On April 20th artillery batteries of the People’s Liberation Army on the north bank of the Yangtse River between Shanghai and Nanking opened fire on the British frigate HMS Amethyst as it was steaming toward Nanking. The long barrage wounded thirty-one of the crew and killed twenty-two including the captain. The ship took fifty direct hits and was temporarily disabled and grounded. (1) On the next day the PLA took Nanking.

At this point SAS principal Arthur Owens decided that the imminent invasion of Shanghai might pose some risks for his students, and he notified missionary parents in the South China missions that he was sending their children home as soon as possible. Over three hundred students, including all military children, had already either left on the USS Breckinridge in January, or an earlier ship. Mr. Owens also correctly guessed that under Communist rule Americans would find it hard to leave Shanghai.

The US Navy agreed to take these students to Hong Kong on the hospital ship USS Repose. Mr. Owens informed some thirty (2) SAS students whose parents had been notified, that they had only three or four days to pack their belongings, get visas and six innoculations, and say goodbye to their remaining schoolmates. He appointed Harold Snuggs to take charge of the exodus.

(Continued on next page)
Harold had intended to stay in Shanghai, but on learning from his father that he had worked for U.S. naval intelligence and fearing that the Communist government might confuse him, with his father, for whom he was named, Harold agreed to escort the departing students to Hong Kong.

On April 28th, our surmised (3) day of departure, our trunks were piled into Navy trucks and we arranged ourselves on top of the trunks for a slow drive through Shanghai’s crowded streets to Hongkew.

The scene at dockside was one of some confusion. Paul Vander Meer thought he was not on the list because the officer in charge called out his last name as “Meer.” Don McLeod’s mother collapsed on the pier and Don, age ten and understandably terrified, was left by himself. Eventually, he and his mother got on board. Harold Snuggs saw all his charges safely onto the LCI (Landing Craft Infantry) which was to ferry them to the Repose anchored in the middle of the Whangpoo, but one faculty member refused to board.

She told Harold that her husband, a serious drinker, was at one of his favourite watering holes and she could not leave without him. Harold was torn between joining his charges on the LCI and helping this woman find her husband, which might leave him stuck in Shanghai. Duty prevailed over caution and they took a taxi to several popular bars, at length finding the prodigal. They pulled him into the cab, raced back to the waterfront and found that the LCI had long since left. Looking far down the dock they saw a Navy tug about to cast off. Dragging their besotted burden Harold and the loyal wife ran to the tug and made it; the tug reached the Repose and all was finally well.

We have few and singular memories of that trip. We remember the surprisingly good food served cafeteria style. David Angus recalls baked beans and lemonade for breakfast one morning and Kathy Oltman first encountered hash browns at the same meal.

Male students landed in a spacious ward which formerly housed VD patients. Don Ady remembers that Paul Vander Meer dropped a dirty sock into the open mouth of sleeping John Snuggs. Betty Brewster remembers that her brother David had the measles and had to be quarantined. Betty also remembers movies on the deck in the evening and hearing “Red Sails in the Sunset” and “Slow Boat to China” on the ship loudspeakers.

Women students recall the attention of the crew. Mimi writes, “Those sailors on the Repose hadn’t been home for two years and some of them were all over us teenage girls. (One) ...cautioned me about hanging out with at least one sailor ... (who) could not be trusted to have my well-being in mind.”

Abby Overholt and Don Ady remember sore arms from the inoculations, and having to pack their trunks and slide down the ship’s bannisters with stiff arms. Abby also remembers that two sailors from the HMS Amethyst and HMS Black Swan died on that trip.

It’s remarkable is how little we recall of that trip. I have no memories of my own and am grateful to those who wrote me with theirs. (4)
Upon reaching Hong Kong our party dispersed swiftly and without ceremony. Some of us took the night train to Canton. Some left for Fuchien, some for the Philippines, some for the States and some remained in Hong Kong. It is sad to think that as a powerful and intimate experience as we shared at SAS ended so abruptly, but we were immersed in events moving too fast for us to understand at that time.

It also makes some of us sad to think that we left classmates and teachers in Shanghai to make the best of a bad situation. By May 16th according to Val Sundt’s meticulous report 385 students had withdrawn from SAS, leaving only 8 faculty (including Ruth Wilkes (Betty’s mother), Jenny Lea, Mrs. Merritt, Val Sundt and Edmund Wilkes) and 95 students, half of them American. On May 25th the PLA army walked down Avenue Petain while our schoolmates were taking exams in the study hall. On May 28th SAS graduated 24 seniors, eleven in absentia. Many months later thanks to Mrs. Barr the last yearbook of the postwar SAS appeared, all 132 pages of it.

Mr. Owens was right. Ed Winter wasn’t able to leave until six months after graduation because the Nationalists blockaded Chinese ports. Teddy Heinrichsohn was not able to leave Shanghai until 1955. Molly Lu Isham left Beijing in 1976 after imprisonment and beatings. Teddy and Molly have written accounts of their survival in a terrifying and hostile environment.

Our departure from Shanghai in 1949 was scarcely a footnote in the tumultuous history of those times when the West was losing its power in the East. Years later in college classes, conversations, reading and especially at our reunions we began to realize the significance of those confusing days. Our collective memories have the power to heal as well as teach.

1. After this engagement the HMS London and HMS Black Swan sped up the river from Shanghai to relieve the Amethyst but eventually turned around because of heavy fire. About sixty of the crew swam to the south shore, some of whom were wounded in the process, and all of these were taken by Nationalist troops to Shanghai. The wounded who survived this trip were taken onto the Repose.

2. The list of departees which I and Mimi have assembled follows: Don Ady, David Angus, Mimi, Betty, Priscilla and David Brewster, Anna Louise and Henry Bucher, Tom and Andrew Cooley, Jean Downey, Richie Hofstra, Anne Lockwood, Harry and Cecile Lewis, Don MacLeod, Mary Newman, Kathy Oltman, Abby Oberholt, Marjorie and Pat Pickens, Eadik Rinden, Betty Jean Rugh, Carl and Anne Scovel, John Snuggs, Bob Thelin, Paul Vander Meer, Clara Jean Winter plus about four people whom we can’t identify. In addition the Snuggs and Lewis parents, Dr. Hofstra and Mrs. MacLeod were on the Repose.

3. David Angus had his passport stamped by British Passport Control on April 27th, granting transit through Hongkong “en route to Canton ... good for one direct transit only.” From this he guesses that we left on the following day.

4. Harold Snuggs in particular helped me with large parts of this account, but Don Ady, David Angus, Betty and Mimi Brewster, Don MacLeod, Kathy Oltman, Anny Oberholt and Paul Vander Meer also sent me long or short reports.
Rebuilding Taizi Village

By David Merwin, ’53

In July 2009, I joined eighteen other Americans, ranging in age from 16-74, on a Habitat for Humanity project in Sichuan Province to help rebuild Taizi, a village of 400 families that was destroyed in the May 12, 2008, earthquake. It was on our way by bus from Pengzhou City to the village’s new site that we had our first view of the devastation caused by the temblor: the remains of Taizi Village—huge fallen slabs of concrete, stairs leading to nowhere, pick-up-stick-like jumbles of timbers, the entire area covered in a black-brown dust.

A few miles up the road from the ruins, a site for the new village, with nearby temporary housing, had been established. And the work of building houses (designed by architecture students from Sichuan University) was well underway by the time we got there, the grounds occupied by structures representing every stage of construction, from mere foundations to finished houses—red paper lanterns hanging from their eves and corn growing in small lots nearby—in which people were already living.

Over a two-week period, our work consisted mostly of digging foundation trenches, leveling piles of dirt, transporting bricks by wheelbarrow and stacking them for the masons, and removing or repositioning rocks and boulders.

On our first day of work, two young girls, ages 9 and 10, named Xiao-qing and Wan-ting, came to the work site and gave us each a dahlia—some yellow, some red—which we secured to our hard hats. During our lunch breaks, we spent time with the children of the village playing tag and soccer, wrestling with the “Naughty One” (so named because he liked to grab the soccer ball and run away with it), posing for photos, giving the girls hairdo’s—done by the team’s two youngest members, Candice (21) and Taylor (16). On our third day, one of the villagers, Luo Ruichang, showed us photos of his family: his son and daughter-in-law on their wedding day, his 8-month-old grandson dressed in red pajamas and a yellow cap, himself dressed in an army uniform. And while listening to Mr. Luo recount the tragedy, we learned that his grandson and daughter-in-law died in the earthquake.

(Continued on next page)
The SASA News Fall 2009

The next day—work suspended for the day because heavy rains the night before had flooded our work site—Mr. Luo took us on a hike up a nearby mountainside. We ended up on a ridge from where we had a spectacular view of the valley below and its surrounding mountains: the rains had cleared the skies, leaving pockets of mist in the crevices and canyons of the mountains—a scene out of a classical Chinese landscape-painting.

For our walk back, Mr. Luo fashioned each of us a walking stick out of downed tree limbs to help us manage the mountainside’s steep and slippery trails. And during one of our conversations on the way down, Mr. Luo said: “Before the earthquake, the five members of my family were very happy together—and now there are only three.”

Later, asked about how he felt towards us, about our being there building houses, Mr. Luo said: “So great that I can’t find words to express my feelings. When I see you, I feel very close to you.”

At the end of our stay, Christina Chang, summing up well our feelings about our time at Taizi Village, said, “This has been a wonderful and rewarding experience. I am touched and humbled to see how grateful the Chinese are to Habitat for Humanity and the Americans.”

From the Editor

Mimi Gardner

What an amazing array of folks we are spread out across the world! As emails or notes or manuscripts come in to me with stories of experiences that I find so interesting, I want to create a small magazine each time so that every word of the telling can be included. My interest used to be mainly with schoolmates of my era – post-war, pre-liberation. And indeed I’d love to hear from more of you with photos attached!

As I ripen and as I connect with a number of you community of saints who went before, I am so appreciating the vigor and joy of your memories of China and SAS and your many other interests also. Some of the obituaries also add much to the story of our presence in the world. Where I have very little of that story for some folks, I hope you will send me more if you knew the person being remembered.

Ted Stannard, among many other interesting ideas, suggested that I ask you to cc me if you are in the habit of writing an annual Christmas letter. So please do so if you’d like to see vignettes of yourself in print – mimihollister1@verizon.net or 7 Glover Square, Marblehead, MA 01945.

Thanks for your contributions. Keep ‘em coming!
Better City, Better Life

Betty Barr

How much Shanghai dialect can you manage? On the 200th day of the countdown to the World Expo to be held in Shanghai next year, the recently appointed American ambassador to China, Jon Huntsman, said, “Nung haw” (Ni hao / Hello) and “Ziazia nung” (Xiexie ni / Thank you) to show his friendliness to the Shanghai people. He then signed his name in Chinese characters on the last beam to be put into place in the basic structure of the US pavilion.

‘Better City, Better Life’ is the overall theme of the Expo and more than 240 countries, regions and organizations are vying with each other in the design and construction of their pavilions which are being built on either side of the Huangpu River upstream from the famous section of the Bund. The theme of the US pavilion is ‘Rise to the Challenge’, the publicity stating that it will concentrate on:

- creating environmentally sustainable communities
- engaging in a healthy lifestyle
- using technology to improve people’s lives.

Like Beijing prior to the Olympics in 2008, for the past few years Shanghai has been one vast, chaotic construction site as the city tries to ready itself for the expected influx of millions of visitors. Several new subway lines are nearing completion and, while the dome of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and the clock on the Customs House tower are still visible, the area in front of them is ‘closed’ for six months while new wide walkways are being built along the river. The two airports, Hongqiao and Pudong, are being upgraded and, further afield, a double-decker tunnel has been built to Chongming Island in the mouth of the Changjiang (Yangtse River), an amazing engineering feat.

The best-known structure in the world emanating from a World Expo is, of course, the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Shanghai is not planning anything so grandiose but there will be several permanent buildings such as the huge red China Pavilion, already visible, and a large Concert Hall. Under the overall theme, each country has chosen a sub-theme, such as the UK’s ‘Seed Cathedral’. The pavilion will be a huge, 20-meter-high “light box” with 60,000 crystalline spines projecting into the air. The spines will sway in the breeze, drawing on the sun during the day to light the interior and illuminating the structure at night with tiny lights. Each of the spines will contain seeds of 24,000 plant species to be collected in a biodiversity project. These seeds will be planted later. For fun, the area around the ‘cathedral’ will be designed to look like wrapping paper, signifying a gift of friendship to China. Visitors will feel that they are stepping on a piece of paper when they approach the pavilion.

The mascot of the Expo is Haibao (Treasures of the Seas), a blue creature in the shape of the two-stroked Chinese character for ren (human being). The publicity says that Haibao is a happy, naive, confident and lovely child. “Its blueness symbolizes many things: the earth, dreams, the oceans, life, future and technology.”

To further publicize the event, there are three well-known ambassadors: Shanghai-born Lang Lang, the pianist, and Yao Ming, the NBA star, and the Hong Kong actor, Jackie Chan.

The World Expo begins on May 1, 2010, and will last for six months. Group and individual tickets are already on sale. Why not come to Shanghai to join in the excitement? Failing that, when Shanghai is in the eyes of the world you could show off your Shanghai hua to your family and friends!
April 2010 in Shanghai

A number of us will be there for the next SASA Lecture at SAS, April 24-27, 2010. The speaker will be Deke Erh, a noted historian and photographer, who collected photos and stories from us at our Salem Reunion in 2008. He will speak about his forthcoming book on the Silk Road, showing classic photos from an earlier era and current ones from his own research and travels along this famous route.

Won’t you join us – Teddy and Andrea Heinrichsohn, Anne Lockwood Romasco, Mimi and Don Gardner, Joe Wampler, Mayna Avent and Walter Nance, Betty Barr Wang, David Merwin, Dan and Jan Williams, and Robert Sheeks.

Looking ahead, SAS will be celebrating its centennial in 2012. Watch for more on that in the future.

### The Shanghai American School Association

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- Sam Whitman 2002  SamWhitman@gmail.com

### SAS Staff Liaison

- Fred Rogers  Fred.rogers@saschina.org
- Sarah Vogel  Sarah.Vogel@saschina.org

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### Just in time for Christmas

*The Story of the Shanghai American School (1912-2008) 2nd Edition*

By Angie Mills

This story of SAS describes the school’s growth from its founding in 1912 through the turbulent events of 20th century China and the School’s subsequent rise to pre-eminent rank in international education today.

Whatever your years at SAS—this story will remind you of the excellence (and fun) of an SAS education and will amaze you at the courage and stamina of SAS students, staff and faculty during critical times. It will bring added depth to your perspective of early years in Shanghai.

**Order now from Roy Wildt:**

Roy E. Wildt Jr.
707 Putter Drive
Niceville, FL 32578
roywildtjr@myexcel.com
Notes from You

Pre WW II Alums

Pauline Schinazi Witts ’45 writes that she had lunch with Margaret Hoffman Tileston ’43 some months ago. Pauline also remembers walking to school with Becky Terry ’44 as kids and their respective brothers being best friends.

Barbara Wallace ’41 lives in Vinson Hall retirement home in McLean, VA. She is a writer. “I have had 25 children’s books published and been fortunate enough to win some awards: the William Allen White Award for Peppermints in the Parlor and two Mystery Writers of America Edgar awards.” Her two most recent books are memoirs. One is Anastasia, Florence Nightingale and I, a Nurse’s Story which is her mother’s story. It tells of her childhood in Russia through her years at the Harvard Medical School of China in Shanghai. (Did you know there was such a place?) The book is currently in the Harvard Medical School library – the one in Cambridge, MA, that is.

The second is Small Footsteps in the Land of the Dragon, Growing Up in China which is her own memoir. “This covers the time from when my mother delivered me herself in Soochow until I left China when a sophomore at SAS.” Both books are available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

It happened that a recent visitor to Vinson Hall was Sterling Whitenec ’38, who was looking at the display wall where Bobbie had contributed a childhood picture from China days. All that rang a bell in Sterling and he asked the desk to call her. They had a good conversation with many connections and discovered that he was a senior at SAS when she was a sophomore.

Dan Williams ’38 and his wife, Jan, are making plans to attend the April 2010 alumni program at SAS. (Look for others in the article, “April 2010 in Shanghai”)

He writes, “Both Wendell Furnas (SAS Faculty 1940-41) and I are mentioned in a WWII era book just published by the U.S. Naval Institute, Deciphering the Rising Sun, about Japanese codes and interrogation during the Pacific War. Wendell and I and other SAS-ites were involved.” Intriguing!

In response to the Summer issue of SASA News Dan wrote: “The Nance article brings back familiar Shanghai names. Our medical doctor was Dr. Dunn (daughter Peggy in SAS ’39 or ’40), joined by Dr. Francis Nance and later Dr. Dana Nance…Fast forward to August 1945…Our 4th Marine Division, back from the Iwo Jima experiences, on Maui and being readied for Japan, was immediately ordered back to California – except for three USMC 1st Lts. who had lived in China – who were sent to join the US Marine occupation of Beijing, Tianjin, and Qingdao. We were Dave Anderson ’37, Charles Cross of PAS and me, experienced in Japanese and some Chinese and were both pleased and curious to be making an unexpected trip to our former homeland…” Dan has maintained some contact with 1938 classmates Mary Wolcott Namey, Mary Bills Stimpson, Al Liosnoff, Doug Ridgway, George Sheeks, and Mike Hazzard.

Photo Courtesy of Walter Nance
The SASA News Fall 2009

Post WWII Alums

Annie Wu King ’52 has moved with her partner, Donna Blackstock, to Pilgrim Place, a wonderful retirement community in Claremont, CA. They live in a duplex with their two cats and very much enjoy the company of other retirees at the common noon meal. “Many of the residents have lived and worked…in various countries around the world, are still active in volunteer work and are concerned about different justice and peace issues.” She and Donna ride their scooters to the many activities around the large campus. Annie’s email is donnann1@gmail.com. Her new address is 791 N. Cambridge Ave., Claremont, CA 91711-4256

Ben Gilson ’50 sent a most interesting note that all should read. Ben spent the first half of 2009 in great pain that doctors decided was rheumatoid arthritis – “the ultimate curse to an orthopaedic surgeon” (which Ben is). He got to the point of using a cane to get out of bed and his right arm and hand swelled enormously. “Following the saying that a doctor who treats himself has a fool for a patient, I came to an epiphany one day that this could all be caused by the statin I was taking – first Zochor and later Pravachor. I stopped the drug and overnight almost all symptoms were gone”. He still has some bad days with aches and pains but nothing like before. “I am convinced that I shall recover completely with a lot of exercise and continuing frequent doses of Advil. The conclusion…is that, if you take a statin – Lipitor, Zochor, etc, - watch out if you start having a variety of pains and aches in your muscles and joints. This can be a fatal complication. Since I have had this I have met and talked to at least five other people who have had similar problems.”

Dick Kim ’46 is working on an iMovie made with the photos he took at the Salem Reunion in 2008. He served as Chaplain at the OSS William J. Donovan Awards dinner in May in which General David Petraeus was the recipient. Joining him at this event were Jim ’45 and Sally Lilley.

Sherry Sherertz Messersmith ’48 inherited the collection of family letters and papers from her sister’s family – Olive Sherertz Lanham ’42, who died in 2007. Olive had been collecting towards a book about the three women missionary ancestors in the family going back to 1854. Carrying on that unfinished project, Sherry, over the last two years, has produced a book from these archives, “with artistic and computer help from my family. My daughter, Donna Messersmith Jones, has posted a searchable pdf of the 44MB file of the book entitled The Lambuth, Park, Sherertz Women: Our Missionary Women Ancestors by Olive Sherertz Lanham and Margarita Sherertz “Sherry” Messersmith at the following link: http://www.whparkarchives.net/Our_Missionary_Women_all.pdf. I was able to include pictures, diary selections, poems, letters and imaginative writings…Please note the underlines in the web site that follow the words Our and Missionary and Women.”

Mimi Brewster Gardner ’52 and Carl Scovel ’49 were recently on a panel at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI, telling something of their life as missionary kids growing up in China. Both were, of course, smashingly good in their allotted ten minutes each plus an interesting Q and A time. The event was part of a monthly China Seminar Series at Bryant and featured Martha Smalley, Curator and Librarian at Yale University Divinity School Library.

In a note to Ted Stannard ’48, Ruth Koepp DeYoung ’48 spoke of visiting Ellie Veenschoten Moerland ’48 recently at their very nice new semi assisted living apartment. Ellie’s husband, Abe’s health made the move from their condo necessary and helpful. Boopie wrote, “Ellie is still Ellie. Had a great time with them.” (Editor’s note: for all of us who know and love Ellie, that’s great news.) Ruth’s oldest brother, Roger, died recently. “He was 87 and had pancreatic cancer, but it went fast and he had little pain at all.” See the “In Memoriam” section for more on Roger Koepppe.
In Memoriam

Roger E. Koepp '37, 5/2/1922 to 5/16/2009 in Stillwater, OK.
Roger was born in Kulangsu, Amoy, China. His parents were Reformed Church of America missionaries. He was home schooled and then attended SAS his freshman year before returning to the US. After high school, he went to Hope College and graduated cum laude, class of 1944 as a chemistry major. He served two years in the army as a medical technician in the middle of his college years. Roger married Norma Lemmer in 1947 and they had 5 children. He went on to graduate school at the Univ. of Illinois, earning his Ph.D in 1950. He did post doctoral training in biochemistry, working on amino acid metabolism at the Univ. of Tennessee Medical School where he taught from 1952 to '59. He then joined the faculty in the Department of Biochemistry at Oklahoma State University where he chaired the department from 1963 until his retirement in 1990. Through the years Roger was a gentle, clear, challenging guiding force that was greatly appreciated by a remarkable faculty, and the Bio Chem Department was highly regarded nationally. He directed the research of many students, authored a number of publications, and received recognition and honoring from several scientific associations for his research and work on intermediary metabolism. There is an endowed lectureship in his name at O.S.U in the Dept. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He is survived by his wife, children and numerous grandchildren and great grands as well as by his brother Owen Koepp '43 and Ruth Koepp DeYoung '48. Roger and Norma’s five children each have interesting careers in education, medicine, engraving, film casting and computer science.

Dorothea Smith Rodkey ’36 died in Belmont, MA on 5/25/09.
She was born of missionary parents in Nanking. Her schooling included SAS, Northfield School for Girls (now Northfield Mount Hermon), Wellesley College and Union Theological Seminary in NYC where she trained as a church social worker. She was the wife of Dr. Grant Rodkey, MD. She became a career volunteer for her church, schools, Amigos de las Americas, the Massachusetts Medical Society Alliance and was especially helpful to the wives and families of residents and fellows in training at Mass. General Hospital. Her generous service had literally world-wide ripples.
From the Boston Globe and Dr. Rodkey.

Hammer Garland Freeman III (DeeDee) ’52 4/7/1934-9/11/09 in Westville, FL.
He was born in Shanghai. His father was a leaf tobacco trader there. He attended SAS until a year before Pearl Harbor. DeeDee enlisted in the Navy in 1952, during the Korean War and served 11 years. Most notable was his time on a submarine in the North Atlantic and North Sea four times on 60-day patrols playing cat and mouse with the Soviet Navy during the cold war. He left the Navy in 1963, receiving the Navy Good Conduct and National Defense Service Medals. He was married to Margaret Craemer of Panama City, FL.
From fosterfollynews.com by way of Ted Stannard.
In Memoriam continued...

David Robertson Stannard ’42 9/26/1925 to 8/30/2009 in Eugene, OR.
David grew up in a Baptist medical missionary family in Ningpo with five siblings and went to SAS from 1937-41, before being sent to the States to finish high school with WWII looming.
Much can be written about this University of Oregon professor for 16 years in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts. Mainly David was a potter who, through that medium lived into his understanding of life as an educator, philosopher, pacifist, “poet, parent, pal and brother.” He got his BA in chemistry and biology at the University of Redlands, CA after two years as a conscientious objector in WWII. “He devoted his life to working with clay and exploring the integration of art, ideas, community, grassroots politics, human-scaled economics and responsible personal values...From 1949-53 he immersed himself in the craft with potters in their workshops: Tacket Associates in Topanga Canyon, CA; Modesto Reyes in Valle de Bravo, Mexico; and Bernard Leach and Michael Cardew in their potteries at St. Ives and Wenford Bridge in Cornwall, England.” In 1954 he began his own Hilltop Stoneware pottery in Eugene, OR “emphasizing subsistence on local materials and resources.” He married Pi-Li Chang, in 1960. They had two sons, Keith and Sean, and in 1972 they lived in the remote village of Toksook Bay, Alaska developing a ceramic-based cottage industry for the village. In 1979 they returned to Alaska to settle permanently in Fairbanks and to pursue further work in community-based, sustainable craft.

Rodney Cyr Tinling ’41 5/6/1924 to 1/26/2009 in Half Moon Bay, CA.
Rod’s father, Don Tinling, worked for the Robert Dollar Company in Shanghai. The family was interned during WWII in Manilla and then came home to San Francisco where his father worked for the same company that had changed its name to American President Lines. Rod worked for many years in insurance in San Francisco. He has a son Patrick and two siblings – Jerry Tinling ’44 and a younger brother Ted who is/was an actor and lives in New York City. Thank you to Pauline Schinazi Witts ’45 who was a friend of Rod’s and sent this information.

SASA Membership Renewal

$13 annual fee. Make check to Roy Wildt, Treasurer with “SASA dues” on the memo line. Be sure to include your name, address, and email in a cover note and your high school graduation year. If you are paying for more than one year, please note that.
Send to: Roy E. Wildt, 8829 East 16 Place, Indianapolis, IN 46219.
We welcome an additional amount as a contribution to the Reunion Scholarships Fund if you are so inclined.
Comparing and Contrasting Life of SAS Students: Then and Now
By Jeremy Ho Madany, Senior, SAS Pudong Campus; Edited by Mimi Gardner

On April 14, 2009, four pre-1949 SAS alumni visited our campus, and I had the good fortune of talking with two of them, Walter and Mayna Nance. Perhaps the biggest difference between expatriate SAS students of the 1940s and expatriate SAS students today is that in the 1940s, expatriates were not the only students at SAS. There were a number of local Chinese students, a feature allowing a level of daily interaction between expatriate children and local Chinese children not available to us today. Sure some of us have local Chinese friends, but not to the same extent as Walter and Mayna Nance did, who, throughout the interview, described how both they and their parents were friends with the local populace. Looking at my own family, my parents have many local friends, but I am only left with acquaintances, no one I would call a friend. Now this is not to say that those my age and younger do not have local friends (I know many people who do), but the amount is certainly significantly less than of those in the 1940s. One way for us students at SAS today to have a meaningful interaction with locals is if we go to teach at Li Min within walking distance of our campus, a school full of migrant children. But it is a reversal of the situation from before 1949. Instead of playing with and befriending wealthy local children, we teach and play with impoverished migrant children: a total demographic change. And at the end of the day, we are removed from them, living in a social class leagues away from theirs.

Interestingly enough, despite their extensive interaction with local children, the SAS students prior to 1949 lived a “colonial lifestyle”. It was sheltered, protected, just as our lives are today. Expatriates here still enjoy a sheltered and more luxurious life, one much different than the local Chinese. Many of us travel a great deal, eat at expensive restaurants, and live in posh villas… In this way we are very similar to the expats of the 1940s. Difference manifests itself in this way: we are the beneficiaries of a kind of discrimination, while at the same time a victim of it, a phenomenon that did not exactly exist in the ‘30s and ‘40s. Locals believe expatriates to be wealthy, and compared to nearly all of Shanghai, we are. That preconception allows locals to be more hospitable, tolerating expatriates more than they would their own countrymen. At the same time, that preconception reassures locals that expatriates are gullible, a notion that we all should understand by now.

A few things are the same: The first is that in the 1940’s, they threw parties, many of them. There were also many sports competitions, as we have today. Second, participation in the international community was wide and varied, much like it is today. Lastly, Shanghai left an everlasting impression on those who came 70 years ago, as it will leave a mark on those leaving in the future.
Did you know?

SAS was founded in 1912. Today it is China’s largest international school with some 3000 students from 40 countries on 2 campuses – 23 acre Pudong and 26 acre Puxi. The centennial will be celebrated in 2012 with big doings.

“Lost” alumni: if you ask, the trail appears. Tanio McCallum was looking for more about the early life of her father in China. Emails circulated and the trail led to Angie Mills ’42 who was a classmate and friend of James Harlan McCallum – “Harkey”, they called him – at both Nanking American School and subsequently SAS and also summers in Kuling.

Does anyone have contact information about Robert Holleman ’38? If so, Dan Williams would love to hear from you: weidan4a@comcast.net.

Yale University’s archives are extensive on China missionaries and they welcome and encourage any material from us – letters, documents, pictures, memorabilia, etc. The SAS material they have is known as the Phoebe White Wentworth Archive Collection, Special Collections Record Group No. 132. It contains all the records that Angie and Phoebe collected for the SAS history – some 22 archival boxes worth.

You can google Yale University Divinity School Library and link onto their special collections to get more information. Our contact person is librarian and curator, Martha Smalley.

“Fair is the Name” - from Oberlin to SAS

Here’s the order of happenstance: Dave Elder (husband of B.J. Rugh Elder ’51) gets a fundraising letter for Oberlin from his classmate, Jim Hollister. Jim happens to mention that his uncle, H. Devere Allen, Oberlin Class of 1917, wrote a song for the school, of which the second verse began with “Fair is the name we love” and, furthermore, Dave discovers, it is set to the familiar SAS tune. How can this be?!

Dave checks in Angie Mills’ (’40), excellent history of SAS and finds on page 76 the following: “In 1924, Louise Macklin, music teacher and director of the student orchestra, introduced a melody…which became the equivalent of an alma mater. Termed by Miss Macklin as ‘an Oberlin song’, the origins of its music and words are not known…’Fair Is the Name’ became integral to SAS culture through 1941.”

Dave asks some questions and confirms that Miss Macklin was an Oberlin grad who took the 1925 Oberlin Song Book to SAS when she went to teach there, revised the words to fit the place and voila! The origins are now known. Good work, Dave!
SAS 2011 Reunion Query

This is a feeler for our next reunion, likely to be in the Fall of 2011. We need your input as to what might appeal to you. The group that is gathering in Shanghai in April will look at your responses and make some determination. At the Salem Reunion it was discussed that cruises are relatively inexpensive and easy to navigate for us more ripened folk and we can arrange for meeting rooms, dining areas, etc. just for us. Janice Flanley Nelsen ’48 has looked into all this and has the following possibilities of 7-day cruises to vote on:

1) to Alaska from Seattle and back.
2) the Mexican Riviera from San Diego and back.
3) New England/Canadian coastal waters

Prices start at $533 on Holland America Line for an inside cabin for 7 days and go up incrementally, depending on location of the cabin.

One other possibility that came from Delma Baxter Romano ’48 is a resort in Pennsylvania where she lives that has many activities – golf, tennis, swimming, work-out room, etc. and hotel-type rooms and several restaurants on site. If enough folks would prefer to be on land, we will explore this further.

If you would like to serve on a planning committee, please include that in your response.

Please send me your vote ASAP to mimihollister1@verizon.net or mail it to Mimi Gardner, 7 Glover Square, Marblehead, MA 01945 781-631-6971

Perhaps your first, second and third choice would be helpful for the tally.

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