



# ALUMNI SPIRIT

## “Here We Come!”



Commencement exercises were held for the graduating class of 2010 at Machlan Auditorium on June 6. Thirty-three students received diplomas and became the newest members of the South Lancaster Academy Alumni Association. Eleven of the students received honors or higher from the National Honor Society. Several students received generous scholarships from Atlantic Union College. As vice president of the association I, along with Linnea Johnson Meseric '66,

were honored to continue the association’s legacy of providing scholarships to two outstanding junior class students who will be seniors in SLA in the fall. Each student received a \$500 scholarship. The students were chosen for their commitment to church, school and community. The honorees were Brett Gustafson and Ardrianna Howard. If you would like to contribute to the SLA Alumni Scholarship fund, please contact Jon Nosek at 978-365-5225.



“We have been working diligently on a master plan matching the vision and direction of the school with public meetings, study groups, and plain hard work to ensure the future of South Lancaster Academy.”

—Ron Huff, Principal



# A NEW YEAR IN JULY?

Greetings to South Lancaster Academy Alumni!



New Year's in July? It happens in the land of education. Our school year runs July 1 – June 30, consequently the academy has just completed another school year culminating with the graduation of 34

students! This represented 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of our academy enrollment for last year. As we look ahead and plan for the future we are excited about the prospects. A substantial enrollment increase this past year will not likely be repeated, however we do expect to maintain our enrollment within the elementary school and have an average year enrollment within the academy.

Exciting things are happening. Spiritually SLA is sound with a strong religion curriculum and a chaplain that is engaged with student leadership. The goal is to have our school graduate students that will be active church participants and leaders. Students routinely lead worships and have evangelistic series'. This year a mission trip is planned to Peru. There is a lot of interest with lots of activities going on for fundraising and planning. Academically SLA stands out from the

crowd with strong scholars heading off to colleges and universities. This year as is the norm, all of our graduates are headed to some form of further education. We are seeking to develop our staff to instruct more than just the average or above average student a wider body of student needs can be addressed thereby further serving our community.



Photography Class" © 2010, Phil Anderson

As news of other educational institutions trials and struggles reaches your ears, I personally want to assure you that South Lancaster Academy is alive and well. We are fiscally sound and are in full compliance with our accreditation through both the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists and National Council of Private School Accreditation. We are extremely

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## CALLING ALL THE CLASS OF 1950!

*Is it really true that we graduated from SLA 60 years ago? Bethel Miles-Claunch and I have sent a letter to each one of our classmates for whom we had addresses. We have also made some telephone calls to encourage each one to do whatever it will take to be in South Lancaster over the weekend of October 8-10 to participate in the SLA Alumni Reunion. To date, 12 of our classmates have stated that they are planning to come. It will be a very special time together if a few more would join us for a grand reunion. We may also try to reach as many of our classmates as possible with further phone calls.*

*Looking forward to a fantastic weekend together,*

— Ken Hutchins, '50

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE? WE CAN HELP!  
 HAVE NEWS WE HAVEN'T COVERED? LET US KNOW . . .

This Year's Class Representatives

Questions? Suggestions? Contact your class representative-- we'll be glad to help you get in touch.

- 1950 —Ken Hutchins / Bethel Miles Claunch
- 1955—Robert Soderblom
- 1960—Jean Bettle Fuleki / Sally Towers Blundell
- 1965—June Hilbert Harris
- 1970—We're still looking for an agent!
- 1975 —A committee of several--call us!

- 1980—Sue McGraw, Anthony Spence, Bob Jones
- 1985—Give us a call!
- 1990—Hazel Olivera
- 1995—Eddy Camas
- 2000—Ann Zeninger
- 2005—A'Lisa Lashley

*If you would like us to send you copies of any of the photos you see here, just let us know by writing or calling us—we'll be happy to provide them. If you would like to find out how to get in touch with fellow alums, or if you can provide us with information, give us a call at 978-365-5225 about that, too.*

... a message from our principal, cont'd.

proud of this, as it is not a simple “rubber stamp” process. It is taken very seriously by our school board and administration and will continue to be.

The school still faces some physical challenges: Our buildings are over 40 years old with much of it the original construction. There are the routine smaller systems failures that we deal with on a year to year basis, but there are “bigger fish” to worry about also. As we plan for the future, we are faced with some major renovations and redesign with basic building services with the school. Our school is heated by oil-fired boilers that use in-ground fuel tanks for supply. Although we do not yet have a leak, they are in need of removal to eliminate the hazard. This brings us to the need to study the cost effectiveness to upgrade our systems with an eye towards efficiency and what incentives are available for those upgrades. Windows in both buildings are the originals, are largely non-serviceable, and are a source of major energy loss. This will need addressing shortly. Our power supply

comes from the power house of Atlantic Union College. We are currently studying options that may provide incentive to change this situation and allow for some financial help with window replacement and energy efficiency.



We have been working diligently on a master plan matching the vision and direction of the school with public meetings, study groups, and plain hard work in order to ensure the future of South Lancaster Academy. Our alumni are a very important part of that planning and that future.

—Ron Huff, Principal

ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU LEARNED AT SLA? SEND US A NOTE AND TELL US WHICH TEACHER INFLUENCED YOU MOST . . . AND WHY.

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A S P E C I A L M E S S A G E T O T H E C L A S S E S O F  
1 9 6 4 & 1 9 6 5

July, 2010

Dear Class of 1964:

SLA Alumni Weekend is coming October, 8, 9, & 10<sup>th</sup>, and the Class of 1965 would like to invite you to come and join us as we celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion.



I know that last year was your 45<sup>th</sup>, and it was great to see some of you. But many were not able to attend. Our two classes had many close friendships with one another so we wanted to take this opportunity to invite you to come and be a part of our reunion.

Your Alumni Association has been working hard planning activities and programs for the weekend. We, as a class, have also planned a few extra activities that you might want to join us in, if you are able to attend.

On Friday morning, October 8<sup>th</sup>, we are planning to meet at the College Church at 10:00am and drive into Boston, where we will pick up the Boston Duck Tour at 12:00 noon. The cost is \$27.60 if you are 62 or older (think we qualify for that?) and have at least 20 people. The cost is \$30.50 if less than 20.

On Saturday night, the 9<sup>th</sup>, we will enjoy a catered dinner at Thayer—the cost is \$30. Our class will be participating in this for our Saturday Evening activity. This is a fundraiser for alumni and a great social gathering for our class.

On Sunday morning, at 9am is a pancake breakfast served at the College Church Fellowship Hall by your Alumni Officers. The cost is \$5.

And finally, on Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm we will be going to the Old Mill Restaurant for Dinner. I do not have the final cost for that as of yet.



If you think you will be able to join us, and participate in any of these special planned events, please contact me as soon as your plans are made. I must have a final count for the Boston Duck Tour by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, along with payment for your tickets. For the Old Mill Restaurant I will need a final count by Sept 20<sup>th</sup>.

If you happen to get into town on Thursday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, come on by the Harris Home at 6:00 pm for a Corn Chowder Supper. Just let me know if you are coming, so I can make sure to have plenty.

I hope you will be able to join us for the weekend.

—June Hilbert Harris, '65

e-mail: [Ronald.harris3@comcast.net](mailto:Ronald.harris3@comcast.net)  
978-368-1667

BURIED TREASURE . . .

*Here's your Answer to what was found in the "Time Capsule" for the Class of 1989.*

Chattering from the cold, they eagerly peered over the edge of the hole. As the lid was gently pried open, a most unwelcome stench met every nose.

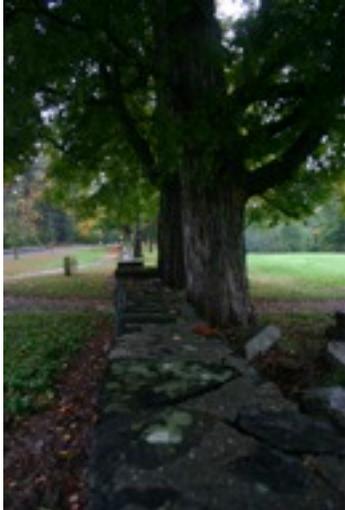
"What reeks?" was the question on everyone's mind. Objects swirled around on twenty year old stagnant water, (was that a cast floating on the top?) No one wanted to touch the stuff. They gathered their courage, held their

breath and pushed in with a shovel, carefully, as to not splash any of that caustic water upon anyone. Each object then became a guessing game; what was it and who did it belong to? A hat, a pin, a school of sneakers, newspapers (that remarkably were still legible), sports paraphernalia, music, books and many photos. Nothing was salvageable.

Note to future classes: *find a water tight container that can withstand New England's frozen ground.*

ARTIST WAYNE HAZEN '65  
SET TO FILM THE "THE CAPTIVE" IN '12  
YEAR

Lancaster has a long and rich history, one of the most interesting and compelling stories of which is Mary Rowlandson's. Wayne Hazen, '65, has undertaken to put the story of Mary



Rowlandson on the silver screen. Mary was the pastor's wife in the Town of Lancaster in the winter of 1675 who was taken captive by Native Americans and, after moving and living within their group for most of a winter, was exchanged back to the settlers. She wrote of her exceptional experiences and became one of the first female writers to be published in the New World.

Wayne first illustrated and republished an edition of Mary's book. Filming will begin in 2012 on location in Lancaster near the Nashua River where the family and the other settlers lived. The settlement was located on the property adjacent to Thayer Mansion.

A reproduction garrison house and out buildings such as the Rowlandson's would have lived in is to be built there and will become a museum. The project has produced an enthusiastic response from the MA Historical Commission who has now begun an archeological dig on the site. The artifacts found will be given to the Lancaster Historical Commission and will finally be preserved in the museum.

The illustration attached was done by Wayne has generously donated a beautiful drawing from his book to the SLA Alumni Association to use for fundraising.

See our web site.

—Phyllis Fales Sabol '65

SOMEONE BACK THEN WAS ALSO HELPING . . .

Remember, while we were students at SLA, someone back then was also helping and making a difference for us. It is our turn now. Add SLA to your gift list and send a check today— or save a tree and a stamp and check out our updated website: you can give online!



A L U M N I G I F T T O S L A

On Alumni Weekend, 2009, Dan Harris, '59 got fired up about doing something nice for our current students. When asked, Jon Nosek said that the science department desperately needed a digital microscope. The 50 year class spearheaded this project and the end result is pictured here.

The new Model 400A Trinocular Compound



Microscope has magnification settings from 40X - 1600X allowing students to find images while the same image can be viewed by the teacher on her computer monitor. The teacher can

simultaneously project these images for the entire class. Retailing at \$2,500., Jon was able to get an excellent bargain. A member of the Class of 1966 purchased a 200 piece prepared slide kit to go along with the scope. As you can see, the teacher and the students alike are very happy with this purchase.



What a difference a gift like this can make; and all because someone decided to take on a special project for our school. Think what could happen if each honor class decided to do something nice for SLA's current students!

*Phyllis Fales Sabol '65*  
Fundraising Committee

S L A A D D S F L O R I D A A L U M N I C H A P T E R

My husband, Rod and I moved to Florida five years ago after living in New England for 63 years. Now we are blessed to return just prior to the S.N.E Campmeeting every year to visit with our family and friends for a few months. During our stay we visited with Jon Nosek, SLA Alumni Director of Development. We chatted and he invited us to come over to SLA and talk with me about the alumni. Jon knows my interest in the SLA Alumni as I served as both secretary (1981-'89) and then president (1990-'94). It has been a goal of Jon and the alumni officers to start an SLA Alumni chapter in Florida. The question was whether I would be interested in the challenge? My reply was -'Yes!' This is an exciting time for the SLA Alumni Association and I am happy to be a part. The arrangements are now in place for our first meeting of the SLA Alumni Florida Chapter!



—June Whitney Reams '61

*First row, left to right: Reina Ortiz Kloczkowski, '53; Midge Murray '42; Nancy Mizher '40; Elaine Yakush '55; Judith Bean Twining '60; Margaret Wods Simpson '57; Janet Woods Keseler '55; Kathleen Foggo '63; Marilyn Moore Field '62; Nancy Mastrapa '63; June Whitney Reams '61*



WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A LITTLE LOOSE CHANGE?

For the cost of a couple of vege-turkey rolls or a simple dinner out, you can make a difference. In a few weeks, you and your 1800 fellow alumni can make that \$10 or \$25 grow to \$20,000, \$50,000—or more!!! Now that's change. Call us: 978.365.5225

## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Bob Schmidt, '49** – I was a student at Union Springs Academy when my schooling ended abruptly by being drafted into the Army. In 1944 I entered the Medical Corp and became a Surgical Technician. I was stationed on the navy hospital ship USS Comfort. The ship carried replacement nurses to islands in the South Pacific while picking up and caring for the wounded GIs, transporting them back to the states. I returned from the war and graduated from SLA in 1949. In 2009, I contacted twenty-eight of our classmates to attend our 60<sup>th</sup> reunion. Seventeen came to celebrate this milestone. For most of my life, I have run my own interior design business. I have 4 children and live in Medford, MA, where I volunteers at the "Take It to Heart" ministry and other church outreach organizations.

**Tania Zurcher Lehmann, '60**— She graduated from South Lancaster Academy in 1960 with her brother, Fred. Before arriving in South Lancaster, they had lived in the mission field of Madagascar with their parents. Tania attended college at the French Adventist Seminary in Collonges, France and was a Librarian for the college for many years. Later she was secretary to her husband, Dr. Richard Lehmann while he was president of the college. Although they are now retired, they remain in France and visit often with their three grown children.

**June Hilbert Harris '65** - After graduating for SLA I attended AUC for one year. In 1968 I married Ron Harris, Class of '63, and we were blessed with 2 sons. Both are graduates of SLA, Lance '88 and Scott '92. Currently, we reside in Clinton, MA. I am a licensed Insurance Producer and have spent the past 34

years working at Siver Insurance Agency in So. Lancaster. I also serve on the Finance Committee of the College Church and the Video Team at the College Church. Currently I hold the position of Assistant Treasurer of the SLA Alumni Association and have enjoyed serving as the Class Representative for the Class of '65 for the past 35 years.

Ron and I love spending time with family, especially our two precious grandchildren. While we have always loved to travel, in the past few years Cruising has become our favorite vacation.

**Nancy Johnson Wood, '65** – I graduated from AUC majoring in Elem. ED and taught second grade for almost seven years. I have lived in the Northern Virginia area for 30 years and have two married children who live in the Northern Virginia area also. I am the proud grandmother of two granddaughters. I have a wonderful significant other with whom I have shared my life with for the last 17 years. I currently work as a sales representative for Charles River Apparel, a promotional product active wear company, for 27 years. They are based in Massachusetts. I cover the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, D.C. and Delaware. In my spare time I volunteer as social director for our homeowners' association, travel, and spend time with grandchildren.

**Eileen Leshner, '66** – In 1984 I moved to Andrews University (in Michigan) after I left nursing due to health reasons. Initially I worked in the Registrar's Office with Norman Roy, and subsequently as Director of Graduate Admissions. This has involved doing international transcript evaluations. This not only entails figuring a GPA for a potential

student, but finding what system of education is used in that country, how to translate their grade and credit system into our system, making sure the schools they attended are accredited, matching the English translation original language, and matching the degree with a comparable degree. It is a fascinating job especially if you like a challenge!

**Ed Johnson, '75** – Ed is living in Winterville, GA with his wife, Diane, and daughter, Sarah, who just completed her freshman year in college. Ed is a graduate of Loma Linda University and works as an occupational therapist in nursing homes in the Athens, GA area. Also working with the Pathfinders for many years, he greatly enjoys the campouts and backpacking in the Georgia wilderness. Although raised in New England, he now loves the south.

**Deborah (Bernet) Gifford, '75** - Ralph Gifford III, '75, and I are happily married for 34 years. I love spending time with our children and their families: Ralph IV, '96, Ted, '97, and Sheila Cook, '99. Ralph and I are blessed with 5 grandchildren and the 6<sup>th</sup> one on the way! Ralph and I live in S. Lancaster, MA. Work has includes 12 years as secretary at Browning Elementary School, 6 years as secretary at Thayer Performing Arts Center and Music Department at AUC and currently 4 years as secretary at the Department of Nursing at AUC. Play includes time with our grandchildren, running errands for shut-ins, gardening, hiking/walking, reading, and singing in Ladies' Choir.

## 2009-2010 Alumni Officers

### President

Janice Kendrick '66  
*jankendrick@botmail.com.*

### Co-Vice Presidents

Phyllis Sabol '65  
*dlsabol@charter.net.*

Heather Lennon '67  
*hlenmon@earthlink.net.*

### Treasurer

Deb Gifford  
*DeborabGifford@auc.edu*

### Assistant Treasurer

June Harris '65  
*ronaldbarris@comcast.net.*

### Secretary

Carmela Cotrina '04  
*anacotrina@gmail.com.*

### Historian

Alice Bowden '41

### SLA Director of Development

Jon Nosek, '66

## Weekend at a Glance – October 8-10, 2010

### Friday, October 8

3:00 Registration  
3:00 Car Wash to benefit the SLA Senior Class  
7:30 Music Festival Reunion  
Program

### Sabbath, October 9

8:30 Registration continues  
9:20 Sabbath School – Class of '65  
11:00 Worship Service

### Sabbath afternoon:

11:00 Alumni Luncheon  
3:00 Class Meetings  
3:00 Art Exhibit, Wayne Hazen '65  
3:00 Historical lecture/tour  
5:30 Sabbath Vespers, Class of '80  
7:00 Evening Dinner at Thayer  
7:30 Women's Basketball  
8:30 Men's Basketball

### Sunday, October 10

9:00 Pancake Breakfast  
11:00 SLA Alumni Business Meeting



Eorum Claritatem  
1234 Main Street  
Anytown, State ZIP

Trenz Pruca  
4321 First Street  
Anytown, State ZIP

