

Echoes

October/November 2021

The Haddonfield Alumni Society Newsletter

Online at hmhsalumni.org



The Haddonfield Alumni Society (HAS) newsletter shares information about the alumni community and their continued good work on behalf of the Haddonfield Public Schools.

President's Message

Dear Alumni/ae,

This has been a challenging year for us at Haddonfield Alumni Society. The pandemic forced us to adapt and find new ways to connect across this community. Some reunions took place by zoom. We developed alumni master classes and tapped into your expertise to benefit the larger alumni community. A contingent of former drama club members came together via zoom to celebrate their mentor Jack Shaw (see this issue). People were inventive about how to stay connected.

In the upcoming days, we will greet each other again face to face. HAS will host the Annual Fall Happy Hour at Tavistock on 11/24 at 6:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased online (hmhsalumni.org) or at the door. On Saturday, 11/27, we will welcome the Lifetime Achievement Award recipients to HMHS. A breakfast reception begins in the cafeteria at 9:00 am and the ceremony will follow at 10:00 in the auditorium. All are welcome. Or perhaps, we will see you at the game. This year hosted by Haddon Heights at 11:00 am on 11/25. Go Haddons.

As the Thanksgiving holidays are upon us, we have much to be grateful for. My fellow trustees and I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and all the blessings of family and friends.

Joseph Serico
Haddonfield Alumni Society, President

Important Dates

11/24 HAS Fall Happy Hour
11/25 Thanksgiving Game (Away)
11/27 Lifetime Achievement Awards

Please visit our website hmhsalumni.org for information on upcoming events and reunions.

Haddonfield Alumni Society

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Website: www.hmhsalumni.org

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Find Us Online

We are on the web at hmhsalumni.org and also on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn





HAS Announces Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients for 2021 Ceremony set for November 27, 2021

The Haddonfield Alumni Society will hold their annual meeting and awards ceremony on November 11, 2021 in the auditorium at HMHS. The HAS will honor recipients from both 2020 and 2021. The awards ceremony will begin at 10:00 am and will be preceded by a breakfast reception at 9:00 am. All alumni are invited to attend the ceremony and reception. **Among those being honored for 2021 are the following:**

Dr. Bruce Lindsay '69



Dr. Lindsay earned his BS degree from Eckerd College '73 and graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1977 and completed a residency at the University of Michigan. Dr. Lindsay has been described by colleagues as “a superb

clinician and highly respected at national and international levels as an authority on heart-rhythm abnormalities and their treatment.” During the course of his career as the Director of Electrophysiology at Washington University Medical Center and later as Vice Chair of Cardiology at the Cleveland Clinic, Bruce has been involved in leading edge research including the implantation of defibrillators without opening a patient’s chest, the use of ablation to treat arrhythmias, and treatment strategies for atrial fibrillation. As a result of his indefatigable work, he has co-authored more than 150 peer reviewed publications and lectured at meetings throughout the United States, Europe, Japan, India, and China.

Donald Chew '69



Don attended Lafayette University graduating summa cum laude with a BA in English. He spent the next six years doing graduate work at the University of Rochester, earning a Ph. D. in English

and American Literature and later earned an MBA in finance at the Rochester’s Simon School of Business. In 1979, Don moved to New York City to work with the Financial Policy Division of the Chase Manhattan Bank. He founded a publication called The Chase Financial Quarterly, which later became the Journal of Applied Corporate Finance, which Don has edited for more than 40 years. Made up mainly of articles written by finance academics for practicing corporate executives, the JACF aims to explain the workings of capital markets and how the executives can use the principles and methods of finance to increase the long-run efficiency and value of their organizations, whether they be for-profit, non-profit, or part of the public sector. In addition to his work at the Journal of Applied Corporate Finance, Don has edited and published some ten collections of articles, two of which—The New Corporate Finance: Where Theory Meets Practice (McGraw-Hill) and (with Joel Stern) The Revolution in Corporate Finance (Blackwell)—continue to be used in business schools throughout the world.

Dr. Laura Iavicoli '89



Dr. Iavicoli earned a BA in Psychology, Summa Cum Laude from Boston University and her Doctor of Medicine degree from Robert Wood Johnson, UMDNJ. A board-certified Emergency Medicine physician with special expertise in Emergency Management, her career includes twenty years as an emergency room physician at Elmhurst General Hospital in Queens while also serving as an Associate Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She was most recently appointed Deputy Chief Medical Officer for NYC Health and Hospitals/Elmhurst. She has been at the forefront of disaster preparedness in NYC, having given over 20 invited lectures and/or presentations on emergency management and authored or co-authored some 17 journal articles related to her field of expertise. Her



emergency medicine experience had previously brought her face to face with several earlier crises including SARS, H1N1, and Ebola but none that matched the scale of Covid-19 pandemic. Laura described her safety-net hospital as “the most magical place on earth,” with a skilled, committed staff and a diverse mix of patients who offer fresh challenges every day. At the height of the pandemic, her emergency room was seeing 400 patients per day, double its usual number. Laura’s extraordinary efforts did not go unrecognized. In July, 2021 she was “recognized for heroic contributions to the five boroughs during the COVID-19 pandemic with tireless dedication to New York City” and was given the Hometown Hero Essential Worker Award. In September, 2020, she was honored with the Schneps Media Healthcare Heroes Award “for dedication and service to the healthcare community”. She also received the NYC Health and Hospitals, Elmhurst Emergency Department, Healthcare Hero Award, for dedication and leadership at Elmhurst Hospital during the COVID pandemic.

Lisa Weissenberger Wolschina '89



Ms. Wolschina graduated from Princeton University '93 where she majored in history. She later completed her MA in education at Rutgers New Brunswick, graduating with Honors in 1995. Lisa returned to her alma mater to teach high school social studies, coach cheerleading, advise the freshman class and moderate the Interact Club. In 2000, Ms. Wolschina made some life changing decisions about balancing career and motherhood. She chose a career in real estate where she has exemplified exceptional achievement over the past twenty years., Lisa manages her own branch of Keller Williams Real Estate. She earned the NJAR Circle of Excellence Award consistently from 2007-2020 and she has been the perennial leader in sales production and dollar volume for all of Camden County. She is nationally ranked in the top 100 realtors in Keller Williams; an organization that has over 500,000 realtors. Her staff of 10 real estate agents has outperformed her nearest Haddonfield competitor by a more than

two to one margin. Ms. Wolschina is among that very special group of businessmen and businesswomen of Haddonfield who are dedicated to giving back to the community. Lisa has no peer when it comes to philanthropic efforts. Her efforts in this area are tireless and her impact enormous in our small community.

Ms. Lynn Green – Teacher Nominee



Ms. Green began her teaching career as a special education teacher at Haddonfield Memorial High School in 1988. From those earliest days she showed the compassion and empathy to high school students that would become the hallmark of her thirty-three

year career. Lynn truly found her niche in the district as a kindergarten teacher at Elizabeth Haddon. Dr. Heather Stambaugh, a parent whose three children had Lynn as their kindergarten teacher, wrote: “...we realized how lucky our son was to have Lynn as a teacher. She gave careful individualized attention to the academic and emotional needs of each of her students. She was always at the ready with a kind word or warm hug for them. She gave her students the foundation and tools to be successful learners.” As a teacher, Lynn was an advocate for developing a curriculum that was engaging yet challenging for the students. As a reading and writing specialist, she was an integral part of the Reading Recovery program and was deeply involved in creating a curriculum that insured her students would thrive and make smooth grade level transitions. Lynn was also a valued member of the school-wide committee that helped Elizabeth Haddon earn status as a “Blue Ribbon School”.

Also being honored at the ceremony will be our 2020 recipients, John Curran '58, M.D., Beth Burrough '81, Susan Mockus Parks '86, M.D. and teacher nominee, Jeffrey Boogard.



"Dramahood' of Friends: The 1973-1981 Drama Club Lauree Padgett (Class of 1980)



Dinner at Verona's in Haddonfield on 10/23 before attending HMHS production of *The Book of Everything*. Photo by Mimi Sullivan. From left to right: Steve Quickel, Elaine Winder, Herb Hess, Sue O'Malley-Sheehan, Bill Rauch, Jeff Holman, Lauree Padgett, Kathy Dye.

It's not unusual for sports teams to reunite on the anniversary of a championship game to reminisce about the plays and players that contributed to the ultimate winning season. However, there is a group of HMHS alums who still stay in touch and, on special occasions, gather together to talk about their shared memories and to be with their favorite "coach." This group learned a lot about plays—and life—but did it on, in front of, and/or behind a stage, not in any athletic setting.

This particular group still collectively refers to itself as the Drama Club 40-plus years after the last of them acted in a show or helped behind-the-scenes to put one on. While there are a variety of reasons so many people, from a range of class years, have remained connected and see each other whenever possible, this long-term bonding began with a young man, starting his second teaching "gig" after college, and the atmosphere he created where each student could feel accepted, safe, and free to be, or find, their true self.

In today's social media parlance, Jack Shaw, English teacher and director of the school's theater department from 1973 to 1981, would probably be called "an influencer." Back when he stood in front of classes and paced in the back of the auditorium during shows, Jack was known as a mentor. And by his example, he turned his students into mentors as well.

Upper-class actors and crew members didn't act like they were more important than the freshmen who were just cutting their teeth working the lights, helping to build the

set, or making their debut on stage speaking a few lines or singing in chorus numbers. This was because Jack made it clear by how he treated each student who participated in a show that everyone had a role to play, and all were important to the overall success of each production. That's why seniors took the "newbies" under their wings and helped to teach them the ropes—sometimes literally. As a result, class rank lost its power and often freshmen hung out with seniors. Since the fall shows back then took place over a two-week period that included Thanksgiving, former drama club members who were home would come back to cheer on their friends and meet the new crop of students. This is how students who weren't at HMHS at the same time met and became friends.

Here are a few examples. Bill Rauch (1980) moved to Haddonfield in 1978, when he was a sophomore, so he never met John Adler (1977). That did not keep John from reaching out when Bill was a freshman and John was a senior at Harvard. Decades later, in 2014, Mimi Sullivan, who also graduated in 1977, would be among a large group of Drama Club members who went up to New York City to see *All the Way*, which was Bill's Broadway directorial debut. A few years later, Mimi would travel out to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) where Bill was in his 12-year tenure as its artistic director, seeking input while writing doctoral paper on how drama can catalyze people's natural healing from psychological stress and injuries. In 2018, Mimi got me out to OSF, and the following year, we would bring her classmates Becky Rogers Bushong (1974) along with Jack and Sue, to OSF.

Jack's departure from HMHS in 1981 was unexpected and occurred after he got an opportunity to do graduate work in broadcast journalism at Temple. Unbeknownst to his students who were involved in it, the 1981 spring musical *Once Upon a Mattress* would be the last show he directed at the high school. When the sad news broke that "Mr. Shaw" was leaving, a plan was hatched to surprise him and his wife Sue, often the orchestra director the spring shows who was also "instrumental" in supporting and encouraging her husband's "kids," with a thank-you party.

That party would be the first of many. The next was another surprise to celebrate Jack's 40th in June of 1990.



It was attended by nearly 40 former students, some who traveled from Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, and North Carolina. A few went above and beyond to attend. Elaine Winder (1978) postponed a vacation to be with the Shaws and her drama club family. Rob Lynch (1981) drove up to the Poconos for an early afternoon wedding, then made it back to Haddonfield in time to yell, "Surprise!"

In 1997, Jack was honored by the Haddonfield Alumni Society as the first recipient of its Teacher Lifetime Achievement Award. Many of his kids were in on a surprise dinner the night before, and many attended the ceremony the next day. Parties for Jack's 50th and 60th birthdays that also served as drama club reunions took place in 2000 and 2010. In anticipation of his 70th birthday in 2020, a small group began planning another party, hoping that by the end of June, COVID-19 would be history. But by the end of May, it was clear an in-person gathering was not happening. The group, which featured former students from Jack's first year through to his last, decided to do the next best thing: Put on a show via Zoom. In less than 6 weeks, 13 people created a 90-minute iMovie that featured 50 former Drama Club members acting and singing in a script that largely parodied the 16 mainstage shows that were produced during Jack's tenure. The iMovie, a surprise to the Shaws (they thought the Zoom was in lieu of a reunion) was presented as a webinar. The party itself followed as a Zoom meeting and went on much longer than anticipated because everyone was having such a great time being as "together" as possible.

Herb Hess (1978) had this to say in reflecting on his time in the Drama Club: "Jack Shaw clearly cared for any young person who was willing to put themselves into the auditorium to act, direct, design, build, light, sew, or work the sound system. He was funny and serious at the same time. So we all had a shared experience that demanded something of us that only we could give — a willingness to stretch our abilities and the commitment to take responsibility for a part of the play. I [was] the guy selling lemonade and candy at the back of the house. My stage time was limited, as was my backstage time. Even so, I saw the joy and tears and sweat and work of the cast and crew. Jack demanded that we respect each other and that we all do our part to put on the show. At the end of the productions, there was an immense feeling of

celebration mixed with exhaustion. How could you not have a bond with your friends who joined you on that journey?"

Sue O'Malley-Sheehan (1982) offered this perspective: "Because I stayed in the area after college, moving back to Haddonfield to raise my family in 1996, I stayed in contact with Jenn Herdelin O'Neill [1982] and many of the other former HMHS Drama Club alums. I celebrated Jack's 50th birthday, and then in 2014 when a group of us went up to NYC to see Bill Rauch's production of *All The Way*" with Jack and Sue, that started us all on our journey of traveling to see Bill's shows together. But it was Jack's presence as much as Bill's that cemented our little group of happy theater goers. Jack personified inclusion and acceptance and instilled in all of the kids that ever performed or did stage crew under his guidance, a sense of safety and belonging. No matter if we had a starring, supporting, or behind-the-scenes role in the Drama Club, Jack made us all feel like leaders."

The final song from the iMovie, which had the long title of *Plays Gone By: A Tribute to Jack Shaw on His 70th Birthday*, was a spoof of the song "Brotherhood of Man," from the musical *How to Succeed in Business (Without Really Trying)*, which the Drama Club put on in 1979. The chorus perhaps best sums up why such a large number of people, many of whom did not even go to HMHS at the same time, are all these years later still friends:

There is a dramahood of friends
A benevolent dramahood of friends
A noble tie that binds all of our hearts and minds
Into one dramahood of friends.

Our lifelong membership is free
We're giving each other all we can
Oh aren't you proud to be
In the Jack Shaw family
That great big dramahood of friends

It also explains why the creators of *Plays Gone By* are now part of the JDS Legacy Group to "pay forward" all that they learned from Jack Duncan Shaw (aka JDS) to future generations. For more information about the JDS Legacy Group or to be added to the Drama Club Contacts List, email me: lauree.padgett@gmail.com



WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

While the Haddonfield Alumni Society trustees volunteer their time and energies without compensation in efforts to serve the interests of former HMHS students, costs are incurred in providing some of these services. These services include:

- Annual Scholarship
Monthly Newsletters
Spring & Fall Happy Hours
Lifetime Achievement Awards
Misc.- Postage, fees, etc.
Participating in Fall Festival
Hosting an Annual Alumni Barbecue Bash
Maintaining Databases
Providing email contacts
Responding to inquiries

In recent years, costs have exceeded donations that the Alumni Society has received. We firmly believe that these activities are worthwhile endeavors and would like to continue to offer all of them. However, we will not be able to do so without adequate funding.

We ask that you donate generously to help us to continue to serve you and the friends that you went to school with. We also welcome your input on ways to provide higher and broader levels of service.

Mail donations to Haddonfield Alumni Society, c/o Haddonfield Memorial High School, 401 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033
OR to donate now, go to hmhsalumni.org

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