

# An Address from Michael McNeill



Welcome to the World Wide ASPECT, your way of learning about fellow ASP alumni and keeping in touch with what is going on at the school. In this edition, you will learn about what some ASP graduates are doing to make a difference in the world as well as hear some news about happenings on campus. We also want to keep you informed about our plans to purchase our campus in Saint-Cloud, build a 21st century facility, and continue to develop a vibrant, world-wide alumni community.

If you get a moment, please let us know how you are doing or, if you are interested in helping to organize an ASP reunion in your area, we would love to help.

We would also like to extend a special thanks to the many alumni who made generous gifts to The Excellence Fund – ASP's extraordinary initiative that allows us to fund extraordinary opportunities. Your gifts to ASP make an incredible difference and help us to remain the best international school in Paris!

Whether you were a student for 1 year, 3 years, or 12 years, we hope that your experience here made a difference. We continue to be impressed with the fond memories that alumni send in, and teachers enjoy reading about what is going on in your lives today. If you make it back to Paris, please come visit us.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoy our spring and fall newsletters and that you will visit [www.asparis.org](http://www.asparis.org) to learn about the many exciting things happening at the school today.

All the best,

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*"The years I spent at ASP were amazing.*

*I am happy to give back in the hope that others can share the experience."*

**- Jeff Hamilton '70**

# The ASP Experience Beyond Graduation:

**TWO** ASP ALUMNI MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## ***Sam Russell,***

*class of '73, is changing the face of education.*

*For the past 16 years, he has been building schools, at no cost, in communities around Vietnam. We spoke to Sam at ASP's Alcazar Reunion this past January and asked if he would share his story with us. >>*





## **1 Family Background – How did you come to live in Paris and when were you at ASP?**

I was born in San Diego, California and moved to France when I was two years old. We came to Paris because my father wanted to pursue his career as a Paleontologist at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle at the Jardin des Plantes in the fifth arrondissement. We lived on a houseboat in Neuilly and I spent seven years of my education at ASP.

## **2 Memories of ASP - How do you remember ASP life - as a school, the teachers and community?**

The entire community at ASP was simply amazing – especially the teachers. It provided me with a wonderful foundation and the school drew out the strengths of each student. After an accident in the 8th grade, I lost my right hand. The outpouring of love, support and encouragement from faculty, students and staff was in the hundreds. I felt scarred after the accident and the entire community rallied around me and before long I had assimilated again back into school life. My years at ASP were some of the best years of my life!

## **3 What led to your work with the Vietnam Children's Fund (VCF) and what is your role?**

After ASP, I did so many things! I went to college, apprenticed as a machinist, launched an import/export company with a fellow classmate, learned hang gliding and sailing, started an Ultralight flying school in Holland, built a 54 bed Floatel in Amsterdam and traveled around the world for a year (to date I've gone around the world 11 times and visited 65 countries). I began a French antiques business in LA, renovated a houseboat in Paris and started a construction/maintenance business with a fellow ASP

alumnus. All of this eventually led to the launch of a construction/renovation business in Hanoi that renovated 52 French colonial villas. It was here that I began volunteering as country director of the Vietnam Children's Fund in Vietnam (VCF).

I continued to manage my own construction business, and my involvement with VCF began to grow to the point where my volunteer work was becoming a full-time job. There was no way I could do two full-time jobs so I was faced with the decision to follow one or the other. This was one of the most difficult decisions of my life as I had to choose between a great income or a great opportunity to help those who really needed it. I chose the latter and have never regretted it!

Currently, I oversee all in-country operations, including working with local and central government officials, choosing locations, negotiating contracts, disbursing funds, sourcing material and logistics, conducting construction inspections, and insuring quality control. I even arrange travel agent for our



donors and act as the opening ceremony organizer.

#### **4** What is the overall mission of the Vietnam Children's Fund?

The purpose of the Vietnam Children's Fund is to remember the families and children lost in Vietnam's many long wars. The goal of the Fund is to close the past and look to the future by building schools that forever change communities.

A typical VCF signature school is a two story, eight classroom building that comes complete with fans, lights, writing boards, desks, chairs, and bathrooms that are ready for immediate use. The VCF school costs about \$175,000 (125,000€) depending on the location and takes about 6 months to build. Imagine what a great value that is. It's less than the



cost to build one classroom in France.

#### **5** Can you tell us more about Lew Puller, the inspiration for the schools?

The Vietnam Children's Fund was the dream of Lewis B. Puller, Jr. who lost both legs and most of both hands to a land mine during the Vietnam War. Lew was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star while serving as a Marine Lieutenant. His personal experience, expressed in his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Fortunate Son*, led him to believe that in war no one goes unscathed, and that the children, the most vulnerable of all, suffer the greatest hardships.

In the year before his death, Lew Puller returned



to Vietnam seeking ideas for the living memorial he and several friends had decided to build to honor the Vietnamese men, women, and children who died in that country's long wars. He learned that the combination of poverty, a high birth rate, and the destruction of schools during the Vietnamese – American war were contributing to a dramatic decline in Vietnamese literacy and education achievement.

He decided that the most appropriate monument to the past and the greatest hope for the future would be schools for Vietnam's children.

Lew Puller died just before breaking ground on the first school, which was built in Quang Tri Province on the old demilitarized zone. This school was dedicated in his name on the 20th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

Since Lew's death, his friends have remained determined to realize his dream through their support of the Vietnam Children's Fund and its mission of building a network of elementary schools throughout the country with donations from all over the world.

#### **6** How many schools have you built and what are your short-term and long-term goals with the organization?

VCF has built 44 schools in 38 provinces and will build three schools this year. These schools provide education to over 23,000 students every year. My short-term goal is to increase funding so that we can build at least 10 to 15 schools a year. My long-term goal is to get an endowment that would allow VCF to build schools indefinitely.

Educating Vietnam's children is a critical priority in helping them become partners in the global economy. Over the past quarter century, Vietnam has been working to rebuild its educational system with the assistance of many concerned world citizens. But the numbers are overwhelming; by 2015, Vietnam must build 20,000 new schools to meet the



## 8 What are some of your proudest achievements and what advice do you have for future ASP graduates?

My mother's father opened my eyes to the philanthropic world by instilling in me the value of Ghandi's words that "we must be the change we wish to see in the world". I am most proud of having been a part of keeping VCF going over the last 16 years. I am fortunate to have discovered that doing this work is my dream and I would tell my future fellow alumni to follow their dreams also. It is not profound but it has changed my life!

**"When a school is built in a rural village** *there are no shops, no paved roads, no post office and in some cases no electricity, telephones, TV or fridges. Within five to ten years the village has all the above and it has grown substantially. The school becomes a focal point for the whole district and a symbol of pride for the commune. For me to witness these changes and how they have had such a positive impact on these people's lives gives my life a real value far beyond what money could ever provide."*

educational needs of its children.

Overall, VCF plans to build an elementary school in each of Vietnam's 63 provinces and create enough classroom space to teach 58,000 children each year!

## 7 What is the most rewarding aspect of working with children in Vietnam?

Watching the students teach their parents how to read. Our schools give them an opportunity to be something else besides a farmer – we give them the tools to make their dreams come true! Once these communities get a primary education they begin to improve their livelihoods exponentially. Within a few short years, the ripple effect from having a modern school in the community is unbelievable. Shops, clinics and paved roads get built, income increases, healthcare is improved, and the infant mortality rate declines.

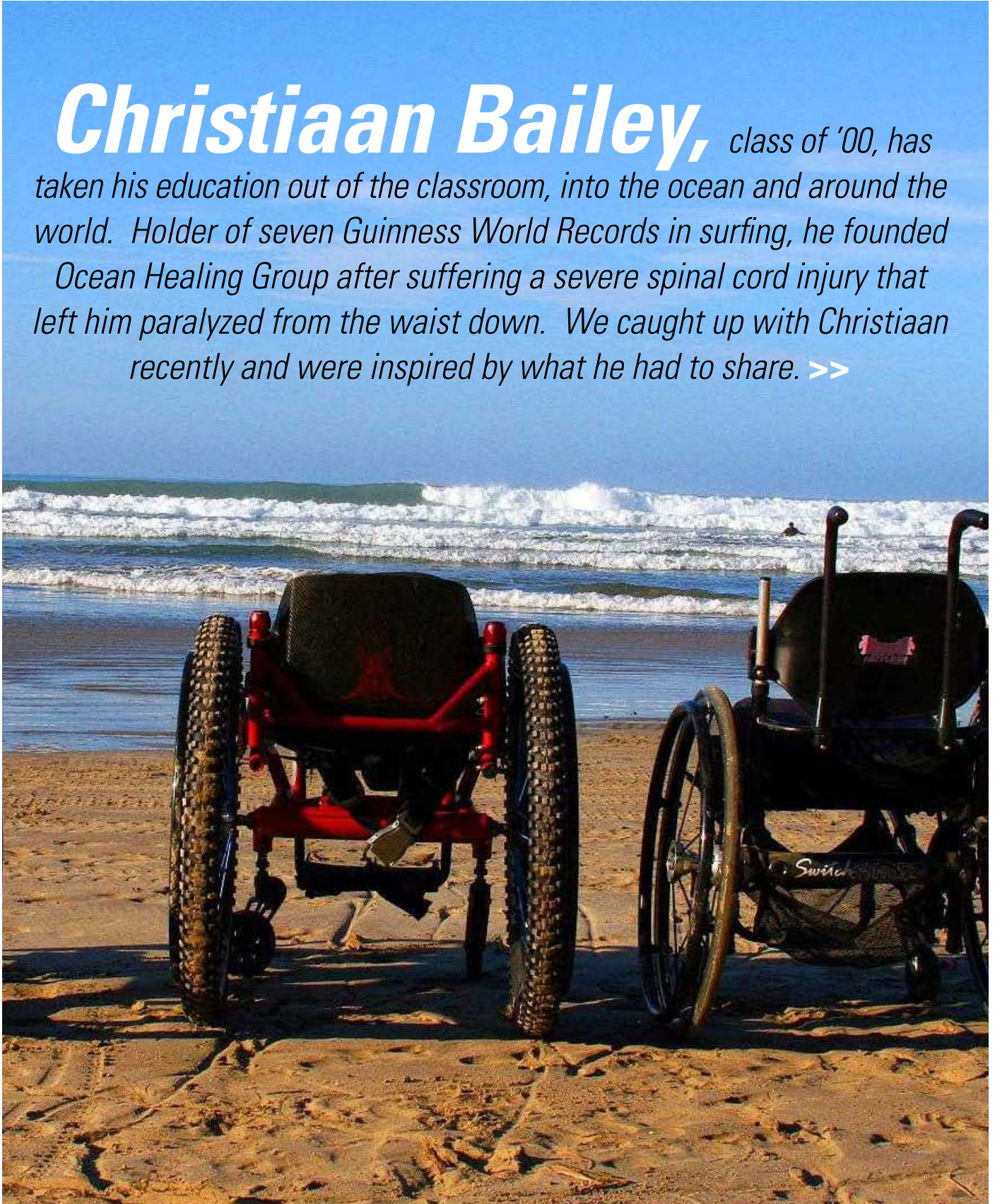


*If you would like to learn more about the **Vietnam Children's Fund**, please visit [www.vietnamchildren.org](http://www.vietnamchildren.org). If you would like to reach out to Sam directly, you can email him at [samoi.russell@gmail.com](mailto:samoi.russell@gmail.com).*

# The ASP Experience Beyond Graduation:

**TWO** ASP ALUMNI MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
CONT.

***Christiaan Bailey,*** class of '00, has taken his education out of the classroom, into the ocean and around the world. Holder of seven Guinness World Records in surfing, he founded Ocean Healing Group after suffering a severe spinal cord injury that left him paralyzed from the waist down. We caught up with Christiaan recently and were inspired by what he had to share. >>





## 1 Where are you originally from and what grades did you attend ASP?

I'm originally from Santa Cruz, California. I grew up surfing, scuba diving, skateboarding and BMX/mountain bike racing, etc. My family and I moved to France in the summer of 1994. We lived in Nice for the season during "le grand vacance" and after our tour around southern Europe, we returned to the US to pack our house and make the journey to Paris to live indefinitely. I attended ASP from grades 9 through 11 (1995-98).

## 2 How might you characterize yourself as a student?

Haha! Less than ideal might be a fairly accurate description. It certainly wasn't anything against ASP. They certainly tried to accommodate my eccentricities, I just found my primary aim was to spend more time outside the classroom than inside. I felt that here we all were, in the veritable center of history, art and culture and I wanted to experience it all as much as possible, instead of being key-holed into a classroom. The teachers I remember the most are Mr. Von Ashburg, Mr. Miltinburger, Mr. Hubbard, Mrs. Delacroix and Mr. Chater. I learned a lot over

my tenure at ASP, however if there is one thing I will definitely not be thinking 50 years from now, it's that "I wish I had taken full advantage of my time living in Paris!"

## 3 What did you go on to do after graduating from ASP?

After ASP, I returned to the states and consequently experienced a phase of reverse culture shock. I couldn't handle living in the US – I felt that Americans by nature have a general ambivalence to the arts and culture which I found personally unbearable. So, after coming back to the states, I signed with my old sponsors, acquired some new ones and quickly set in motion my life as a professional surfer and skateboarder. Over the course of the next 8 years, I would spend most of my time traveling the world - western Africa being one of my favorite haunts – and I would guide many factory surf teams on surf safaris down the coast. Over that time, I made many friends and industry contacts, all the while getting paid very well to do what I loved! Life was going fantastically for me, little did I know at the time how quickly things could change.

*"Just imagine, if you will, taking several disabled kids to a foreign country to take part in several very dangerous sports. Now try to envision organizing the volunteer support, equipment, flights and ground transportation, food, accommodation and prescriptions, and most importantly of all, a medical evacuation plan if someone (volunteer or camper) gets seriously hurt and needs to be air lifted by helicopter to hospital (150km away)! To put it plainly, it takes a significant amount of patience, the ability to think on your feet (no pun intended) and the ability to be able to multitask 20 things at once. But when all is said and done, what makes it all worthwhile, is when you see a camper's electric smile as they catch their first wave, tear down some personal barrier or achieve a goal they had set for themselves!*



**4 You suffered a severe accident in 2006. Would you be willing to share this story?**

On July 23, 2006, I returned home to Santa Cruz from a surf trip in Morocco. Despite being exhausted, I agreed to shoot some footage for a skate video. As a final hurrah, I was aiming to land a “boneless 360 finger flip”. It was a trick that I had down to a science and could land off a large gap on command, so I figured why not!?! So there I went, charging ahead at full speed (about 30mph) until I went to launch. My left knee proceeded to dislocate upon takeoff. This sent me careening backwards at full speed at about 10ft up and when I came down and in contact with the concrete, I compression fractured several vertebrae in my back. I was eventually flown to Stanford Medical Center where I was diagnosed with a severe spinal cord injury and paralyzed from the waist down. That moment is where my old life ended and where my new one would begin.

**5 After your accident, did you have a feeling that you would continue to do the sports you loved? What were some of your concerns?**

There is always an inherent level of depression following such a massive and fundamentally life changing injury. From my own accounts and the accounts of those I have helped mentor, it all really depends on how long it takes the person to move on. For a very few (myself included), they get over the initial shock very quickly (about 3-5 months). This isn't to say that I didn't have bad days or depressed days – they come to us all – I just got over the shock of the injury much faster than most. I credit that to my focus on short term goals, none of which included walking again. The way I saw it, the faster I left the notion of ever walking again, the

faster I could learn to adapt, overcome and achieve the goals I had set out for myself! I spent the better part of two months in the hospital developing ideas, technologies, calling sponsors and talking to R&D departments. I did anything and everything necessary to both keep my mind off the injury and get the ball rolling so that by the time I did get out of the hospital I would be ready to move at full speed to get back into what I loved doing!

**6 How soon after your accident did you begin surfing again?**

Two days after I got out of the rehab hospital, at home in Pleasure Point, my friends took me out. It will always remain one of the best moments of my life.

**7 Can you tell us more about what led you to establish your non-profit organization, Ocean Healing Group, and your involvement in other non-profit organizations following your accident?**

For the last five years, I have been a Ambassador for the Life Rolls On Foundation, a non-profit organization that puts on adaptive surfing, skiing and chair skating programs in the United States for people with spinal cord injuries. I'm also a coach every year at a camp called Ability First which is a week long live-in wheelchair sports camp. I was approached by both foundations shortly after I began my comeback in surfing and chair skating. Being that they were both disability based and doing some great things, I thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to help some other kids in chairs. Maybe I could be of use in helping them achieve some of their own goals in life? This appealed greatly to me - it's always been an awesome time and despite how busy my travel schedule is, I always make it a point to take the time off tour to volunteer and be of service for them whenever they call.

My reasons for wanting to create my own foundation stemmed from a consummate desire to take things to the next level and give more to the kids with whom I work. There wasn't a Foundation in the world that had attempted to do what we had in mind. Thus began our great endeavor!

The Ocean Healing Group is a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing once in a lifetime, adap-

tive sports adventure to wheelchair bound youngsters and their parents. It's our collective mission to expose kids to a wide variety of sports and activities, things they would never have the opportunity to experience otherwise - including but not limited to surfing, snorkeling, zip-line tours, fishing, quad riding, nature tours, and horseback riding. We want to help these kids carve the "dis" out of their disability.

As far as the underlying personal reasons behind the decision, that goes back to my time in the hospital. When I first got hurt in 2006 and was subsequently "reborn", as I like to think of it, some of my most fundamental forms of not just physical, but also mental and spiritual rehabilitation were found in the water while surfing and at the park while skateboarding (albeit in my wheelchair now). An incessant passion for travel was also key. I've always known and felt the intense healing power of the ocean. These feelings were all the more intensified when I was traveling in a beautiful, far away country. There are so many memories that come to mind and there is an upwelling of emotion that comes with them as I recollect back on what we've done since creating OHG in 2007. Of all these feelings, emotions and memories, however, the one word that never ceases to come to mind time and time again is blessed! I fell blessed to have the opportunity to do what I do, blessed to have had met the people I have in my life now, and perhaps most importantly of all, blessed to be able to share our passion for what we do and give back to the disabled youngsters we work with.

## **8** What sort of changes do you see in the children and their families who take part in these programs? What is the long-term impact?

I would say that this is a question like that can only really be answered by the introspective reflection of each youngster who comes down. Everyone brings away their own very special memories from an OHG trip, but the empowerment that comes with those memories and what they choose to do with that, is entirely up to each youngster!

## **9** What are some of your proudest achievements – as both a professional athlete and as a role model for other disabled children and adults?

I really try not to look back too often. I much

prefer to try and focus on new goals and aspirations versus lingering on the past. That being said, the goals I have achieved define who I am. So, here's a short run through of the greatest hits. I was the first paraplegic to surf Mavericks, the first "disabled" national surfing champion (WSA 2009), my friend Aaron and I were the first "chair skaters" ever invited to perform in the Olympics (Vancouver 2010) and I am the only disabled professional surfer on world tour (WQS/WCT). I also hold 7 Guinness world records in surfing. I'm not a big on talking about myself and certainly don't want to come across as self aggrandizing. Suffice to say, I've always followed my dreams and it has always paid off well for me!

Ocean Healing Group is the culmination of many years of hard work and is one of the most personally fulfilling things I've ever done. As far as my feelings of being a role model for kids in chairs, I'm not really sure. I don't actively seek to be one by any means, I just do what I love and always try to focus on the positives in life. If by-proxy, kids in wheelchairs are able to draw strength, inspiration or empowerment from that, then I'm more than stoked to hear it!!! "Le vrai philosophe n'attend rien des hommes, et il leur fait tout le bien dont il est capable!" –Voltaire



*If you would like to learn more about Christiaan's Foundation, Ocean Healing Group, please visit [www.oceanhealinggroup.org](http://www.oceanhealinggroup.org). If you would like to reach out to Christiaan directly, he can be reached via Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/christiaan.bailey>*

# Our Thinking for a New Time

## A GREETING FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



All of us must be concerned. ASP's challenge is to ensure the gap is closing between the 21st century world and education at ASP.

We are taking the crucial step of looking forward and of doing all possible not to be restricted by "what we know" and "what we are currently able to do." We're planning the school of the future because hitting the replay button for curriculum and teaching is not going to work in preparing the next generation of ASP graduates.

We value your input as alumni. We would like to invite you, along with teachers, students, staff, board members and administrators to join our active research and development and implementation of innovative ideas.

With a DRAFT future-driven mission statement, objectives for defining our highest priorities as we seek to transform our school and strategies that define the "how", we are now poised to write very specific action steps. The mission, objectives and strategies define the terrain – the action plans for each strategy provide the roadmap. Know that here at your alma mater, we are hard at work.

So far we've had over 250 teachers, staff, students, board members and parents involved with setting our school's future blueprint. We would love your feedback on our mission statement as well as any thoughts you have on your school experience and how we could improve on that for current students. Please e-mail [alumni@asparis.fr](mailto:alumni@asparis.fr) if you have ideas to share. Our goal is to firmly establish our long-term plan and to have it approved by our Board of Trustees in June 2011. Then we get going!

We're on our way to engaging in the essential work of closing the gap between the traditions of schooling and the information age where your future fellow alumni already claim citizenship.

Let's work on this together.

All Good Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark E. Ulfers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark E. Ulfers  
Head of School

**The American School of Paris** *is a highly diverse, vibrant and family oriented community. Our mission is to inspire every student to achieve personal and academic excellence as engaged, global citizens, by ensuring a challenging, student-centered program with a compassionate and cutting-edge environment.*

# Joy, Luck, and a Love for Writing: AMY TAN VISITS ASP

*Amy Tan is a writer driven by questions—her own questions and universal questions— as she explained to our students in an extraordinary visit this month to ASP. During a morning assembly address, Ms. Tan took our entire Upper School on an intensely personal voyage through the writing of her six published novels and the unfolding layers of discovery, especially of her own relationship with her mother, which resulted. >>*

**H**er frank and immensely articulate discourse captivated the audience as she encouraged everyone to consider themselves as writers and to develop a discipline of writing every day, sharing some detailed inner glimpses of her own writing habits. As she said: “There are moments of my life in these books which no one will understand except for me. For example, I had a friend and her parrot stay with me for a month and I loved that parrot. I loved it so much that I wrote a parrot into the story I was writing at the time, which has no significance for anyone except me.”



Ms. Tan also shared her experience of grief as she lost her ability to write after contracting Lyme’s Disease and her long road to recovery. She said: “When they finally got the medication right and I started to write again, I would write 20 pages a day I was so scared that I was going to lose it again.”

Being a member of a rock band, sharing moments of her experience as a Chinese student in a Swiss school in the late 60s and sharing stories about the often tumultuous relationship she had with her mother during her formative teen years made her discussion with ASP students all the more poignant.

Following the assembly she took a Q&A session with a small group of students who enthusiastically fired their questions about her Chinese and American roots from the view of a third-culture generation,







her experience writing both a screen play of *The Joy Luck Club* and the libretto of an operetta, and when asked if she felt regret that so much of her writing had been inspired by the saddest moments of her life, she paused. When she continued, she said: "It doesn't happen very often these days, but I've never been asked that question..." before honestly sharing with the group how writing had been a way of making sense of her grief. Ms. Tan was also interviewed by members of the INK team, the Upper School's Literary Magazine, which you will be able to read in INK's next edition.

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*“There are moments of my life in these books which no one will understand except for me.”*

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In the evening Ms. Tan once again delighted her audience at a special event at the Official Residence of the US Ambassador to France and ASP parent, Charles Rivkin and his wife, Mrs. Susan Tolson. Ms. Tan charmed her audience with true stories of growing up (“the unexpurgated version,” she said), her mother’s quest to find a home for the family in

Europe, falling in love for the first time with a trouble-making older man, and telling what it was like being Chinese and living in Switzerland in a private school after having been used to an inter-city school in San Francisco. She brought the experience alive as she vividly described using all of her savings to buy a rabbit coat (to be like all of her fur-clad teen-aged Swiss classmates) just to “fit in.”

She took all 160 guests away to another world – just like we are when reading one of her books. Ms. Tan joked that she performed horribly on her SAT, having earned only a 400 in English. She is living proof that following a passion, not grades or test scores, is the key to success.

“Here I am to prove it,” she says. Ms. Tan stayed behind (with dog Bombo at her side) to sign books for the audience. She concluded her message to ASP by writing on each book: Joy, Luck, Amy Tan.



# A Magical Evening to Benefit ASP!

## THE BOLLYWOOD GALA





**O**n Saturday, March 19th, 290 members of the ASP community came together at the Bollywood Gala to celebrate the unique character of ASP and to support The Excellence Fund. Prior to the Gala, ASP's successful three-week on-line silent auction generated more than 1000 bids, thanks to donations from parents, faculty and staff, businesses throughout Paris, and friends of the school. And this only warmed up the bidding for the silent and live auctions during the Gala...

Strong school spirit and love for ASP generated more than 125,000 Euros that will directly benefit students! ASP parents led the way by bidding in support of excellence, and set the stage for a springtime of fundraising that will, we hope, bring us closer to our goal of 100% parent participation in The Excellence Fund. The Gala guests, made up of ASP parents, alumni, faculty, administration, trustees, and friends enjoyed an evening full of fun, glamour and glitz – a little bit of Bollywood in Paris! ASP parents United States Ambassador Charles Rivkin and his wife, Susan Tolson served as honorary co-chairs and welcomed distinguished guests Indian Ambassador Ranjan Mathai and his wife, Jita who supported ASP's effort at the gala to celebrate Indian culture at the American School of Paris. The prestigious salon of Le Pré Catalan could easily have been mistaken for New Delhi or Mumbai. The cocktail room was a veritable explosion of color, from the sari-draped arch that framed the entrance-

way, to the life-sized (stuffed) Bengal tigers that perched regally above the proceedings.

The evening began with a champagne reception sponsored by Moët et Chandon. Sari-clad women and tuxedoed men mingled with friends and enjoyed Indian delicacies in a convivial atmosphere alive with traditional Indian music. During the reception, guests bid on Silent Auction items ranging from works of art from ASP Middle and Lower School students to a stunning suede coat by designer Joseph Altuzarra, a supporter of ASP and son of former trustee, Karen Altuzarra. A troupe of lively, authentic Indian dancers kicked off the second half of the evening. Guests dined on fine cuisine, and amidst cheers, laughter and more than a few happy tears, viewed the world premiere of ASP's Jai-Ho Video which showcased the dance moves of the entire ASP community.





The exhilarating Live Auction was packed with fabulous items including a trip to Chablis with faculty member Hal Judis, and tennis lessons with famed pro, Mats Wilander. One of the highlights of the auction was the frantic bidding on the Dueling Chefs Dinner. This cook-off between Head of School Mark Ulfers and Director of Advancement Michael McNeill was so hotly contested that the Top Chef Wannabees generously offered to do the event twice, doubling the donation to ASP!

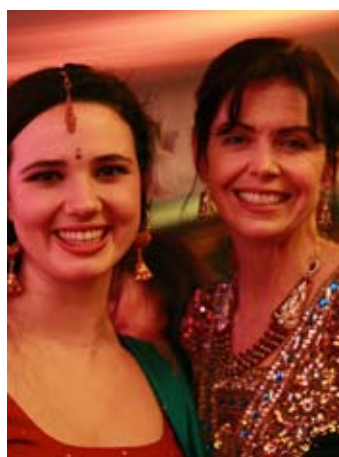
Mark Ulfers summed up the spirit of the evening in his speech highlighting ASP's legacy of providing our students with "uncommon opportunities" and raising global citizens. The Gala was an enormous success and was the culmination of a year-long effort on the part of the Bollywood Committee and ASP's Advancement Office.



The Bollywood Gala was made possible by the support of the Gala Sponsors: Moet et Chandon, VFS Global, Ralph Lauren, BMW/Neubauer, A Good Start in France, Web Pizza, The Keane and Ben Ammar Families and The ASP Bollywood Co-Chairs.



Special thanks go to Patron Tickets holders and the donors to the Live, Silent and Online Auctions. It was a spectacular event, pulsating with the vibrant colors and sounds of India; an evening to be remembered, full of the glamour and energy of Bollywood...with an ASP twist.



# Class Notes

## 50'S

**John Madden '52.** Any other geezers from the early 50's left out there? Drop me a line, please. 970 Shannon Rd, Girard, OH 44420. Thanks!

**Edward 'Ned' Crouch '59.** I attended in the early '50's. Any old friends? Please contact me! nedcrouch@aol.com.

**Ned Martin '59.** I have assembled some old pictures of ACS. Please go to my website and click on photo galleries, then private galleries - there you will pick ACS Group. The password is Dutch. There you can see a collection of pictures from then and now and a few pictures from a gathering of about 15 of us last September at Linda Montgomery Palmer's home.

## 60'S

**Dan Strum '63.** My 3 brothers and I attended ASP. I remember going to the prom on the Eiffel Tower in Vikkie Graham's limo. I married a French girl, Liliane, and we now have five grandsons. I would like to reconnect with Sandie McCaughan Hubbard or Vikkie.

**Jo Cook Schorp '68.** Here we are in another school year. My sister, Julie Cook Niederer '70, has a son, John Russell Niederer, who is a 9th grader in Dallas, Texas. She teaches at his school. My brother, John Paul Cook, who also attended ASP, has two sons, Jacob Cook, who is a freshman at University of Houston and lives on campus. His other son, James Cook, is a student at Episcopal High School in Houston, Texas. My son, William

J. Schorp, is 27 and is a financial advisor with Kidwell in Houston, Texas. He is a graduate of University of Houston and University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas.

## 70'S

**Helga Stoess Warren '74** retired from teaching German after 12 years and is looking for new career opportunities. Husband Harry continues to work in the utility field. Her son, Cliff, graduates from Rhode Island School of Design this year and her daughter, Macy is a freshman at Colgate University.

**Diane Riggi '76** Assistant to the Principal of Walter Panas High School

**Bernie Charland '77** celebrated his 51st birthday by running the notorious 50K Trail Run in Bandera, Texas. He is currently a Principal at Thinktwice Communications.



**Julie Korp '79** is an Expressive Art Therapist

## 80'S

**Shahzad Ali '87** would love to reconnect with old classmates. ASP was one of the most memorable times for me.

## 90'S

**Bridget (Lewin) Clark '92** is an aquatic biologist and water quality management graduate student at Texas State University. She also enjoys being a full-time mother.

**Alexandra "Lexi" Conrad '97** is

currently back in Paris, France after three years in Penedo Brazil. She is the proud mother of two boys and recently started her own business called As Vintage. She specializes in unique personal pillows made from vintage hand-embroidered French Linens

**Kristen Hurley Frite '98** completed her orthodontic residency at the University of North Carolina. She opened her practice in Holly Springs, North Carolina.

**Nicole Roberts Hoiland '98** Visiting Professor of Art at Gustavus Adolphus College

## 00'S

**Kaitlin Hurley '01** graduated from the Medical College of Virginia with the degree "Doctor of Nursing in Anesthesia". She will work at Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York City.

**Max Haberich '02** Higher Ed PhD student at University of Cambridge

**Sarah Hossain '03** will marry Matt Lichtenauer on April 9th 2011

**Dounia Fayad '03** will marry **Iacopo M. Bertuccelli '04** on 30th July 2011

**Alison Agudo '03** will be getting married on October 8th, 2011 to fiancé, Philippe Cavatore

**Angelica Kang '03** served in the United States Peace Corps as an Agroforestry Extension Agent from September 2007 to October 2009 in Senegal, West Africa. She will be married June 18, 2011 in Princeton, New Jersey.

**Aditya Jaiswal '03** is an engineering student at the Delhi College of Engineering

# In Memory

## *Burton Allen MacLean,*

ASP Headmaster from '70-'76



I'm writing to inform the ASP community that my father, Burton MacLean, Headmaster of ASP from 1970 through 1976, peacefully passed away January 12 here in his own home in Pomfret, Connecticut, where he retired after resigning his last post as Headmaster of Pomfret School in 1979.

He and his wife, Catharine,

enjoyed their fruitful years at ASP immensely, this I know from being with them. Bob MacLean '74

Burton MacLean graduated from The Taft School in 1934, and Yale College in 1938 with a BA in English, where he was a member and President of the Glee Club, "popo" of the Whiffenpoofs, member of the varsity crew, Scroll and Key Society, the Class Council, and Board Of Deacons of Christ Church. In 1942 he graduated from Yale Divinity School. Mr. MacLean was married to the former Catharine Alice Corson of Lockport, NY for 68 years; she predeceased him in 2007.

Following Yale Divinity School, MacLean served as an Industrial Missionary with the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in Detroit, MI. From 1944 through 1946 he served as US Army Chaplain in the 3rd Battalion, 303 Infantry and 97th Division in the European and Pacific theatres of World War II; and remained a Captain in the Reserves until 1949. In 1946 he was appointed Assistant Dean of the Chapel at Princeton University; and in 1949 he returned to Yale as Associate Chaplain and Director of Undergraduate Religious Affairs. In 1959 he was appointed Headmaster of Iolani School, in Honolulu, HI; in 1970 named Headmaster of the American School of Paris, FR; and in 1977 Headmaster of the Pomfret School from which he retired in 1979.

There was a funeral service for Reverend MacLean Saturday, January 22nd at Christ Episcopal Church in Pomfret, Connecticut. There will also be a memorial service for Reverend MacLean August 13, 2011 at "the River" in Clayton, New York. In lieu of flowers, remembrances in Rev. MacLean's may sent to Christ Episcopal Church in Pomfret, or Yale University, Class of 1938.

## *Kathryn Kaestle,*

class of '85 passed away in July 2010

## *Douglas Windsor Lewis,*

class of '55

## *Joseph F. Sweeney,*

Former ASP faculty, passed away on September 26, 2010.

## Paul Coste,

ASP Headmaster '68-'70



Paul Coste of Paris, France and formerly of Jamestown, passed away peacefully Aug. 11, 2010 in Lexington, Mass. after a courageous battle with lymphoma. He was the husband of Edna d'Anjou. He was the eldest son of the late Paul and Dorothy Coste, longtime residents of Jamestown.

Born in Dallas, Texas on Feb. 16, 1923, he spent his early years in Jamestown, where he learned to play golf—a lifelong passion.

He had a distinguished career in education after graduating from Kent School and Harvard University in 1947. He taught at both Kent School and Groton School before

moving to study at St. Andrew's in Scotland. He was headmaster of the American School in Paris from 1968 to 1970 and also an educational consultant for UNESCO.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Dr. Gerard Coste and his wife Diane of Lexington, Mass., and Paul Matthieu Coste and his wife Jenni of New Haven, Conn. He was predeceased by his son Jean Roland Coste. He leaves eight grandchildren and a sister, Betsy C. Outerbridge of Jamestown. He was predeceased by two brothers Pierre and Nicholas Coste.

## Irv Levin,

Former Upper School Counselor



Irv was an icon at the American School of Paris, a friend, colleague, confidant, in-house comedian and scholar. He was beloved and respected by students, faculty, staff and parents and was fondly referred to as Uncle Irv rather than just Mr. Levin.

He had the gift of always looking on the bright side of life, was eternally optimistic, helping to nurture that quality in others.

Irv was impressive in his knowledge, a real scholar but never pedantic or presumptuous. He wowed us with his expertise on history, art, opera, film and more. He led yearly, wildly popular educational trips to Russia for parents and students at a time when Russia was part of the Soviet Union. Irv was a fabulous dinner guest, able to converse on any topic and delighted in doing so. His

hearty appetite and love of good food and wine also made him a welcome addition to any dinner party.

Irv adored assisting others and took advantage of opportunities to do so. His sense of humor is something everyone who knew him at ASP vividly remembers. He could always pull a joke out of his sleeve. Humor was always on the tip of his tongue. He contrived humorous situations such as his traditional role as Santa Claus when Irv would come bounding into the auditorium, give the traditional Christmas welcome, then bound out, raising his red and white hat to all to reveal a yarmulke underneath!

Irv was a remarkable counselor who valued students and they knew it. He was a mentor to young teachers. He was an inspiring teacher. He was a great man. His legacy lives on at ASP.

# Reunion News

## 10TH ALCAZAR REUNION

*ASP has a lot to be proud of with such a vibrant, dynamic and fun group of alumni! 120 alumni, faculty, parents and staff were a true delight as we celebrated the 10th Alcazar Reunion in Paris this past January. For those of you who were unable to attend, here are some favorite memories from alumni in attendance, collected during our champagne raffle. >>*



*“Michael Pollicot was Dean of Students. While practicing our graduation march, I noticed that Michael had left the keys to his Triumph Spitfire convertible in the ignition. I hopped in (with two friends) and drove two laps around the track. I parked the car and was promptly arrested.”*  
- Matthew du Aime '73

*“I remember our senior prank when we set chickens loose in the school, numbered 1-7. Mr. Green spent all day looking for number 5, but there never was a number 5!”* -Alessandra Plump '07

*“I remember being new to Paris and not knowing there was an underground passage under the Charles de Gaulle Etoile roundabout. I would run across the road each night with all the traffic! My new friends were surprised I made it to the other side unharmed before I knew about the passage.”* - Roger van Geel '09

*“In the early '70's there was no traffic light in front of the School. At the time, my father held a high-level government post in France. One of my teachers asked my father to do something about the light. Two weeks later we could cross the street safely.”* - Mark Jobert '74

*“My husband Dick and I attended the 2009 Summer Cocktail - straight off the boat - expecting to see no-one we knew. Low and behold, Carole and Jim Bullock - friends and colleagues from '80-'84 see us! Their daughter, Cybil and our son Ben were going to be classmates at ASP!”* - Joan Jones, mother of '09 and '10 alumni.



# Reunion Events

## SUMMER/FALL 2012 - PHILADELPHIA REUNION FOR 1971 - 1975



Are you interested in attending a reunion of “The Greatest Basketball Team Ever,” more commonly known as the 1972 ASP European Champions? Chuck Cosgrove, class of '72, is in the process of organizing a reunion for the classes of '71-'75 which will take place in Philadelphia during the late summer/early fall of 2012.

Events currently being discussed for the weekend include sightseeing (Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross House), touring of Walnut and Chestnut Streets, golf, a mandatory class basketball match and evening drinks/dinner.

*Clearly an event you will not want to miss! Please visit our Reunion News page for further details or email Chuck directly at [cvcosgrove@msn.com](mailto:cvcosgrove@msn.com).*

## CALLING ASP'S CLASS OF 1961!



This June will be the 50th anniversary since ASP graduated the class of 1961! If you have stayed in contact with one another, we thought you may enjoy visiting ASP as a group.

Last year, the class of 1960 travelled together to Paris and joined the class of 2010 for their graduation ceremony and received honorary diplomas. Amongst themselves, they also organized additional reunion activities throughout the weekend.

If you would like to do the same, please email me so I can send you a digital list of the entire class and you can begin to promote it amongst your fellow alumni. 50 years is a milestone occasion and what better opportunity is there to celebrate than a reunion in Paris with your classmates!

*For further details, please email [alumni@asparis.fr](mailto:alumni@asparis.fr).*

## 2011 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS REUNION



We hope you will join us in London for the 2011 International Schools Reunion! This is the fifth year that the American School of Paris will be taking part in this unique event and we are aiming to have the largest alumni turnout among all the schools participating. Please join us!

The reunion will be held at The Hoxton Grill Lounge in the Shoreditch area of London on Saturday, 7 May 2011 from 7 - 10 pm. Guests will enjoy complimentary drinks and appetizers while having the opportunity to network with fellow ASP and international school alumni, families, and faculty.

Joining ASP this year are five other international schools, including: Copenhagen International School, The American School in Switzerland, Lugano, International School of Lausanne, International School of Zug and Luzern and the Zurich International School.

RSVP at <http://www.zis.ch/page.cfm?p=1637>

*For further information, please feel free to contact Michael McNeill at [mmcneill@asparis.fr](mailto:mmcneill@asparis.fr).*