



# ERSKINE

## Connector

Fall 2013–14

*Greetings from the top of the stairs...*

*by Michael J. McQuarrie, Headmaster*

## Mission Possible

As I write, I am reading that several area high schools are contemplating ending their accreditation through New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), a nationally recognized and reputable organization that conducts a comprehensive review of schools every ten years. In opting out of voluntary participation with NEASC, these schools cite the prohibitive costs associated with accreditation, and some are questioning the value added, if any, in being accredited by the NEASC.

Since the time of its initial accreditation in 1985, Erskine has maintained its accredited status with NEASC. This year we begin the cycle anew with an 18-month intensive study of our major programs and operations. We commit to this process not only to earn quality assurance from a highly respected organization but more important, to improve our school and the student experience. Moreover, it is through NEASC that Erskine is state-approved for tuition purposes and is qualified for membership in the Maine Association of Independent Schools. Therefore, for us accreditation adds significant value and is an investment of time and expense that we cannot afford not to make.

Our self-study actually began last year with the trustees' and professional staff's review of the school's mission. Subsequently, the mission statement was revised to more accurately reflect our current program while reaffirming the school's long-held traditional values. It now reads:



**Erskine Academy is an independent secondary school dedicated to providing all students a high quality education. Through an extensive academic program,**

**rich and meaningful experiences, and a caring school community, the Academy develops a firm foundation in scholarship, leadership, stewardship, and relationships.**

A recent survey of students, parents, and alumni (a component of the self-study) indicates that an overwhelming majority of each group either "strongly agreed" or "agreed" that this mission matches what is actually happening in the school, i.e., "the school is doing what it purports to do." This mission defines our work with current and future students—parents who entrust us with the education and wellbeing of their child can rightfully expect that we "walk the talk" of this statement. Every decision we make, problem we solve, program we create, and relationship we build is guided by this purpose for existing.

For all that is argued it is or is not, accreditation is indisputably about school improvement. For us this means taking a school that works very well for very many and making it even better.

This is a special time for Erskine Academy. With our purpose, core values, and goals renewed and

affirmed by our community we are validated, energized, and encouraged to strive each day to live our mission and be the school that our young people need now and later. What we learn about ourselves through the accreditation process will be leveraged with our faculty's talents and devotion, our fiscal resources, and gifts from our supportive public to fulfill a mission that is not only possible but one that we believe is vital. ~

## SAVE THE DATE!

**The ALL CLASSES REUNION 2014 will be held on SATURDAY, MAY 31.**

**All alumni are invited and those classes ending in 4s or 9s celebrate their milestone reunion years. An invitation and registration form will be mailed to you. We'll see you there!**

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# Alumni + Students = Momentum

**E**rskine's development and constituent relations program, formally established in 2006, contributes to the school's mission by creating opportunities for alumni, students, parents, employees, and friends to come together to ensure that Erskine's high quality educational program and the availability of rich and meaningful experiences continue well into the future.

Members of the Erskine community are connected by shared experiences and built relationships at Erskine. The development and constituent relations program seeks to nourish, maintain, and expand those good experiences and relationships. Several new initiatives have been established to reinforce these connections.

## Coffee Connection Fridays

Since September, the alumni office has been hosting coffee hours in the cafeteria every third Friday of the month to provide an opportunity for alumni to chat with each other and school staff. A student usually gives an update on what is happening in the coming month at the school. The Coffee Connections are open to all alumni. Future dates will be announced.

## Luncheon with Leadership Students

Last June, a large group of alumni from the Class of 1953 celebrated their 60th reunion at the annual All Classes Reunion. Members of this class were invited in October to a luncheon on campus with student council members and senior class officers. The luncheon provided an opportunity for the 1953 classmates to share their knowledge and memories of Erskine with the students who would be alumni next year, building on the reciprocal relationship between Erskine and its alumni. The stories told, both old and new, were enjoyed by both groups and gave alumni and students alike insight



The Class of 1953 at a luncheon with Student Council members and senior class officers



A Coffee Connection Friday in September

into the traditions that have molded Erskine, the exciting opportunities available for students today, and the promising years ahead.

## Young Alumni Panel

In October, a panel of seven alumni from classes within the last decade sat on a panel discussion to share their experiences with the senior class about their lives after Erskine.



Alumni Panel (left to right): Alina Wright '09; Nate McCray '06; Kate (Reynolds) Bengtson '09; Michelle James '09; Shawn Soucie '13; Todd Jones '12; Billy Peaslee '13.

The panel included **Kate (Reynolds) Bengtson '09**, who attended Yale and is now a full time mother; **Michelle James '09**, who received her nursing degree from Central Maine Medical Center's College of Nursing;

**Todd Jones '12**, who attends Central Maine Community College; **Nate McCray '06**, who is a recruiter in the Army National Guard; **Billy Peaslee '13**, who works full time at Hussey's General Store; **Shawn Soucie '10**, who is in UMaine's engineering program; and **Alina Wright '09**, who attended the military-oriented Norwich University as one of the few females where she studied war and peace.

Under the direction of alumni events coordinator Halda Stout, other opportunities for alumni and student interaction are being planned.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the All Classes Reunion, which will be held on May 31, 2014 in the

James V. Nelson Gymnasium. Classes ending in 4s and 9s are celebrating their milestone reunions this year. ☺

## State of the School by Headmaster McQuarrie

The thoughtful and careful leveraging of our resources and support for Erskine Academy made us a high performing school in 2012–13. The combined influence and efforts of our teachers, students, parents, and alumni have established for our school the sixth highest graduation rate (nearly 98% of our students graduate in four years) and one of the lowest dropout rates in the state. This achievement, along with our students' three-year average scores on state mathematics and reading tests, has earned our school the letter grade "B" in the first year of Maine's school performance grading system program, a grade not typical of most schools in our region.

A private school serving a public purpose, with 571 students in grades nine through twelve, Erskine is the second largest town academy in Maine and the only one to serve a completely voluntary student body exclusively on a school choice basis. As has been the case historically, 97% of our students come primarily from eight sending towns; a small number, which now includes 13 international students, attend on a private basis. Therefore, our students come from primarily humble, hard-working backgrounds and circumstances to experience a school program that blends traditional values with contemporary programs and modern methods to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in the region.

A sampling of the activities pursued by our students and staff this past year is testimony to the vibrancy of the Erskine Academy community:

- Thirteen courses taught here for college credit by a first-class teaching corps has resulted in nearly two-thirds of seniors earning credits for a considerable savings in college tuition.
- The addition of the "Jobs for Maine Graduates" program teaches essential work seeking, training, and employment skills.
- Eighty-seven percent of the Class of 2013 was accepted into some form of higher education, many to the most selective colleges in the nation.
- A competitive robotics class and club were added and funded primarily by grants and financial gifts from our friends and alumni.
- For a third time, we brought nearly 250 area sixth graders to our school for a program of early exposure to high school designed to build their confidence for doing high school work.
- Our students have done a great deal of good, contributing literally thousands of hours of community service and raising a similar amount in dollars to aid those in need from nearby and afar, as far as Costa Rica, in fact.
- A 5th Annual Walk to Cure Breast Cancer Walk, with nearly 100% of our student body participating, raised in excess of \$3,000 for the MaineGeneral Breast Care Center.

Placing equal value on scholarship, leadership, stewardship and relationships, we have articulated a vision of academic success for all students; created a climate that is safe, supportive, and hospitable to education; and cultivated responsible leadership and civic-mindedness in our young people.

We enthusiastically welcome and educate a substantial number of our region's high schoolers. The families and tuition-paying communities that have entrusted us to educate and care for their children these many years, energizes, encourages, and strengthens our resolve to provide the highest quality educational program possible and the conditions to inspire our students to their highest potential in school, at work, and within their communities. We are grateful for your confidence in and support for Erskine Academy.

**...sixth highest graduation rate (nearly 98% of our students graduate in four years) and one of the lowest dropout rates in the state.**

**...the only one to serve a completely voluntary student body exclusively on a school choice basis.**

**...our students come from primarily humble, hard-working backgrounds and circumstances... to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in the region.**



**We are grateful for your confidence in and support for Erskine Academy. We greatly appreciate your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, which are acknowledged in the *Report of Contributions* on pages 8–12.**

## School News

Erskine kicked off the new school year with the tradition of the “senior entrance” and 571 students entering its hallowed halls. Since then, the schedule has been packed with a multitude of school and community events.

### Trunk or Treat!

Several sports teams and student groups decided to do something on Halloween night for the children in local communities, which are quite rural with houses set far apart on



Cute cats at the “Trunk or Treat”

roads not well lit. The students, with the help of Halda and Doran Stout, came up with the idea of “Trunk or Treat.” They asked students and faculty who wished to participate to decorate the trunks of their cars, dress in costume, and hand out treats to the children. The event was a huge success, so much so that an emergency run had to be made for more candy! The students hope to make it an annual event.

### AFS Student Trip to Costa Rica

A group of 19 students traveled to Costa Rica in early November to build a home for a family in need under the supervision of faculty members Sonia Stevenson, Bill Childs, and Doran Stout and Darrin Wood P’10 ’12 in partnership with a Costa Rican organization. The Oak Grove School Foundation awarded the AFS program a grant to pay for the building of the home. The group built the house from the ground up from a simple cement slab. The recipient family is selected by their community’s pastor and



From above top: EA students bringing building supplies to the site; a student talking with a Costa Rican child; children enjoying the new home celebration; EA teacher and AFS faculty adviser Sonia Stevenson. Top right: A family is overwhelmed after receiving donated supplies.

elders. AFS advisor Sonia Stevenson said that the biggest challenge of the project is to meet the needs of the mission with so few resources. The AFS Club plans to raise fund for another such trip in two years.

The AFS Club wishes to thank everyone who helped make the



trip possible including Cives Steel Company, Coutts Brothers, and NRC Hardware Distribution, for their donations of tools and protective gear, and everyone who donated toys, gifts, and school supplies.

*We received a special note from Costa Rica trip chaperone Darrin Wood P’10 ’12:*

*“Just wanted to drop you all a quick note to let you know what a pleasure it was to build a house with your kids. They all worked hard and never complained. They had no problem doing whatever was asked of them whether it was carrying things, building, digging, painting, etc... They represented Erskine and Maine so well it makes me proud to be a part of this hard working group! Once again, thanks for letting me spend a week working with them as this was not a vacation!”*  
*Thanks, Darrin Wood,*  
*Production Manager, Cives Steel New England Division*

## There's Music in the Air...

The music program has long been an integral part of an Erskine education, a significant fact when many schools are apportioning their music curriculums on a part-time basis. Students are arriving in high school less trained, and Music Director Johnson must start some students "from scratch." In recent years, he has worked especially hard and creatively to ensure the music curriculum at Erskine continues to grow. A tangible improvement was the purchase of new choral risers, made possible through a grant from the Oak Grove School Foundation. Student fundraisers help defray the cost of traveling to regional competitions and instrument upkeep.

Efforts to ensure Erskine's music program continues to grow and improve include increased outreach in surrounding communities. Music students are participating in a variety of workshops and performances at area elementary, middle schools, and local venues. In November, music students brought an instrument tour to the Vassalboro Community School, a vocal tour to the China Middle School, and had a casual jazz gig at the Green Bean Coffee Shop in South China.

On November 21, three music students auditioned for the All-State Music Festival, an audition process that is one of the most competitive and challenging musical events that high school students experience. With that in mind, Mr. Johnson congratulates Erica Basham, Richard Preston, and Rebecca Reed for their acceptance; their hard work is admirable and appreciated.

In December, students in the choral, percussion, jazz, and orchestral groups performed at the annual Winter Concert for the public, and nearly 30 students in the Jazz Combo, Vocal Ensemble, and Percussion Explosion went on tour at the China Middle School.

It is exciting for younger students to experience and be inspired by music through these tours. The hope is that



The Erskine Orchestra in its early years.

they will be equally inspired to participate in Erskine's music curriculum in high school.

Erskine students also hone their musicianship through competition. In October, 12 music students from Erskine participated in the District III Honors Festival auditions at Medomak Valley High School, a competition open to instrumental and vocal students from the Eastern, Central, and Mid Coast regions of Maine. Congratulations to the following students who will be performing in the Festival: Rebecca Reed - Mixed Choir; Ian Goode, Jennifer Kochaver, and Madison Michaud - Band; Erica Basham - Timpani; and Richard Preston - Percussion Mallets. The selected students join forces to rehearse and perform at the Festival at the end of January 2014. The Festival will take place at Cony High School on January 24- 25, ending with a concert for the public that Saturday afternoon.

The latest great news from the Erskine music department is that Richard Preston, Rebecca Reed, and Jennifer Kochaver have been accepted to the Maine Music Outreach: Project Haiti 2014. These students have gone through an involved application process and are to be congratulated! Mr. Johnson and the students will participate in six intensive training sessions to prepare for their July departure. Maine Music Outreach (MMO) was founded in 2012 to empower Maine high school musicians to make a difference in the lives

of others. Using music as a universal language, MMO prepares and sends selected students to developing countries to work alongside other musicians, share their love of music, understand cultures different from their own, and learn how through service and outreach they can make a difference.

Project Haiti is a ten-day summer trip to a music camp in Cange, Haiti. For the past two summers MMO has piloted its program with four Lincoln Academy musicians and two adult leaders participating in all aspects of this residential camp; eating, sleeping and participating as campers and teachers. Students raise funds to contribute to relief efforts at the Cange camp for such needs as supplies, scholarships, and instrument repair.

This year's Annual Fund appeal offers an option for donors to designate their gifts for the Erskine music program—we gratefully thank those generous donors who have done so already. Monies raised cover needs above and beyond the operating budget such as major repairs of older instruments and music technology materials for a new class that will focus on music recording and amplifying as well as digital media. Donations may be made securely online at Erskine Academy Support Us (\$10.00 minimum) by clicking on the "Donate Now" button or by mailing your check made out to Erskine Academy with the memo "Music Fund" in the donor envelope included in the appeal. The Annual Fund continues until June 30, 2014.

*"Music brings peace to a complicated world."* —Finn Welsh '09

School News *continued* on 6

## Math Team

A conversation with Math Team adviser and teacher Deidre Dail...

**Q: In what events has the team participated so far?**

A: So far this year we have had three regular season meets.

**Q: What's the team's current standing in the league/state?**

A: Erskine is currently first in its league of 24 area high schools with almost a 200-point lead over the next two schools. Our total for the season is only 813 so a 200-point lead is remarkable! Erskine is 10th in the state standings. Two of the teams above us are from the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, the state's premier magnet school for math and science—they are expected to be on top!

**Q: What have been the highlights of the season so far?**

A: A highlight of this year so far was Richard Preston achieving a perfect score for the second regular season meet, which is the first time I have seen that in more than 10 years.

**Q: Is there anything/anyone that stands out on this year's team?**

A: This year we have two gentlemen who have their names on the "first page" of the state individual standings. Generally, if one stays on that "page" there will be an invitation to the nationals in June at Penn State. It is an honor to be invited to represent Maine at the nationals. Only 36 out of the state's nearly 1,500 competitors are invited to go. It is certainly an honor to be able to contribute two students.

**Q: How do the students practice for a meet?**

A: There are after school practices three days a week. Many of our students make all of the practices.

**Q: What do the students get out of being on a math team?**

A: As a rule, the students who work hard on a math team are rewarded in their regular classroom studies.

Thanks to Ms. Dail and math team coach Mr. Lew Purinton, we can all rest assured the future will be bright as these "mathletes" go out into the world.



## Drama News

The Advanced Drama class kicked off its season with *Check Please* by Jonathan Rand, a short comedy about a series of dates-gone-wrong. Drama teacher Ryan Nored '93 commented the students did incredibly well, especially since it was the first time some of them had ever performed for an audience. In December, the class presented *Spy School* by Don Zolidis, which is set in 1961 about an ordinary teenager being drafted by the CIA to become a super-secret secret agent and infiltrate an American high school. *Spy School* went well, says Nored, who thought the two student directors Erin Wood and Franklin Markle did a wonderful job as did a few of the actors, specifically Adam Bovie and Trevor Patterson, who really shined. The class is currently working on producing a music video and a couple of movie trailers. The students' next project is called *Property Rites* by Alan Haehnel, which they are preparing for the One Act Competition to be held March 7–8 at Lawrence High School.

## Speech and Debate Team

The Erskine team is to be congratulated for their efforts and the awards they earned at Maine Forensic Association meets so far this season. According to speech and debate coach Rod Robilliard, the team is small with about a half dozen potentially great debaters. One debater, sophomore Caleigh Charlebois, is now competing in Varsity debate and won three of four rounds at a recent meet.

For many schools, the speech and debate team consists of students who also participate in drama, which is an asset. At Erskine, students must choose between drama and speech and the robotics program is a big draw as well, all of which limits the pool of students to participate in speech and debate. Coach Robilliard

reports, however, that this year's team has had moments in the sun. Katie Howes '15 won first place in prose at a meet in Poland, ME; Elena Luo '14 came in first in poetry at the Bangor, ME meet; Emma Anderson '14 has taken second place in poetry twice this season; and Ervin Casillan '15 won second place in novice poetry at his first meet of the season.

In high school speech and debate in Maine, there is no statewide ranking system and each meet is its own event. At the state championship tournament coming up at the end of January, a team that may not have competed much during the season can come in and win the competition.

## Connecting Aspirations to a Plan

Erskine applied for and received a "Connect Aspirations to a Plan" grant last year from the MELMAC Education Foundation. These grants are awarded with two objectives: 1) Improve the ability of Maine students to better understand options for continuing education after high school graduation, and 2) Increase the college enrollment of Maine students. The MELMAC Education Foundation was established in 2001 as Maine's newest and largest foundation dedicated to advancing the cause of education for all Maine citizens.

The Guidance Office has been very busy working towards those grant criteria goals. Last January, the Class of 2012 was invited back to campus

Connecting Aspirations to a Plan *continued*

for a luncheon and to give feedback about their post-Erskine experiences. This fall, the Guidance Office arranged for seniors to visit Maine colleges and universities for tours and admissions sessions, often having the admissions fee waived by completing an application on the spot. The institutions visited included Colby College; University of Maine at Augusta; Kennebec Valley Community College; University of Maine at Farmington; St. Joseph's College; Washington County Community College; Eastern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, and the University of Southern Maine. Often, the expense of traveling to visit colleges and the application fee is prohibitive for some students.

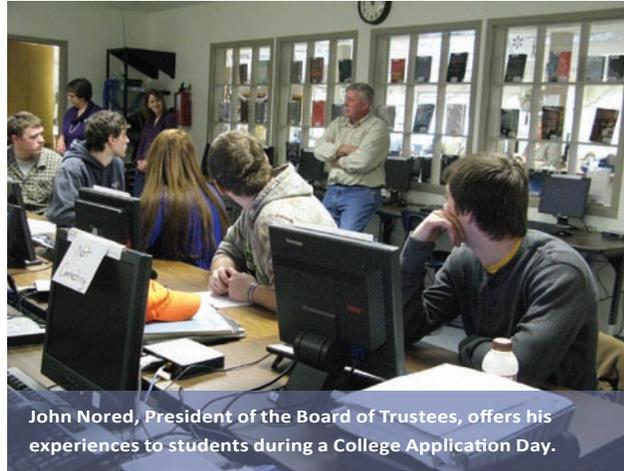
In early December, the Guidance Office, in partnership with MaineCAN (College Access Network) offered two College Application Days. MaineCAN is a group of volunteer educators consisting of members of the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), MELMAC, and Maine Education Services (MES), which invited two schools to participate in the College Application Days as a pilot project. MaineCAN had a training session in September with a representative from the American College Application campaign. Several states are already involved in this process.

The guest presenters were Pauline Stevens from Early College for ME; Jim Bourgoin, Admissions Director at Kennebec Valley Community College; Kate Leveille, MES College and Career Access Program Director, and Rick Wilson, a volunteer with MaineCAN and a former educator.

Over 35 students attended the two-day event, which was held in the Erskine's computer lab. The goal of the sessions were for students, particularly those who might not do so otherwise, to submit their applications online with help from the MaineCAN volunteers and Guidance Office staff.

A special guest speaker was Board of Trustees President John Nored '70,

who shared his story about waiting 13 years to attend college after graduation because he had to work on his family's farm. He urged the students to value and take advantage of the opportunities being offered



John Nored, President of the Board of Trustees, offers his experiences to students during a College Application Day.



Sue Lagasse, Director of Guidance, assists students during a College Application Day.

for post-secondary education. He explained that the world is a different place today than in his time and without a post-secondary education, making a living is very difficult.

Guidance Office Director Sue Lagasse commented that the students who took part were pleased and thankful to receive the help. She was excited to see how many students were applying, and it made her realize how much help students need to maneuver through the application process.

Some examples of their career goals are precision machining; culinary arts; energy services; marine studies, criminal justice, international

business, business management; biology/pre-med; pre-law; nursing; and engineering. Ms. Lagasse said that the biggest change in the college application process over the course of her career has been the increase in technology—more applications are accessed online and some only online—and many more students are applying, particularly to community colleges.

Headmaster McQuarrie offered positive observations about the successful College Application Days: Seeing students who only a few years ago would be less than confident about postsecondary education but are now being engaged in various aspects of the process; the individualized attention students are receiving, even when being in a group; the use of experts and resources from outside of our program; the introduction provided by the president of the board; and the t-shirts used as incentives and to reinforce the program.

Ms. Lagasse says that Erskine students' attitudes about

post-secondary education have changed over the years—more have had the initiative to apply than even ten years ago. The students are better prepared to make college and career choices due to classes like Sophomore Selections and Junior Judgment as well as parent evenings and classroom guidance presentations. The students that do not apply often do not know where to begin the process, feel they cannot be successful in college, or their parents tell them it is not affordable.

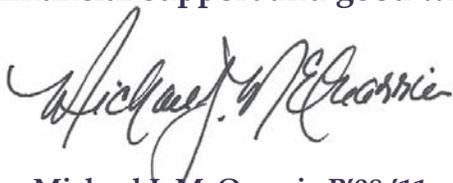
The Guidance Office held a financial aid night on January 15 during which

# Report of Contributions 2012–2013

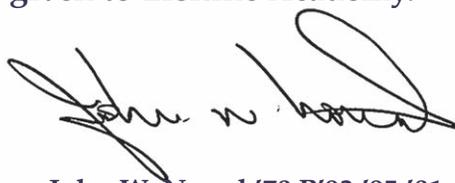
**I**t is a pleasure to once again thank our donors and friends for supporting Erskine Academy, its interests, and its fundraising program. Whether dollars are contributed to the Annual Fund, particular programs, projects of interest, or scholarships, they assist nearly every area and function of our school, and thereby affect every student we educate. Gifts of all sizes are leveraged together and thoughtfully used to make Erskine Academy what it is today: Maine's second largest independent high school with a remarkable heritage of preparing our region's youth to lead productive and successful lives.

Many give annually to Erskine in appreciation for how the school helped shape the person they are today, others for how their son or daughter is being prepared for tomorrow. Businesses contribute to enable and advance our successful school program. With the continuous support of these important constituents we can enhance our facilities and grow our capacity to accomplish our mission and truly transform lives.

It is our hope that publishing this list of donors will encourage others to join in making Erskine Academy a philanthropic priority. Every gift, at every level, makes a difference and is deeply appreciated. On behalf of the school administration and Board of Trustees, we thank you for your financial support and good will given to Erskine Academy.



Michael J. McQuarrie P'08 '11  
*Headmaster*



John W. Nored '70 P'93 '95 '01  
*President, Board of Trustees*

**T**he Annual Fund is comprised of gifts of all sizes from many donors, which are a direct investment in the everyday functioning of Erskine Academy. These gifts ensure that our school has sufficient funds immediately available to address various unanticipated needs such as the purchase of textbooks, equipment for a biology lab, or art room materials. Because Annual Fund gifts have "no strings attached", they are some of the most valuable gifts to our school. A gift to the Annual Fund is one of the most important ways that alumni, parents, and friends of the school can support its daily functions and needs. This year, many donors chose to make fully unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund, while others directed their Annual Fund gifts towards academics, music, the Ridgeway Memorial Fund, robotics, and other student activities.

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Maxine Pine Hamilton '63  
Hannaford Supermarkets  
Clarence W. Hannan, Jr. '63 P'85 GP'07  
Elaine Bumps Hannan '61 P'85 GP'07  
Jesse R. Haskell '00  
Marie Elliott Haven '55  
Shirley Brown Hewett '49  
Dianne Bumps Higgins '58  
Carol Csengery Hughes '58 P'80 '80 '82 '84 '92  
GP'04 '11  
Elwin F. Hussey '40 P'76  
Richard N. Hussey '54  
Amy McKenney Ingraham '53 GP'12  
Virginia Fowle Jewett '52  
Lars Jonassen  
Glenna Cantwell Jordan '51 P'76 GP'93 '96 '01  
Jon Jorgensen  
Richard A. Judkins '59  
Michael C. Keller '62  
Milan D. Kelley '64  
Deborah Brann Kenoyer '77 P'06 '10  
Scott A. Kenoyer '77 P'06 '10  
Frederick A. Kofman '47  
Jill Hiltz Labbe '79  
Jason S. LaFlamme '06  
Brenda Pinette Lambert '57  
Evangeline Potter Latulippe '72  
Bessie Freeman Leighton '49  
George A. Lewis '57  
Mary Fletcher Lockhart '69 P'96 '99  
Roger L. Lockhart '69 P'96 '99  
David Magnusen P'13  
Teresa Magnusen P'13  
Maine Woodturners  
Steven P. Mairs '69  
Patricia J. McGrath P'13 '14 '17  
Thomas E. McGrath P'13 '14 '17  
Diana Harrington McKenney '77 P'01 '04  
Dwain E. McKenney P'01 '04  
Dena Flye McQuarrie '86  
Michael J. McQuarrie P'08 '11  
Shirley Csengery McQuarrie '60  
Dominique F. McRae '11  
Sylvia A. Merrill '52  
Patrick J. Meunier '12  
Rosalie A. Meunier P'12 *in honor of*  
*Patrick J. Meunier '12*  
Angela M. Moody P'12 '14  
Robert M. Moody P'12 '14  
Joan Phinney Moore '54 P'76 GP'00 '01 '04 '05  
Nicole Sylvester Muley '90  
Joseph R. Nixon, Jr. P'99 '03 '08  
Alton L. Oliver '71 P'97 '07 '08  
Pat Oliver P'97 '07 '08  
Rose Ring Parlin '60 P'80 '87  
Benjamin J. Pass '04 *in honor of Jeffrey E. Pass '14*  
Tia A. Pass '96 P'12  
Garfield H. Peaslee P'70 '75  
Mary Ellen Hold Peaslee '50 P'70 '75  
Ann Tabb Pierce '65 P'87  
Emery E. Pierce '65 P'87  
Laura Dow Pierce '69  
Theresa Ward Plaisted '41  
Deann Willoughby Porter '90  
Shawn D. Porter '92  
Karrienne D. Potter '99  
Teresa Hatch Potter '81  
Todd E. Potter '84

Report of Contributions continued on 10

ANNUAL FUND DONORS *continued*

Michelle Presby P'17  
 Elizabeth L. Preston '09  
 Karen Kenoyer Purinton '65  
 Lewis Purinton P'98  
 Charlene Linnell Quimby '61  
 Shirley Love Raddatz '70  
 Louise Caswell Reed '67  
 Thomas G. Reed '67  
 Marc D. Roderick P'09 '15  
 Raquel Roderick P'09 '15  
 Kathy A. Rollins P'09 '12 '15  
 Scott Rollins P'09 '12 '15  
 Linus L. Sanstrom III '89  
 Letricia Tobey Sears '69  
 Joanne Jones Severance '55  
 Margaret Gower Sheehy '48  
 Patricia Bowman Shuman '53  
 Charles P. Sisson '39 P'65 '68 '74 GP'08  
 Stella Glidden Sisson '40 P'65 '68 '74 GP'08  
 Jamie L. Soule  
 Courtenay Stevens P'13 '15  
 Darrell A. Stevens P'13 '15  
 Norma Fall Stevens '51  
 Dana A. Suga P'13 '16  
 Patricia M. Suga P'13 '16  
 Evelyn Plummer Sullivan '36 (D)  
 Douglas Tatham  
 Patricia Mathieson Tatham '65  
 Raymah Hisler Tjelmeland '51 GP'12  
 Barbara R. Tobey P'99 '02  
 Jill C. Tobey '75 P'94 '96  
 Pauline Ward Tobey '44 P'65 GP'87 '04  
 Roberta Glidden Tobey '45 P'67 '69 '70 '75 GP'94  
 '96 '99 '02  
 Robin K. Tobey '70 P'99 '02  
 Danny Waceken P'15  
 Elizabeth Waceken P'15  
 Raymond E. Ward '42  
 Weeks Mills Baptist Church  
 Susan White  
 Benjamin F. Willoughby '94  
 Windsor Fair  
 Susan Crane Worcester '68  
 Cheryl Wellman York '85  
 Paul F. Zibura '78 P'07 '07

**W**hat gives? EA does. In addition to their individual giving this past year, EA's faculty and staff made financial contributions to the school's employee scholarship program, which awarded scholarships to five 2013 graduates. This achievement marks a second consecutive year of staff giving above 90 percent. Although large gifts are critically important to the school, small gifts and broad participation in fundraising add up for a big impact for a school our size. In addition to sacrifices made and contributions of their time and talents, our faculty goes above and beyond to give financially because they believe in what we do here. We give to good causes, to meet immediate and future needs, and to inspire others in the Erskine community to do the same.

**GIFTS OF DISTINCTION  
 (Gifts exclusive to the Annual Fund)**

***Kenney Society \$250–\$499***

John W. Clark, Jr.  
 Brian R. Dutil  
 Linda C. Dutil  
 Richard N. Hussey '54  
 Jon Jorgensen  
 Maine Woodturners  
 Dena Flye McQuarrie '86  
 Michael J. McQuarrie P'08 '11  
 Jamie L. Soule  
 Barbara R. Tobey P'99 '02  
 Jill C. Tobey '75 P'94 '96  
 Robin K. Tobey '70 P'99 '02  
 Raymond E. Ward '42  
 Windsor Fair

***Jackman Society \$500–\$999***

Anonymous (2)  
 Angela J. Fagin P'15  
 Frederick L. Fagin P'15  
 Michael C. Keller '62  
 Angela M. Moody P'12 '14  
 Robert M. Moody P'12 '14  
 Joseph R. Nixon, Jr. P'99 '03 '08  
 Courtenay Stevens P'13 '15  
 Darrell A. Stevens P'13 '15

***Stetson Society \$1,000–\$2,499***

Hannaford Supermarkets  
 Elwin F. Hussey '40 P'76

***Hall Society \$2,500–\$4,999***

Estate of Frances A. Schroyer

**CURRENT FACULTY AND STAFF DONORS**

Timothy L. Bonsant '87 P'07 '17  
 John W. Clark, Jr.  
 Kelly A. Clark P'17  
 Brian R. Dutil  
 Emily J. Foss P'90 '93 '98  
 Berit U. Freeling  
 Heide Starkey Hotham '91  
 Jon Jorgensen  
 Michael J. McQuarrie P'08 '11  
 Deann Willoughby Porter '90  
 Michelle Presby P'17  
 Robert Regut  
 Melissa G. Romac  
 Jamie L. Soule  
 Benjamin F. Willoughby '94  
 Cheryl Wellman York '85

**FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF DONORS**

Elizabeth Pelton Flint '61 P'82 '84 '85  
 John Foss P'90 '93 '98  
 Lars Jonassen  
 Dena Flye McQuarrie '86

P = Parent  
 GP = Grandparent  
 GGP = Great Grandparent  
 (D) = Deceased  
 H = Honorary Alumnus

## RESTRICTED GIVING

### LEADERSHIP GIVING (gifts of \$250 and above)

China Dine-ah  
Diana L. Choate P'90 '96  
Coutts Brothers, Inc.  
Norman S. Elvin  
Estate of Marcella Sennett Houseman '48  
Mary P. Franco  
Hannaford Supermarkets  
Maine Society of Professional Engineers  
Maine Woodturners  
Jeffrey D. Mitchell  
Netco, Inc.  
Robert Regut  
Joan E. Ridgeway  
Daniel C. Salisbury P'13  
Lucille M. Salisbury P'13  
Sappi  
Paul S. Sennett '50  
Somerville Historical Society  
Clayton S. Spinney, II P'15  
Melissa Sue Spinney P'15  
Sukeforth Charitable Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. C. Tracy  
United Insurance Agency

### FOUNDATION AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

Friends of the Hubbard Free Library  
Maine Society of Professional Engineers  
Maine Woodturners  
Oak Grove School Foundation  
Somerville Historical Society  
Sukeforth Charitable Foundation  
Weeks Mills Baptist Church  
Windsor Fair

### BUSINESS AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Albison's Printing, Inc.  
The Bank of Maine  
Borislow Insurance  
China Dine-ah  
Coutts Brothers, Inc.  
Hannaford Supermarkets  
Netco, Inc.  
Norris A. Preble Co., Inc.  
Sappi  
United Insurance Agency

### TRIBUTARY GIVING

*Albison Scholarship Fund in memory of John M. Albison P'61*  
Albison's Printing, Inc.  
Stephen W. Albison '61

*Bailey Memorial Scholarship Award and Bailey Memorial Endowment in memory of Patricia A. Bailey '99*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. C. Tracy

*EA Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Susie Whitaker Potter '53*  
Carlton L. Fitzgerald '53 P'73 '74 '77 '79 GP'97 '06 '09 '12  
Shirley Fletcher Fitzgerald '53 P'73 '74 '77 '79 GP'97 '06 '09 '12

*EA Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Louise Young Arnold '54*  
Carlton L. Fitzgerald '53 P'73 '74 '77 '79 GP'97 '06 '09 '12  
Shirley Fletcher Fitzgerald '53 P'73 '74 '77 '79 GP'97 '06 '09 '12

*Jordan Scholarship Fund in memory of Floyd E. Jordan '46 and Kermit E. Jordan '76*  
Glenna Cantwell Jordan '51 P'76 GP'93 '96 '01

*Mary French Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Mary French*  
Somerville Historical Society

*Donald F. Ridgeway, Jr. P'08 Memorial Fund in memory of Donald F. Ridgeway, Jr. P'08, former faculty member*  
Lars Jonassen  
Jon Jorgensen  
Robert Regut  
Avens Ridgeway '08  
Joan E. Ridgeway P'08

*Sennett Scholarship Fund in memory of Harold and Melissa Sennett*  
Estate of Marcella Sennett Houseman '48

*Sennett Scholarship Fund in memory of Marcella Sennett Houseman '48*  
Paul S. Sennett '50

*Winkley Scholarship Fund in memory of Bernard S. Winkley '81*  
The Brann, French, and Winkley Families

### MEMORIAL GIFTS TO THE ANNUAL FUND

*In memory of John M. Albison P'61*  
Albison's Printing, Inc.  
Stephen W. Albison '61

*In memory of Virginia Nolin Beaulieu '48*  
Beatrice Nolin Ferrari '54

*Class of 1953 Deceased*  
Richard V. Dillenbeck '53

*In memory of William C. Farrington '74*  
Charles P. Sisson '39 P'65 '68 '74 GP'08  
Stella Glidden Sisson '40 P'65 '68 '74 GP'08

*In memory of David C. Hurd '62*  
Mary Hurd Blackwell '58

*In memory of Ruth Dowe Hussey '54*  
Richard N. Hussey '54

*In memory of Floyd E. Jordan '46 P'76 GP'93 '96 '01 and Kermit E. Jordan '76*  
Glenna Cantwell Jordan '51 P'76 GP'93 '96 '01

*In memory of Frank L. Lockhart '41 P'69 '74 GP'99 and Justin V. Smith '05*  
Mary Fletcher Lockhart '69 P'96 '99  
Roger L. Lockhart '69 P'96 '99

*In memory of Betty A. McCaslin '62*  
Shirley Love Raddatz '70

*In memory of Carol A. Nixon P'99 '03 '08*  
Joseph R. Nixon, Jr. P'99 '03 '08

*In memory of Frances A. Schroyer*  
Estate of Frances A. Schroyer

*In memory of Pauline Tatham Stanley*  
Douglas Tatham  
Patricia Mathieson Tatham '65

*In memory of J. Kempton Tobey '41 P'67 '69 '70 '75 GP'94 '96 '99 '02*  
Noreen Tobey Golden '67  
Letricia Tobey Sears '69  
Barbara R. Tobey P'99 '02  
Robin K. Tobey '70 P'99 '02

Report of Contributions continued on 12

RESTRICTED GIVING *continued*

**GIFTS TO SPECIAL FUNDS**

***Drama Fund***

Douglas Jordan P'11 '13 '15 '17

Julia Jordan P'11 '13 '15 '17

***EA Employee Scholarship Fund***

Melissa G. Romac

***The Erskine Academy Barry W. Thomas  
'61 Archives Fund in memory of  
Pauline Tatham Stanley***

Douglas Tatham

Patricia Mathieson Tatham '65

***Graduation Expense Fund***

Daniel C. Salisbury P'13

Lucille M. Salisbury P'13

***Guidance Student Assistance Fund***

Mary P. Franco

***HOPE (Helping Others Persevere at  
Erskine) Fund***

Charles W. Hotham '87

Heide Starkey Hotham '19

***Industrial Arts Fund***

Maine Woodturners

***Library Fund***

Kathleen E. Plourde '02

***Music Fund***

Anonymous (2)

Janis M. Cross

Scott Farwell P'11 '14

Linda G. Farwell-Simmons P'11 '14

Emily J. Foss P'90 '93 '98

John Foss P'90 '93 '98

Friends of the Hubbard Free Library

John A. Johnson P'16 '16 '16

Lisa A. Johnson P'16 '16 '16

Pamela J. Lombard P'15

Dominique F. McRae '11

Oak Grove School Foundation

Martin L. Spahn P'15

Bernard J. Welch P'09 '12 '14

Jody Welch P'09 '12 '14

***Project Grad Fund***

China Dine-ah

Norman S. Elvin

Hannaford Supermarkets

The Bank of Maine

***Robotics Fund***

Diana L. Choate P'90 '96

Coutts Brothers, Inc.

Dennis R. Keller '61 P'89 '90 GP'13

Miriam Ulbrich Keller '64 P'89 '90 GP'13

Maine Society of Professional Engineers

Dena Flye McQuarrie '86

Michael J. McQuarrie P'08 '11

Netco, Inc.

Norris A. Preble Co., Inc.

Oak Grove School Foundation

Sappi

Clayton S. Spinney, II P'15

Melissa Sue Spinney P'15

***Student Activity Fund***

Hannaford Supermarkets

***Student Activity Boosters Fund***

Sukeforth Charitable Foundation

***Tilton Insurance Company Scholarship  
Fund***

Jeffrey D. Mitchell

United Insurance Agency

***Wellness Fund***

Borislow Insurance

**GIFTS IN-KIND**

Anonymous (1)

China Dine-ah

Norman S. Elvin

**GRANTS**

Each year, Erskine applies to foundations and corporations for grant monies to support particular initiatives. Grants received this year totaled nearly \$25,000 and provided support for the guidance office program to help a greater number of students pursue post-secondary education; the music program; the robotics curriculum and club; the AFS Costa Rica trip to rebuild a house; and the greenhouse project.

Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation

MELMAC Education Foundation

Oak Grove School Foundation

**1813 SOCIETY**

The Planned Giving program provides individuals with additional gift-giving vehicles while ensuring long-term financial benefit to the school. Members of the 1883 Society—those who have named the school in their estate plans through a bequest, deferred gift, or trust instrument, or who are making gifts as part of their overall financial plan, are listed below. We are sincerely grateful to these members of our community for their belief in Erskine Academy.

Bessie Freeman Leighton '49

Donald A. Poulin H'09

Linda Dowe Poulin '70

Margaret Gower Sheehy '48

Barry W. Thomas '61 P'93

Sandra Grimshaw Thomas '62 P'93

Nina M. Tilander

Chadwick A. Weber '90

Jennifer Grimshaw Weber '90

**GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT**

Many people gave very generously of their time and talent—in fact, too many to list without omitting someone. The long list of volunteers includes members of the Board of Trustees; Students; Archives Committee; Alumni Council; Alumni Awards Nomination Committee; Erskine's All Sports Boosters; and the many volunteers that helped in the alumni office with mailings and at events such as reunions, student activities, sports events, and student trips. Thank you very much for supporting Erskine in this significant way.

**Who is included in this report?**

All alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and friends of Erskine Academy who made a charitable gift to the school between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013 are included.

**What if I am listed incorrectly?**

Every effort has been made to list names correctly. If your name is missing or spelled incorrectly, or if we have the wrong class or parent affiliation/s for you, please accept our apology and let us know so we can revise our records. Contact us at (207) 445-4026 or email [mromac@erskineacademy.org](mailto:mromac@erskineacademy.org).

Connecting Aspirations to a Plan continued



Headmaster McQuarrie speaking with a student during one of the College Application Days.



than ever attended from Togus VA and the Maine Veterans' Home. The students set up tables, helped the veterans off the bus and van, and served

the meal, following which they had a chance to chat with the veterans. The event was well received by both veterans and students, and the students are now looking into visiting the Togus VA to interview the veterans about their service. The gathered information would

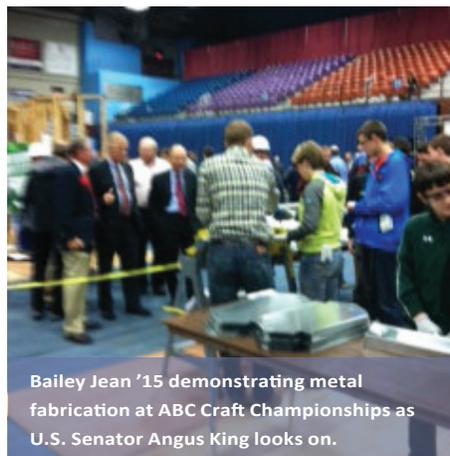
families received help in filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form, a big step in the college application process. Through the MELMAC Grant, the Guidance Office will be scheduling individual FAFSA filing appointments at Erskine with a college financial aid administrator assigned to the school. These sessions are to help those students and their families that might have unusual circumstances or might not know to take advantage of financial aid options. The guidance staff is very excited about these events; paying for college and filling out the FAFSA are major barriers to students attending college.

JMG News

Erskine's resident Jobs for Maine's Graduates (JMG) specialist Hauns Bassett '93 and the JMG students have been busy this fall. In September, sophomores, juniors and seniors went to the Common Ground Fair and interviewed working craftspeople about the paths they took.

In October, the students visited a fast food restaurant in Augusta to meet with the manager, who went over the benefits of working there, shared with the students examples of applications people have turned in, and led an exercise on filling out job applications properly.

In November, JMG students helped at the South China American Legion Post for the annual Veterans "Thank You" meal, to which more veterans



Bailey Jean '15 demonstrating metal fabrication at ABC Craft Championships as U.S. Senator Angus King looks on.

be sent to the Library of Congress for inclusion into the archives.

Also in November, JMG students visited several Maine community colleges, toured the Coutts Electrical Construction and Maintenance Training Facility with alumnus Brad Stout '99; visited Specialty Products, Inc. machine shop owned by Mike '91 and Paula Roddy '92 Cuthbertson, and attended the Associated Builders and Contractors Craft Championships at the Augusta Civic Center. To watch a video of the event, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eugk5vgxaOM>.

The JMG program's mission is to identify students who face barriers to education and to guide each one on to a successful path toward continued education, a meaningful career, and a productive adulthood. Erskine's JMG students are certainly receiving the tools to fulfill this goal.

Maine Youth in Government

In mid November, faculty advisor Lori Dube congratulated the Erskine students who participated in the weekend long 2013 Maine Youth in Government "Model State" program at the Maine State House. The program is coordinated by the State YMCA. The following students had successful campaigns for leadership positions—Brady Grotton was elected Senate Chair of Natural Resources; Trevor Patterson was elected Secretary of the Senate; Sierra Carey was elected to the Newspaper Staff; and Sarah Lewis and Crystal Blair were elected to be Lobbyists for Justice and Human Services. In addition, Brady was selected as a candidate for Governor for the 2014 Model State session.

Maine Youth in Government is an opportunity for high school students to gain hands on experience in the workings of the Maine legislative process. The program is held in the State House using the actual chambers and committee rooms that the Maine Legislature uses every day. Just as the legislators do who come from all parts of the state, Model State students give their views on the issues they see facing their own area of the state. The program is completely student driven, and participants draft all of the bills discussed during the weekend. Bills may be written by individuals or groups, and sponsors work to guide the bill through the legislative process. Program leadership is elected by peers, trained how to perform their roles, and then run all aspects of the process during the weekend.

School News continued on 14

**Maine Youth in Government** *continued*

Delegates serve as Representatives, Senators, Lobbyists, Newspaper Staff, and Governor and learn how to make positive changes, a practice that they can bring home to their schools and communities.



Senior Sarah Lewis at the Statehouse.



Erskine's Model State students participating in the Maine Youth in Government program at the Statehouse.

**All is Well(ness) at Erskine**

Healthy employees and students make for a great work environment and school, and Erskine's Wellness Team makes sure there are plenty of healthy options available for teachers, staff, and students. There have been successful wellness initiatives over the years at Erskine—exercise and weight loss programs; sending teams to the annual Maine Schoolsite Health Promotion Conference at Sugarloaf USA made possible through grant funds; and healthy eating guidelines. School nurse Diane Dow, R.N. has put many of the initiatives into action and been advisor to a student Wellness Club that began the very successful annual Walk to Cure

Breast Cancer to raise funds for the MaineGeneral Breast Care Center, which remains an annual event.

The campaign to maintain and continue to improve Erskine's wellness efforts has picked up speed. Two years ago, the team of teachers and staff from Erskine that attended the Annual Maine Schoolsite Health Promotion Conference returned to campus with a vigorous wellness action plan. Last summer's team carried the plan forward, which focuses on the six dimensions of wellness: occupational, physical, social, mental, spiritual, and emotional:

*Gain leadership support.* The Erskine administrators have wholeheartedly supported wellness initiatives and have actively participated personally in many of the programs.

*Educate and create awareness.* The Maine State Employee wellness newsletter is forwarded via e-mail to all staff; the cafeteria director has introduced healthier food options and labels and highlights healthy cafeteria options and calorie counts; cold and flu campaign.

*Increase physical activity among teachers, staff, and students.* Successful completion of the Maine Association of Independent Schools six-week Walking Program Challenge with over 90% participation culminating in a celebration breakfast at the completion of the program; Active Study Halls program approved by the headmaster with a description added to the Student Handbook\*; fitness classes offered by various staff members on an ongoing basis such as "fitness boot camp" and group walking and biking excursions, with students included as appropriate; a team-based eight-week physical activity program "Couch to 5K", which concluded at the senior

class's fundraiser Walk/Run Like An Eagle 5K race.

*Improve nutrition and weight management for faculty, staff, and students.* Healthier food cafeteria options with labeling and highlighting healthy cafeteria options and calorie counts; weight management programs, one that coincided with the MAIS Walking Program Challenge that offered blood pressure and weight monitoring and the "Maintain Don't Gain/Choose to Lose" six-week program; an "Eating Healthy over the Holidays" low fat, low calorie Dessert Social, when employees brought healthy desserts to sample and shared recipes; a "Wellness Wednesday", when fruit and healthy baked goods were provided in the teachers' room; "Fruity Fridays", when fresh fruit is made available in the teachers' room once a month; a "Soup Sharing" event was held in the teachers' room during Winter Carnival week for which volunteers prepared healthy soups and stews for staff members to sample; other events are offered as wellness funds permit.

*Team development/maintenance.* Increase resources, members, and support.

*Advocacy for health education.* Every student is required to take two trimesters of health education and one year of physical education.

*Healthy campus environment.* Smoke-free campus; drug policy; replacement of outmoded school water fountains with ones that have better filtration, sanitation, and the capability to fill water bottles.

*Health promotion programs.* Nutrition workshops and/or consultations; consumerism and self care workshops; stress management workshops for staff; accelerated exercise programs for students by the athletic trainer; the Active Study Hall is available for students; each trimester a different wellness topic/program; weight room orientations.

*Connecting with other school's initiatives.* Walking program competition and 5K road race.



Erskine students and teachers participating in the Walk to Cure Breast Cancer event to support the MaineGeneral Breast Care Ctr.

Wellness team fundraisers have included a silent auction held periodically with different donated items on display in the teachers' room for bidding, which has been very successful; a Plant Swap/Sale; and dress down days. Erskine has been awarded \$2,065 in wellness dollars from its health insurance company and been provided a menu of wellness areas where the money can be spent. The wellness team has reviewed the list, polled the staff on their interest, and plan to offer an event in January.

Here's to your health!

\*Active Study Hall Student Handbook description: *Studies have shown that physical activity in the classroom can improve academic performance. In an effort to provide students with an opportunity to increase their physical activity during the school day, the option of an active study hall will be offered. Students participating in an active study hall will engage in approximately 20 minutes of light activity during the study hall period, such as walking, stretching, low impact exercises. Students must be passing all courses to participate. Parental permission is required.*

### Student Council

In October, congratulations went out to Student Council member Alainie Sawtelle, who was elected State Student Council High School Representative at the annual meeting.

### Community Service

Grateful recognition was given to Emma Wilkinson, Lexi Wright, Rachel Read, Autumn Read, Hannah Burns and Sam Wilkinson, who participated in a Polar Plunge to help raise money for the Ronald McDonald Houses of Maine.

### National Merit Students

Cory Pedersen and Emma Wilkinson were named Commended Students in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of students who entered the 2014 National Merit Scholarships competition. They receive a letter of commendation from their school and the National Merit Scholarship Program in recognition of this honor.

### National Honor Society

In early November, 15 seniors and 21 juniors were inducted into the Dirigo Chapter of The National Honor Society at an evening ceremony. Alumnus Dan Emery '01 gave the keynote address. ☺

### Class of 2014 Calendar Sales

The seniors are selling tickets for their Calendar Raffle through March 14, which benefits Project Grad. The calendars have a prize assigned to each day in the month of April 2014, and a winner will be drawn on each day beginning on April 1. Winners may win more than once, if they purchase more than one ticket! Ticket prices are one for \$5, three for \$10, or a pack of 10 tickets for \$20. Tickets are available for purchase through any member of the senior class or contact Betsy Benner at (207) 445-2964 or [bbenner@erskineacademy.org](mailto:bbenner@erskineacademy.org).

~ April 2014 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Woodstock Inn gift certificate and \$50 Irving gift card	2 Four Sea Dogs tickets (provided by Coldwell Banker Poudre Real Estate) and one Margarita's gift card	3 30 minute massage (provided by Ashley Beamon LMT) and a Bath & Body Works gift bag	4 5 yards of foam or crushed stone from SD Childs & Sons	5 China Dine-ah gift card
		Total prize value = \$225	Total prize value = \$65	Total prize value = \$70	Total prize value = \$150	Total prize value = \$50
6 Outdoor adventure bag from Bar Harbor Bank & Trust (includes backpack, fleece blanket, water bottle, etc.) and Dunkin Donuts gift card	7 Tobey's Grocery gift card	8 Twilight movie gift basket and homemade lap quilt	9 Two tickets to a 2014 Waterfront Concerts Event	10 Manicure or pedicure (provided by Shannon Mills) and \$25 Tropical Sensations II gift card	11 One Regal Cinema gift card and one 99 Restaurant gift card	12 Longhorn Restaurant gift card and Bames & Noble gift card
Total prize value = \$75	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$100	Total prize value = \$160	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$55
13 One oil change (provided by Jax Auto Sales) and \$25 Hussey's General Store gift certificate	14 \$50 iTunes gift card and \$15 Subway gift card	15 \$100 CASH!!!	16 Nordic Village Resort gift certificate	17 NFL Fan Gear basket and \$25 Piza Hut gift card	18 \$50 Lowe's gift card	19 China Dine-ah gift card
Total prize value = \$55	Total prize value = \$65	Total prize value = \$100	Total prize value = \$100	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$50
20 Morning Fuel/Energy basket and one Green Bean gift certificate	21 Hussey's General Store gift certificate and one Regal Cinema gift card	22 Manicure or pedicure (provided by Shannon Mills) and \$25 Tropical Sensations II gift card	23 Candle, bath, and body gift basket (provided by The Primitive Keeper)	24 Two Flagship Cinemas Movie Money coupons	25 One limited edition 12"x18" Rooster relief print (provided by artist Scott Minzy)	26 \$20 of product and one 30-minute massage from Remedy Salon & Spa
Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$55	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$150	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$150	Total prize value = \$50
27 Stoneware wheel thrown serving bowl and Hanford gift card	28 One Margarita's gift card and one Regal Cinema gift card	29 Rumour Has It Salon gift certificate and one Ulta gift card	30 Two nights at Merrymeeting Cottage in Round Pond, ME (near Pemaquid Point)	One winner will be drawn each day during the month of April, 2014. Winners will be notified by phone and are responsible for prize pickup. Prize values are approximate and the Class of 2014 reserves the right to make substitutions as necessary.		
Total prize value = \$70	Total prize value = \$55	Total prize value = \$50	Total prize value = \$50			

## 1940

**Lillian Brooks Crommett** keeps in touch with the Alumni Office on a regular basis. She says she is “39 and doing fine.” Her quick wit and longevity are, we’re sure, due to the stamina she acquired as captain of the 1940 Erskine women’s basketball team! Lillian would love to hear from any alumni who graduated close to her class year. Contact the Alumni Office, and we’ll put you in touch. You’ll enjoy the inspiring conversation!

## 1953

**Virginia Grant Boudreau**, who lives in Clinton, ME, stopped by the Alumni Office to inquire about archive photos of her 1953 NHS Induction Ceremony. She commented on what a good reunion it was last June, especially about how great and knowledgeable the student tour guides were.

## 1954 60th Reunion!

Get ready for your 60th Reunion! Several members of the class have been meeting over the past several months at the Alumni Office to plan a great event.

## 1964 50th Reunion!

Congratulations on your 50th Reunion! A planning committee has been meeting often to plan the celebration.

## 1966

**Roger Love** emailed that he had a blast when he attended Erskine during his senior year. Roger was in the senior play, the minstrel show, and played in a band with Ronnie Althenn and Bobby Mills at the China Lake Pavilion. He never saw pictures from those times and is hoping someone has some he could see. If you do,



Prom 1964

please contact the Alumni Office. Roger was saddened to read that his music teacher Mrs. Cates and fellow classmate and friend Milton Willoughby had passed away.

## 1974 40th Reunion!

Congratulations on your 40th Reunion! Several class members are planning a reunion celebration.

## 1976

**Brian Plato** was selected Traditional Country Male Vocalist of the year and Folk Artist of the Year by the Down East Country Music Association and will be competing in Tennessee in March.

## 1982

**Bonnie Peabody** has been in touch and would like classmates to share their news for the class notes! If you have news, please email [mromac@erskineacademy.org](mailto:mromac@erskineacademy.org) or call (207) 445-4026.

## 1984 30th Reunion!

Congratulations on your 30th Reunion! Members of the class are working on reunion plans. Contact [rmurphy@erskineacademy.org](mailto:rmurphy@erskineacademy.org) or [lad1004@aol.com](mailto:lad1004@aol.com) for more information. **Keith Acedo** is the new principal of G.D. Cushing and Academy Hill schools in Wilton, ME. He has 20 years of experience in administration, including the last six years as principal of Montara Elementary School in Barstow, CA.

## 1990

Maine State Police officer **Shawn Porter** and his K-9 partner Myka have been on Animal Planet’s TV show *North Woods Law* several times this season.

## 1998

**Erika Reay** and her husband **Brian** ’97 welcomed a son Evan Walter Reay into the world in September.

## 2001

**Dan Emery**, a marketing specialist with the Maine State Credit Union, and a friend will take a yearlong,

hunger awareness trek on motorbikes through 48 states starting in January. To save money, they plan to stay with friends and family, Rotary Club and credit union connections, and with people they correspond with on a website that connects travelers with people willing to host them. The two estimate the trip will cost at least \$30,000, which they plan to cover with fundraising efforts. They’ve already raised about \$13,000. At the end of the trip, the money raised beyond the cost of the trip will be donated to a nonprofit hunger group in each of the states they visited. The trip starts Jan. 8 in Boston and ends Dec. 9 in Augusta. They’ll blog and post to social media sites throughout the trip. Those wishing to donate to or follow the progress of their American Community Project trip may do so online at [www.acproject.org](http://www.acproject.org).

## 2004 10th Reunion!

**Jonathan Niles** received a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Husson University. **Joe Lizotte** contacted the Alumni Office inquiring if anyone in the class has plans for the 10th reunion. If so, please contact the Alumni Office.

## 2006

**Sam Boynton** is in his first season as assistant coach with Stonehill College’s men’s basketball team. A native of Windsor, ME, he returns to New England to join the Stonehill coaching staff after serving as director of basketball operations at Eastern Washington University



Sam Boynton '06, assistant basketball coach at Stonehill College

for two seasons. He was working with NCSA Athletic Recruiting as head basketball scout since March. Prior to his time at Eastern Washington, Boynton spent two years as associate head coach at his alma mater, University of Maine Farmington. “I am very excited to add Sam to our staff,” said head coach Chris Kraus upon Boynton’s hiring. “Sam is a tireless

worker and embodies the selflessness and team-oriented values that we emphasize within our program. He brings a wide range of experience and will be a tremendous addition to our staff in all areas." Sam is a 2010 graduate of UMaine-Farmington, earning a bachelor's degree in secondary education, where he was a member of the basketball team for a season. He earned his master's degree in sports and recreation administration from Eastern Washington this spring.



**Kate Reynolds Bengtson '09, Erik Jonathan Bengtson '?, and Louis Bengtson '07.** Photo credit A. J. Reynolds '11

of Facilities Managers at Wentworth as well as a member of the International Facilities Management Association. Because of her overall commitment to the school's community and her 3.6 GPA, she was accepted into the Sigma Beta Delta Honors Management fraternity, making her the first student from the Facilities Planning and Management program of study to garner such an honor. Ashley graduated

with the designation of cum laude. She was further honored at her graduation by receiving the Alumni Award for having the highest GPA in her major area of studies. Her accomplishments have lead to a job at Harvard Graduate School of Design as a building services coordinator. **Kate Reynolds Bengtson** and **Louis Bengtson '07** welcomed their first child, Erik Jonathan Bengtson on May 10, 2013 at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, CT. **Ryan Spicer** graduated from McDaniel College in Maryland with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and international studies.

## 2010

Congratulations to **Adam Childs**, who has been accepted to graduate school at Princeton University. Adam will graduate from Bowdoin College with a degree in chemistry. **Evert Fowle** was named to the dean's high honors list for the Spring 2013 semester at Connecticut College. **Courtney Gee** competed in the Miss Maine pageant in Portland, ME on November 30–December 1, sponsored by the China Dine-ah. Courtney is in her senior year at Bryant University in Providence, RI studying international business. Last year, she studied abroad at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, a city of approximately 24 million people. In an interview with Norm Elvin, owner

of China Dine-ah, Courtney said that her trip to China was a big deal for her, taking her out of her comfort zone. She feels she matured a lot by going to a country where she knew no one, not even the language. She came home having made many new friends, versed in a new language and possessing the confidence to do even bigger and better things. As a high school senior, Courtney competed in the Miss Maine Teen USA pageant. **Nathan Sylvester** has been named a Michael D. Wilson Scholar at UMaine/Farmington for the fall 2013 semester. This competitive undergraduate research award partners top student researchers with expert faculty mentors to help students gain experience, insight and skills in their career interests. Nathan is a junior majoring in visual and performing arts and is creating, filming and producing a pilot episode of a comedy television series.

## 2011

**Caleb Bragg-Grady** is proving his skills as an exceptional goalkeeper for UMaine/Presque Isle's Owls soccer team. **Mallory Rauch**, a fourth-year student in the electrical engineering program at Rochester Institute of Technology, was named to the dean's

Class Notes continued on 18

## 2008

**Nick Emery** is training to become a U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter pilot. Congratulations to **Amber Ferland** and **Nicholas Woodbury** on their engagement. Amber is a 2012 graduate of Norwich University with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Norwich University. She is a Project Engineer for City of Titusville Public Works, FL and a private tutor. Nicholas is also a 2012 graduate of Norwich University with a Bachelor's Degree in Physics. He is a Nuclear Engineer/Physicist for the United States Air Force, Patrick AFB, FL. An October 2014 wedding is planned. Amber and Nicholas reside at Patrick AFB, FL.

## 2009 5th Reunion!

**Ashley Alberts** earned a bachelor's degree in facilities planning and management from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, MA. As a part of the curriculum, she completed two co-op semesters, when she worked in the facilities management departments for Pearson Education and for the federal government at the General Services Administration. Ashley was the president of the Student Association

**Have news? Want to share photos of events in your life? Just want to let your classmates know what you're up to? Send in your news to the Alumni Office.**

## IN MEMORIAM

*The following are alumni and other members of the Erskine community who have passed away since the last Connector issue or of whose passing we have recently been notified.*

Maland C. Nowland '39  
Glenis Crocker Caouette '40  
Mary Lewis Bailey '46  
Marion Hopkins Honnen '47 P'66  
Lewis Hewett Jones '52  
Janet Phelps Gagnon Green '53  
Kerwin L. Keller '61  
Janice Weeks Heansler '62  
Robert L. Rodgers '64  
Ann St. Pierre Grimshaw '65 P'85  
'90 '90  
Shawn M. Greenleaf '00  
Michael E. Beach '01  
Devan J. Basinet '08

Thomas M. Collins, retired  
Erskine teacher  
Sandra J. Gay P'83 '89  
William J. Glazier P'08  
J. Normand Marois P'78 '79 '80  
'82 '87 '91 GP'94 '98 '00 '02 '06  
'07 '09 '10 '12, retired bus  
driver  
Sharon M. Staples P'90 '07

## Class Notes

list for the spring 2013 quarter. **Kayla Bronson** was named to the dean's list at Colby-Sawyer College for the spring 2013 semester. She is a member of the class of 2015 and majoring in biology.

### 2012

**Sara BeDen** and **Sierra Tjelmeland** were named to the dean's list at UMaine-Machias for the spring 2013 semester. **Sean Cabaniss** has been named a Michael D. Wilson Scholar at UMaine/Farmington for the fall

2013 semester. Sean is a sophomore majoring in secondary education-math and is researching the relationship between the velocity and accuracy of baseball pitches from the windup and the stretch.

### 2013

**Caleb McGuire** has been playing well for the UMaine at Augusta basketball team. He is majoring in business administration and hopes to open his own business some day. ☺

## Upcoming Reunion Celebrations

This year classes ending in 4s and 9s are celebrating their milestone reunions and some are in the process of planning their gatherings:

- Class of 2009 - 5th
- Class of 2004 - 10th Interest in gathering
- Class of 1999 - 15th
- Class of 1994 - 20th
- Class of 1989 - 25th
- Class of 1984 - 30th Gathering planned
- Class of 1979 - 35th
- Class of 1974 - 40th Gathering planned
- Class of 1969 - 45th
- Class of 1964 - 50th Gathering planned
- Class of 1959 - 55th
- Class of 1954 - 60th Gathering planned

All classes are invited and encouraged to attend the All Classes Reunion 2014 on May 31, 2014 in the James V. Nelson Gymnasium. A separate invitation and registration form will be mailed to you. If your class would like to plan a special reunion, the Alumni Office can help with ideas, a mailing, and more. Contact Halda Stout, alumni event coordinator, at [hstout@erskineacademy.org](mailto:hstout@erskineacademy.org) or (207) 445-2962.

## Class of 1964 50th Reunion Celebration!

A group of us has been busy planning our 50th reunion celebration. We will have an informal gathering on Friday, May 30, the day before the All Classes Reunion on May 31, so we'll have more time to visit with one another. A preliminary letter was sent to classmates with a list of confirmed addresses, and a second letter has been mailed requesting information for our memory "yearbook." Classmates from as far away as Alaska, Arizona, California, and North Carolina plan to attend the reunion. SEE YOU in MAY! —Pat Clark '64 [cmclark@fairpoint.net](mailto:cmclark@fairpoint.net)

### Award Nominations Requested

There are so many wonderful and deserving alumni and friends of Erskine who should be recognized for their accomplishments, and all they need is for you to nominate them for an award!

**Distinguished Alumni Award**  
(open to alumni only)

**Exemplary Service (to Erskine Academy) Award**  
(open to anyone)

**Volunteer Leadership Award**  
(open to alumni only)

Guidelines and the nomination form can be found on the Erskine Alumni web pages or by contacting the Alumni Office for assistance.

**THE ANNUAL DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 1.**

### Betty Keene Retires after 15 Years Service

Custodian Betty Keene began working at Erskine in 1998 as part of a team that makes the hallways and classrooms sparkle year round. From setting up for special events to refinishing the wooden floors in the historic area of the school, Betty worked tirelessly to help make it happen. Visitors often comment how clean and well-maintained the school always looks,



and it is the hard working custodial crew that makes it happen year after year.

Headmaster McQuarrie said about Betty, "We couldn't have had a nicer person to provide the

school with any better service these 15 years. Betty will surely and sorely be missed. We wish her all the best in retirement!" From art teacher Mary Devenney, "She was *always* pleasant, had a kind word and a smile!" Teacher Kelly Clark said, "Betty took so much pride in her work, and we were all so lucky to be on the receiving end of it!" Teacher Katie Hersom said, "Betty went out of her way to make me feel welcome when I started working here. She made sure my classroom was all set, got me supplies, and helped me move things around. Betty genuinely wanted to get to know me and was always very pleasant to interact with. I will greatly miss seeing her at the end of the day—especially that wonderful, bright smile of hers!" Library assistant Evelyn Emerson commented, "Betty is a very warm and caring individual who treated everyone with respect and kindness. She will truly be missed... she is one of a kind and can never be replaced."

A surprise employee gathering was held to honor the unsuspecting Betty—we all wish you much enjoyment in your well-deserved retirement!

**Photo above, left to right: Headmaster Mike McQuarrie; Business Manager Cheryl Wellman York '85; Betty Keene; Associate Headmaster Jamie Soule; custodians Gilberto Ortiz, Dan Belanger '10, Colt Pierce '10, Randy Pottle '07, and Nancy Hannan; Ginny Haskell Wellman '62.**

### Renaissance Awards

On Friday, December 13th, Erskine Academy students and staff attended a Renaissance Assembly to honor their peers with Renaissance Awards.

Seniors of the Trimester Awards were presented to six students: Dominic Pizzo; Abigail Glidden; Zachary Childs; Alexis Wright; Emma Wilkinson; and Richard Preston. Seniors of the Trimester are recognized as individuals who have gone above and beyond in all aspects of their high school careers.

In appreciation of their dedication and service to Erskine Academy, two Faculty of the Trimester awards were presented to Florence Holmes, retired science instructor, and Heide Hotham, guidance secretary.



**December Faculty of the Trimester recipients  
Florence Holmes, science teacher, and  
Heide (Starkey) Hotham '91, guidance secretary.**

Contact us... and please notify us of any errors or omissions.

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If this issue is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please provide his or her updated address to the Alumni Office. An online form is also available on the Erskine Academy web site on the "For Alumni" page.

Editor/Layout: Melissa Romac



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**The Erskine Eagle soars  
through any weather...  
snow, sleet, and  
freezing rain...**

*Photo credit: Halda Stout*