APRIL IN SHANGHAI

Teddy Heinrichsohn, ’49

All of you who attended the SASA Reunion in Salem in 2008 will remember Deke Erh who, with the constant assistance of Chia Lun Huang (SAS 2000), documented with his digital cameras the various mementos many of us brought to the reunion. Deke worked long hours every day at the reunion recording and storing the information on his laptop. He was the SASA sponsored speaker at SAS this year giving his power point lecture on the Silk Road, then and now.

While visiting Shanghai in April, 2010 for that lecture, several of us were also able to see the information and pictures which Deke had amassed in Salem on display on large poster boards at his gallery at Old China Hand Press on Tai Kang Lu in Shanghai.

In addition we were privileged, as was the 2009 group, to be invited to visit his beautiful traditional Chinese compound in Jinze, an idyllic old village with a small river running through it that lies about 50 miles west of Shanghai. He has dedicated a room there to the SASA project. This time we were happily accompanied by Kerry Jacobson, the new Superintendent of SAS, and Fred and Eileen Rogers. Fred is our very helpful and engaging SASA liaison with SAS.

Much of Deke Erh’s work is dedicated to documenting the influence of foreigners on China and through them, the influence China has had on them and their countries. His company, Old China Hand Press, has published many books on this subject, including beautiful coffee table books on architecture in Shanghai. A look at the Old China Hand website will give you an idea of the large scope of his work. The latest, which hit the bookstores just in time for the Shanghai World Exposition, is titled “Deke Erh’s Shanghai, a Bird’s Eye View 2010”. The book documents the incredible development and changes Shanghai has gone through and is an ideal way to have a look at Shanghai today without visiting the city.

(Continued on next page)
A Book About Us
Deke’s plan for the information he gathered about us alums has solidified into a book project which will include mostly pictures he took or received from us in Salem, augmented by more pictures taken in Shanghai and at the current SAS in April 2010. The hope is that the book will be published in time for the SAS Centenary celebration in 2012. To that end, Betty Barr Wang, Chia Lun Huang, Anne Lockwood Romasco, and I will be assisting on the textual part of the book starting in September, 2010. This will include some of the written information gathered at Salem as well as drawing on the various biographies Anne collected from SASA members at past reunions.

SAS has indicated its interest and involvement in the book project as well, as it will document the school’s history through the pictures and lives of its students. This is a really big project for all of us at SASA and I would like to add an appeal for donations from our membership dedicated to this project. I am not thinking of big sums, just token amounts from many members to help the project along.

A Film About Us
Deke’s plans have grown even larger and he is considering making a documentary film. In order to gather data for this idea he and his wife, Li Lin, a Shanghai TV director, gathered camera and sound crews and started to interview us SASA members on location and at his gallery.(group pic at Old SAS) Deke and Li Lin also attended with us the fund-raising gala sponsored by the SAS Board. They filmed some of the proceedings and guests. Deke is also planning to visit the U.S. to conduct interviews on film with some SASA members, especially pre-WWII members. The documentary project is still in the early stages. More to come!
MORE APRIL IN SHANGHAI

Mimi Gardner ’52

The weather was fine and the company across generations at SAS was just great – Teddy (SAS ’49) and Andrea Heinrichsohn, Anne Lockwood Romasco (SAS ’51), Joe Wampler (SAS ’51), David Merwin (SAS ’53), Bob Sheeks (SAS ’40), Dan Williams (SAS ’38), Betty Barr (SAS ’49) and George Wang, and me, Mimi Brewster Gardner (SAS ’52) and my husband Don Gardner. We stayed at the charming Old House Inn – perfect! And none of this could have come together as well without the so cheerful and so able detail and foot work of our Shanghai resident alumnae, Betty Barr Wang and her husband George.

Here are Dan’s very apt comments: “The morning shi fan, soy milk, fruit, yogurt, baoxe soft buns, coffee (apologies for incorrect pin yin), the close friendship obvious among all ladies and gents present, and never finished conversations continued daily the pleasantly anticipating mood of all present. All of this happened due to the generous hospitality of Teddy and Andrea at the inviting location of their bedroom…”

Breakout Sessions at SAS

We spent time at both campuses visiting classes, each of us with a particular focus:

* Betty told about Lunghwa. She reports:
  “There seems to be a perennial interest in the subject of Japanese internment camps during WWII and, in particular, in Lunghwa. The name of Lunghwa may have a special resonance because of J.G. Ballard’s novel Empire of the Sun and Stephen Spielberg’s movie of the same name, both of which bear little resemblance to the reality. In the session I showed some colored slides of paintings done by a friend of my mother’s during the war and black-and-white slides of photographs taken just after the war.”

* Teddy had a slide show of campus pictures from our post-WWII days. Some of these had been enlarged to poster size and were mounted along the hallways. The kids enjoyed recognizing us in the pictures.

* Anne talked about her memories as a child of missionaries and the day-to-day life.
  She focused her story around the smells of China, food and flowers and all the rest. Doesn’t that bring things to mind?

(Continued on next page)
*Joe spoke of the influence of Western-educated scholars coming back to China, of which he is one, to teach and do research.

*Dan had stories about how pre-WWII Shanghai and SAS influenced careers. He is a goldmine of such stories, his own and others.

*Dave retraced his two Habitat builds with SAS kids in Guangdong and Sichuan. See his article in this issue.

*I talked about the trek out of China during the war, going inland, flying over “the Hump into India, and then 43 days on a troop ship finally to Boston. One delightful fifth grade class had prepared questions about life in China as young American kids at that time. The high school classes really enjoyed looking through the 1948 Columbian I had brought.

Other Events on Campus
We met some teachers and toured the two magnificent campuses with delightful student guides.

In the senior class lounge there were college banners all around the ceiling and a map of where graduates were headed next year. Don noted no one going to Williams College, his alma mater, so he asked about that. As it turned out the class president had applied and was on the wait list for Williams – very disappointing for her. Don met with her and went to work on her behalf and, by golly, this truly outstanding young woman will be a Freshman at Williams this Fall.

The upper classes gathered with us in the two auditoriums for Deke Erh’s illustrated lecture on the Silk Road then and now. (See much more about Deke in “A Word from the President”).

We dressed up for the SAS Board sponsored gala one evening.

A grand summary from Dan:
“Thanks to imaginative SAS planning by Fred Rogers and associates, we Alumni folks were made to feel like VIPs with transportation, a succession of exciting events, food and drink always available, and appreciated cordiality expressed by SAS faculty and students, Deke Erh, and others. It was altogether an exciting adventure.” Yes, indeed! We hope that some of you will be enticed to pencil in April, 2012 on your calendars. It will be a time of great celebration of the SAS Centennial. Much more later!
More from the Editor

*Mimi Gardner ’52*

Please enjoy the pictures and several articles, including this one, about the Shanghai gathering in April. I can highly recommend this annual event. At the end of this issue is a profile and mission statement of the current SAS, coming from school promotional materials, that we thought might be of interest – so very different from our day, yet also serving current needs in the expat community.

I recount here some interesting things that we learned from the conversation at a lunch early in our visit hosted by Fred Rogers, Director of Advancement, and our quite wonderful liaison person with SAS. Besides our group and Fred, present were Chia Lun Huang (SAS 2000 and current SASA Board Member) and Joy Li (SAS 2000) who is a senior graphic arts director for the Y&R Company in Shanghai. We spoke of books and *When China Rules the World* by Martin Jakes was highly recommended.

**International Baccalaureate**

We spoke of the curricula offered at SAS now. Many students are in the International Baccalaureate curriculum, which is also increasingly offered in U. S. schools. The traditional Advanced Placement curriculum is also offered. I.B. is a two-year program of required courses with an exam at the end. The A.P. courses teach more to the test. The I.B. is more holistic and connectional, they said. I.B. is more of a theory of knowledge – how we think, what we learn, what is knowledge… A service component is strongly built into the I.B. program. The Habitat for Humanity projects have been especially popular for I.B. students.

**Student Demographics**

We learned that the Puxi Campus is packed, especially at high school and middle school levels with 1600 plus students. The Pudong Campus is at capacity with 1200 students. Some of the student demographics are thus: 16-18% are Koreans, 9% are Japanese, 7% are from Taiwan, about 15% are overseas Chinese and other Asians, a few from the U.K., Australia, and New Zealand, a few French and German, 7% Canadian, and about 45% American.

*(Continued on next page)*
No one holding a Chinese passport is allowed by the Chinese government to attend unless they are an overseas diplomat’s kid. About 50% of tuitions are company-paid. The faculty are 53% American, about 30% from the UK, New Zealand, Canada and Australia, 9% are Chinese.

Transience in the international school world is huge – among students, faculty, and administration - which creates large and interesting challenges.

**SASA Board of Directors**

All the SASA Board of Directors members (3 women and 6 men) are parents and are elected by parents, unlike private schools in the U.S., that generally include people with an outside perspective. We learned that this Board is very dedicated, very sharp and they are good managers with many business people and lawyers on the Board. What they lack are educators and folks with non-profit experience.

**2012 Centennial-much to look forward to!**

We asked what SASA can do to assist and participate in the 2012 Centennial Celebration at the school. One way to help is surely to get attendees. April, 2012 will be a grand time to visit China and include Shanghai. We hope a number of you will plan to be there and will keep me posted of your interest so that we can link people up. Watch for much more in future issues. At this point, we are working on finding an important Alumni Lecture person. We do expect Deke Erh’s book about us and including the present school to be out by then and perhaps his film.

---

**The Shanghai American School Association**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>President</strong></td>
<td>Teddy Heinrichsohn ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:theinrichsohn@mac.com">theinrichsohn@mac.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vice President and Membership</strong></td>
<td>Benjamin Gilson ’50,</td>
<td><a href="mailto:benjamingilson@mac.com">benjamingilson@mac.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Betty Barr ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bettybarrwang@gmail.com">bettybarrwang@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Charlie Way ’51</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cybway@aol.com">cybway@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Committee</strong></td>
<td>Angie Mills ’42</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Angie_mills@att.net">Angie_mills@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Janice Flanley Nelsen ’48</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janicenelsen@sbcglobal.net">janicenelsen@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carl Scovel ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carlscovel@comcast.net">carlscovel@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ed Winter ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ewinter74@verizon.net">ewinter74@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recent Grads</strong></td>
<td>Chia Lun Huang 2000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:huangchialun@gmail.com">huangchialun@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sam Whitman 2002</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SamWhitman@gmail.com">SamWhitman@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SAS Staff Liaison</strong></td>
<td>Fred Rogers</td>
<td><a href="mailto:red.rogers@saschina.org">red.rogers@saschina.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*The SASA News*

**Summer Issue, 2009**

Published by the Shanghai American School Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Editor</strong></td>
<td>Marybelle (Mimi) B. Gardner ’52</td>
<td><a href="mailto:theinrichsohn@mac.com">theinrichsohn@mac.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Benjamin Gilson ’50,</td>
<td><a href="mailto:benjamingilson@mac.com">benjamingilson@mac.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Anne Lockwood Romasco ’51,</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alromasco@cs.com">alromasco@cs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Charlie Way ’51</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cybway@aol.com">cybway@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Committee</strong></td>
<td>Betty Barr ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bettybarrwang@gmail.com">bettybarrwang@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contributing Editor</strong></td>
<td>Ted Stannard ’48</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tedstannard@yahoo.com">tedstannard@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SASA Representative in Shanghai</strong></td>
<td>Betty Barr ’49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bettybarrwang@gmail.com">bettybarrwang@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Past Editors</strong></td>
<td>David R. Angus ’50 (2003-2008)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:theinrichsohn@mac.com">theinrichsohn@mac.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The SASA News is published and distributed to all members of SASA three times a year—spring, summer and fall. Membership in SASA is $13.00 per year in the U.S. and $15.00 per year outside the U.S. A special rate of $5.00 is extended to active college and university students.*
On two occasions over the past six months, I had the privilege of working side by side with villagers and with students and teachers from the Shanghai American School on Habitat for Humanity projects in China. The first project, in October, 2009, was in the village of Maowu in northern Guangdong Province where we helped build houses to replace mud-brick ones that were in danger of disintegrating; the second, in March, 2010, in the village of Xiaoyudong, in the mountains of Sichuan Province where we helped build houses for those who lost their homes in the May 12, 2008, earthquake.

In Maowu and Xiaoyudong, we all—villagers and members of the school teams alike—worked really well together, and hard. We even had fun; on the Xiaoyudong project, for instance, several of the village women, incredibly strong, would run with cement-filled wheelbarrows, breaking out in cries and laughter when their wheelbarrows lurched and swayed, barely missed hitting an obstacle, or almost overturned. Amazingly, they always managed to get the wheelbarrow to its destination without a mishap. The sight of the women trying to control the lurching and swaying wheelbarrows evoked images of bull-riding rodeo performers trying not to get thrown.

These two projects represent the beginning of what has become known as the SAS-SASA Habitat Project. Set up in April, 2009, through the cooperative effort of members of SAS’s administration and SASA’s executive committee, it has opened the way for members of the pre-1949 generation of Shanghai American School students to work together with members of the current generation of students and alumni on Habitat projects in China.

It is noteworthy that through its volunteer participation in Habitat projects not only in China, but in countries around the world, including Africa and South Asia and Southeast Asia, the Shanghai American School has, as Eric Arndt, the head of Habitat’s new office, in Shanghai, recently pointed out, garnered a reputation as a steadfast supporter of Habitat for Humanity.
For April’s “Breakout Session” on the SAS-SASA Habitat Project, Tom Banazweski, one of the teachers on the Xiaoyudong project, with the help of students who had also worked on the project, put together a presentation that was perfect for the occasion: a video of the project, incorporating music as well as quotes from the daily journals kept by the students. Anyone interested in participating in the SAS-SASA Habitat Project—in working in China with a Habitat team from the school—should get in touch with Rob Burke, a teacher and the Habitat sponsor at the Shanghai American School, at robertburke@saschina.org.

And, you can read my full report on the Maowu project by going to the school’s website, www.saschina.org, and then to Eagle Online, Archives, January 2010—using Search, enter Habitat Team From Shanghai American School Helps Build Houses and Friendship in Guangdong Province, and scroll down to the article.

Thank You Roy Wildt, Past Treasurer of SASA

With much gratitude and admiration to Roy Wildt (SAS ’50) who has served as the treasurer of SASA since 2003 with faithfulness and diligence, we accept his request that we pass along to another the details of keeping the books.

The treasurer’s job is ever so important—we all know how it is to keep track of the finances, pay the bills, receive the income and sort through what money goes where. Roy has done this well and with very good humor for seven years. In the time I have been the editor of SASA News, I have so appreciated the sweet emails, full of warmth and well-wishes that come from him when we have business to conduct.

Roy will continue to house and mail to you orders for A Story of the Shanghai American School, 1912-2008 by Angie Mills. We are most grateful for this. The details for how to place your orders are in a separate box. Here we just want to say a heartfelt THANK YOU for his good service to SASA as treasurer, his presence and enthusiasm at all the reunions, and the wonderful job he did in overseeing the Indianapolis reunion some years ago.

Kudos to you and Darlene, Roy! We look forward to seeing you at many more reunions.
Welcome, Charlie Way, ‘51

You remember him! The cheerful, helpful, enthusiastic part of the Bellingham reunion crew hosting with his wife, Pat, a beautiful evening gathering in their home with gorgeous sunset views across the bay and the San Juans to Canada. Well, Charlie has consented to be Treasurer of SASA. He and Roy have worked out the transition details and all is in place.

For you, good readers, that means sending your dues and other contributions (check made out to Shanghai American School Association) to Charlie Way, 222 Highland Drive, Bellingham, WA 98225-5414 hence forth. His phone is 360-734-0649 and his email is cybway@aol.com.

More on Charlie! He was born in Japan and lived much of his early life in Asia. His father worked for Standard Vacuum Oil Company in Japan and Korea and China. After the war, the Ways were among the first families to return to China, arriving in Shanghai in July of 1946. They lived outside the city in the Hung-jao area and Charlie attended SAS that fall in the 8th grade for just the one year. Mr. Wilkes was his homeroom teacher. His father’s health sent them back to the U.S. in 1947.

Charlie is a graduate of Cornell and spent 40 years working for the Boeing Company in Seattle. He married Joan Green of Tacoma in 1965 and they had two children, Suzanne and Baldwin. Joan passed away in 1996 from cancer. Charlie retired then. He met and married Pat Clarke of Bellingham, adding two step-children, Anna and Peter, to his family. Soon thereafter he somehow met Ted Stannard and learned that there was such a thing as SASA. He has been well engaged with us ever since.

Charlie enjoys skiing, sailing, hiking, visiting kids and traveling. He traveled to China in 1997 on a Seattle Symphony sponsored tour and then again in 2004 with our SAS alum group.

We welcome him mightily to the SASA Board and his new duties.

*The Story of the Shanghai American School 1912-2008 (2nd edition) by Angie Mills

To order:

**Cost per copy:** $25.00 (includes shipping within the US)

**Make check payable to:** Shanghai American School Association

with “book” in the memo

**Mail cover note with return address & check to:** Mimi Gardner

7 Glover Square

Marblehead, MA 01945
In Memoriam

ALEXANDER LIOSNOFF (SAS ’38) IN RENO AT 89

By Dan Williams, ’38

At this time of too many obituaries, with familiar names attached, another must be added, my Shanghai American School classmate Alex Liosnoff (SAS ’38), who passed on March 27, 2010 at 89, in Reno. He is survived by Chieko, his wife of 56 years, and their son Gregory. He participated in middle and high school activities at SAS and graduated as scheduled in 1938, even as Shanghai and China were becoming dominated by Japan. Following his often stated career path, he graduated from the University of Missouri’s School of Journalism in 1941.

For Al the slice of life between schooling’s end and career’s beginning was being lengthened by World War II service. After Army duty in the SW Pacific and shift back to civilian life, he became writer and editor for San Francisco Bay Area radio stations. We met again at a 1946 dinner of our enthusiastic SAS grads organization, which we named “Young China Hands”, to distinguish it from an essentially British group which called itself the “China Tiffin Club”. Friendships resumed, Al and I exchanged visits and Big Band music records, and all enjoyed close Shanghai friends.

Born in Manchuria of Russian parentage, Al spoke Russian, with native fluency. Conflicts in divided and Soviet- influenced Korea multiplied, and in 1950 Al was assigned by a U.S. agency to psychological warfare duties on that explosive peninsula, working successfully from both Korea and Japan until the North-South armistice. Among his non-secret accomplishments in Japan, Al mentioned three. He married Chieko in 1954, gained native fluency in spoken Japanese, and proved that he was not a fool by climbing Mount Fuji once. Those who have never climbed Fujiyama and those who have climbed more than once, are fools, Al explained.

Then came, for the Liosnoff family, a 15 year stay on Okinawa, where Al managed press and publications for the U.S. Ryuku Islands civil administration, and where Chieko continued her career as professor of the Ikenobu Floral Society of Kyoto. After returning to San Francisco in 1972, Al worked for the Bank of America, retired again, worked with several of us on SAS related committees and, as our professional journalist, on creating an SAS alumni paper. He and I organized, planned, and presented an all SAS reunion in Santa Rosa, CA in 1988, a 50th Reunion for our Class of 1938. Almost 300 attended, making it a very successful event.

(Continued on next page)
Al was 1981-1989 editor of the SASA NEWS. After a succession of spirited and enjoyable SAS biennial reunions, and the popularity of the NEWS, it seemed to several of us that a permanent SAS organization was needed rather than a succession of reunion organizing committees. Oscar Armstrong (SAS ’36), publisher of the CHINA CONNECTION newsletter, lead the group and deserves recognition as the founder of SASA. Phoebe White Wentworth agreed to be a very temporary interim president. At a very unofficial meeting during the 1988 reunion, we decided that Al Liosnoff be named first president of SASA for a two year term, subject to some sort of ratification by all SASA members. With widespread agreement, Al served as 1989-1991 SASA President.

Came 1991 and time for a new SASA president. George McClure (SAS ’36), our SASA legal officer, called Al a “special and different” president. Possibly influenced by a certain tea house, he worded, with flourish, an “Edict of the August Moon”, celebrating Al’s service, not knowing how appropriate to Al’s time on Okinawa was the choice of that award document’s name.

Al and Chieko moved to Reno, believing that the 4,000 foot elevation would be better for Chieko’s health than sea level San Francisco. Al wrote articles, defended the U.S. Nisei population against wartime and other oppression, opposed use of the word “Jap” to identify Japanese, and remained active, until health problems became severe, then acute. Contact by phone, email, mail, and occasional personal Reno visits were continued by Jan and me. Al enjoyed every SAS call and recollection and always seemed cheerful.

SASA has lost a longtime and active supporter, and many of us a valued classmate, associate, and friend. Cheers (which he favored) and respect for the memory of Alexander Liosnoff. He is and will be missed.
In Memoriam Continued...

Catherine MacDonald Burkhart Nichols, SAS 1941, 1924-2010

Catherine, 85, passed away on May 27 in First Community Village, Columbus, Ohio, surrounded by her family. She was born in Canton, China to Mabel (Drury) and Wilfrid MacDonald, where her father taught at Lingnan University. She graduated from SAS in 1941, went on to study botany at Swarthmore College and then to Ohio State, majoring in sociology and graduating in 1945. In 1944 she was married to William E. Burkhart MD, who passed away in 1967. In 1969 she married Charles Z. Nichols. They raised her family in Grandview Heights, Ohio and lived there for 50 years. In 2001 they moved to First Community Village. Catherine maintained a lifelong interest in Chinese language, culture, and food and she befriended many Chinese students and families. Through the FCC Mission Council, she acquired a large extended family among the refugee community. A passionate gardener and lover of the outdoors, she worked in landscaping and enjoyed time at Camp Akita and the family retreat in Ontario, Canada. A devoted wife and mother, she inspired family and friends with her unconditional love and acceptance of people of varied backgrounds and faiths. She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Charles Nichols, her sister, Margaret Getaz of Swarthmore, PA, five children, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Information courtesy of The Columbus Dispatch, May 30, 2010

Be in Touch?
Catherine’s daughter, Karolyn Burkhart-Schultz, and Charles, Catherine’s husband would love to hear from any other SAS graduates who remember her and could share any stories about their time with her. Email is czandcbnichols@aol.com.

Brainy and beautiful...
Ted Stannard (SAS ’48) posted this on the obituary guest book:
“Schoolmates at Shanghai American School in the war-torn years leading up to Pearl Harbor may well remember “Cat” MacDonald as the brainy, beautiful, hardworking, 3rd-&-final editor of the Columbian yearbook. When the original editor was evacuated, and then her replacement as well, Cat picked up and raced to get it out with remaining staff. Evacuations continued, and by graduation day the Class of ’41 had dwindled down from 60 to 18. Cat was a star: class valedictorian, girls dorm president, active in glee club and drama, sportswoman in field hockey, basketball and softball, and generous of heart.

(Continued on next page)
I will spread word of this notice and website to other alumni, to the SAS Association and its newsletter, and to the contemporary SAS and those interested in stories of those who went before.


News of her death and that of her sister Ruth MacDonald Rose in February, will sadden surviving schoolmates, but evoke warm and poignant memories of exciting times shared.

Ruth Macdonald Rose, SAS ‘44, 1927-2010

Ruth Macdonald Rose, 83, of Pueblo, Colorado, passed away March 9, 2010. She was the sister of Catherine Nichols (see obituary above). She was born in Canton, China to Wilfred and Mabel (Drury) MacDonald. She held a master’s degree in social work from the University of Illinois and worked with Social Services of Pueblo before becoming the director of Carousel Center for Children, which she ran until her retirement in 1989. She was an ardent supporter of numerous education, human rights and environmental organizations, and a frequent volunteer at Pueblo museums, elections, and humanitarian efforts, always eager to support community and, especially, children. She was a member of the Pueblo Choral Society for over 35 years and the Pueblo Unitarian Fellowship Church for over 40. She is survived by three children, three grandchildren, one great-grandchild and a sister, Margaret Getaz of Swarthmore, PA.

Information courtesy of the Pueblo Chieftain.

George Walker McClure, SAS ‘36, 1921-2010

George died at the age of 89 in California, his home of 70 years. He was survived by one month by his wife of 66 years, Jean; his children James and Ann, three grandchildren and two sisters.

George was born in Shaowu, Fukien, China to Congregational missionary parents and was homeschooled by his mother using the Calvert system before boarding at SAS with his brother, John (Class of 1935). He started SAS in 1931 as an eighth grader and graduated in 1936 at age 16.

He came to the U.S. and studied political science and social studies at Pasadena City College from 1936 to 1938, then International Relations at U.C. Berkeley from 1938 to 1940, where he met Jean while they were both living at International House. She remembers trying to get his attention by making messes in the cafeteria while he worked as a busboy. He claimed no memory of this ploy.

George returned to China to study Chinese language and history at Yenching University in Beijing, 1940-1941. He joined the Navy in October 1941, before Pearl Harbor. The Navy sent him to study Japanese at Cal and the University of Colorado in 1942. 

(Continued on next page)
In October 1942 he married Jean before heading to Washington DC to work in the Naval Communications Intelligence Organization. For the rest of his life Daddy was highly circum-
spect about his work there, though we know he worked in Japanese code breaking. George left
the Navy in 1946 and returned to Cal, where he got his law degree in 1949.
He practiced law in Walnut Creek for 5 months before accepting a job as a Deputy District At-
torney with Contra Costa County California in 1950. He was promoted to Chief Civil Deputy
D.A. in 1961. He argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court, which is considered a rare ac-
complishment in law circles, whether one wins or loses. Daddy claimed later that he could not
remember which way the gavel fell, and that the Justices’ goal was to get him in and out of
there as fast as possible. Typical humility.
In 1969 the civil unit of the D.A.’s office became the County Counsel’s Office where Daddy
was the Chief Deputy County Counsel until his retirement in 1984, after 34 years with the
county.
George was proud of his long standing and active role in the County Employees Association,
the precursor to the various unions representing county employees, and was instrumental in union-
izing nurses. For many years he edited the Employees Association newspaper and served as
Director, Vice-President and President at various times in the 1950’s.
He supported a number of charitable causes, including Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, his church,
and enrichment programs at Juvenile Hall. He personally had a soft spot for the families of
jailed adult offenders. He was highly sympathetic to the devastating effect on the innocent
families of having one of the adults jailed.
For many years, including post-retirement, George worked for the California State Bar Associa-
tion as a legislative analyst. He described his work as telling the legislators about the flaws and
unlawful aspects of their proposed legislation and then watching them introduce the bills un-
changed after all. Frustrating work, but he enjoyed the other attorneys and the intellectual chal-
lenge.
George remained interested in his SAS experience and helped organize reunions in 1980 and
1986, with particular interest in tracking down scattered alumni.
He was much loved and is greatly missed.

Born January 11, 1912 in Foochow, China, Doris Cole Blitch was the first child born to Edith
Fonda Cole and Winfred Bryan Cole who met on the Methodist mission field there. She had
three brothers, Wilbur, Donald and Theodore. Home-schooled by her mother in academics, art,
and music and by her father in nature and sports, she had a wonderful childhood and many
wonderful memories of those years.
Summers were spent on Kuliang Mountain to avoid the heat in the city. Tennis, swimming, and
nature walks were a few of the activities enjoyed. Memories of tigers terrorizing nearby vil-
lages and bandits surrounding the city were told to her children and grandchildren as exciting
experiences. Even being put to bed in the bathtub to avoid stray bullets from a bandit raid did-
’nt seem to frighten her. She graduated from Shanghai American School. Doris never tired of
showing keepsakes from China and had a life-long love for that country and its people.
In 1930, Doris came to the U.S. to attend Asbury College in Wilmore, KY. It was there that she
met James Blitch whom she later married. She excelled at tennis thanks to her father’s training.
Once Jimmy saw her play, he asked her to be his doubles partner and they became college ten-
nis champs.

(Continued on next page)
After graduating from Asbury in 1934, Doris returned to China to teach for a year in the mission school before returning to the U.S. to marry Jimmy on October 10, 1935. Together they served in the ministry of the Methodist Church for 43 years. They had been married 66 years when Jimmy passed away in 2001.

Doris was a wonderful mother to her three daughters, Marcia Holtzclaw, Linda Swindall, and Eva Browning, and to her son, Kenneth Blitch, who is a retired Methodist minister in the Florida conference.

She passed away at home on Saturday, May 16, 2009, at the age of 97, surrounded by love. She is survived by her four children, eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

Obituary courtesy of Marcia Holtzclaw.

Roy McBride Newton, SAS ’34, 1918-2010

On February 13, 2010, Roy Newton, 92, passed away peacefully at his home in Virginia Beach, VA. He was the son of Dr. William C. and Mary W. Newton, Baptist missionaries in Hwangsein, Shandong Province and Quindao. He attended SAS from 1930-34 and then entered the University of Richmond, VA, Class of 1940, and was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy where he served with distinction throughout World War II on the USS Chester in Pearl Harbor, the Guadalcanal-Tulagi raid, the Battle of the Coral Sea, and in the Solomon Islands. He also served on the USS Duluth, as executive officer of USS Aucilla, and as commanding officer of the Bremerton Ammunition Depot in Bremerton, WA. He remained in the Naval Reserve until 1967 when he retired with the rank of captain.

When Roy left active duty he began a successful banking career in Norfolk, VA in 1954 with the National Bank of Commerce. For the next 28 years Roy supported the growth and development of the bank, traveling throughout Europe and Asia helping to build the international practice of the bank. He retired in 1982 as a senior vice president for International Banking from what was then the Virginia National Bank. He was a member and held office in the Foreign Commerce Club, the Virginia Maritime Association, the World Trade Conference, and the Bankers of Foreign Trade and Allied Bank.

As a longtime Virginia Beach resident, Roy built sailboats and skiffs and sailed and taught sailing for many years in Broad Bay and the Chesapeake. He also rowed most mornings on Broad Bay until he was nearly 90. His interest in crewing began in college when he helped organize the U. of Richmond Crew Team, later coached the Virginia Boat Club in the 1930’s and 50 years later helped organize the Hampton Roads Rowing Club in the 1980’s.

Roy was an accomplished woodworker, building boats, toys for his grandchildren and fine furniture. He was a member of the Kiwanis Beachcombers and a longtime member of the congregation at Eastern Shore Chapel.

This quiet, thoughtful, most respected man is survived by his wife of 65 years, Vera Hartz Newton, two daughters and a son, 5 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Online condolences may be sent to the Newton family by visiting www.hdoliver.com.

Information from Obituary in THE VIRGINIA PILOT
2010 SASA Award Recipients

Pudong Campus: Elise Berg
Elise has been astonishingly active since her arrival at SAS. Soon after coming, she became a key leader in the 30 Hour Famine, an international youth movement to fight hunger, building it to the major student program it has become today. She has also been involved in the English Service Project for the school's Chinese workers. Well known and respected among her peers for integrity and reliability, Elise has shown remarkable organizational skills in planning service projects. She will attend Moody Bible Institute next year.

Puxi Campus: Lindsay Nichole Haskell
Lindsay is a unique student committed to global issues and concerns, such as AIDS in China and Darfur, and orphans in Malawi. Three years ago, she founded the TAA club (Teens Act for AIDS) and inspired her peers to raise money for and awareness of AIDS in villages in China. For the last three years, she has organized a student trip to one of these villages in Anhui (an eight-hour bus ride) to donate money, clothing and supplies to an AIDS orphan school. (This year's trip leaves on June 10.) She is active in Habitat for Humanity and the Jacaranda project and will return to Malawi and Jacaranda this June with our Habitat group. Last year Lindsay won the EARCOS Global Citizenship award. On top of it all, she recently self-published her first novel, "Grace," about the crisis in Darfur. The money she raises from its sale will go to UNICEF's Darfur relief fund. Lindsay will attend Wellesley in the fall.

Notes from You

Pre WWII Alums

Dan Williams, SAS ‘38, writes, “Moving into our condo neighborhood recently from a Puget Sound, WA island came Elizabeth Young Roulac, SAS ’33. Libby’s dad, Arthur N. Young, Financial Adviser to China from 1929 to 1947, wrote a memoir title Cycle of Cathay. That title has a familiar ring from China days …five rotations of the 12-year lunar cycle. Very infrequently do I hear mention of that then familiar term, the Cycle of Cathay, making me wonder how it began and how often it is now used. “Libby’s arrival suddenly made me feel younger because when she was as SAS senior, I was in the 7th grade!..She has mentioned that her next travel will probably be to Mongolia, so you understand that we are all quite youthful here…The history of SAS continues…”

(Continued on next page)
Nancy Thomson Waller, SAS ’36, lives in Cherry Valley, NY. Despite serious macular degeneration that keeps her from being able to read anymore, she wrote a quite legible note to me (the editor) with information about the memoir she has written entitled My Nanking Home 1918-1937. She has a chapter in it about her “very happy SAS days…Huston Smith and I were both in the great class of ’36 and are still in touch. He’s 90 and I am 91.” Her book can be purchased through office.willowhillpublications@gmail.com.

Ted Belknap, SAS ’40 put together a wonderful booklet with news and pictures for the 70th anniversary of the class of 1940. The last several pages are entitled “I Remember” and are the SAS portion taken from a memoir that he put together a few years ago. “I wanted my children and grand children to learn and know something about where I had spent my years in China.” You could probably get a copy if you are interested by emailing Ted at tedknapp@comcast.net. Ted stays regularly in touch with a number of his classmates and then creates a newsletter to share about once a year. Here are some excerpts from the 70th booklet he put together this past spring, all from the class of 1940:

Jim Harnsberger in Irvington, VA, keeps busy with his retirement buddies and enjoys walking his dog every day.

Jean Gallop Shuster in Lopaz Island, WA, has a new circle of friends that she met after she took a class in biology last year. She and Diana Belknap stay in touch regularly by phone. They enjoyed trying to identify schoolmates in a photo in the 1936 Columbian sent by Ted Stannard, (SAS ’48).

Sid Anderson in New Medford, CT, is having a book published called China, My Great Teacher. You can google it if you are interested.

Ken Cox in Santa Maria, CA, now lives near family in “downsized digs.” He has given up his long time hobby of weather reporting and his ham radio activity.

Paul Bordwell in Indio, CA, still plays some golf.

Agnes Nasmith Johnston lives in Alexandria, VA. She reports that her brother, Gus, is doing well at 93.

Marjorie Bornholz Morris in Clifton Springs, NY, lives on their horse farm where they once bred Arabians.

David Tappan lives in Newport Beach, CA.

Betty Bissonnette in Lakewood, CO, is active in volunteer work 5 days a week.

Barbara Jorgensen in Wicomico Church, VA (widow of Lorry Jorgensen) still mows her own lawn. “She watches the active sailing regatta out her front window – this was Lorry’s Sunfish racing activity he organized just before he passed away.”

Marie Melrose in Pasadena, CA, went on a church oriented visit to Nanking in June. Marie left China after just one year at SAS but with fond memories of her short time there. She is still teaching English to Asians and spent many years in China with the church. Ted has not been able to reach David Bills, Allen Arnold and Pat McHenry Bross.

If anyone has word of them, please be in touch with Ted at tednap@comcast.net.

(Continued on next page)
Post WWII Alums

A note came from Jean Downie, SAS ’52, on a very old post card picturing some Chinese temple (unable to read the caption) from her mother’s collection. She works outdoors at two nature centers and enjoys her family and friends.

Jim Cavanaugh, SAS ’47, sent a lively, very Jim, well-wishing email for our April trip to China. I quote some newsy parts in response to my query about his knee surgery: “Oh, yes, I’m going thru physical therapy, and corrective shoes, and pills galore, and even healthy food! I’m the life of the party when I declare that two years ago, before my heart attack, I took one pill a day and had one doctor on my roster. And now I’ve got eleventy-thirty-seventeen of both. And I don’t look nearly as suave with a cane as Fred Astaire did.

“I’m just finishing an acting textbook (entitled An Actor’s Technique, or How to Get from Stage Left to Stage Right without Tripping over the Coffee Table), and just beginning a mystery…

“I live in a beautiful spot and my kids are happily married and the major part of my body is healthy as a horse, so life is bloody Good…”

Father Augustin (Bruce) Roberts, SAS ’50 emailed in response to a request from me, SASA News editor, that he might review an upcoming book entitled Chinese Religiosities: Afflictions of Modernity and State Formation by Mayfair Yang. Carl Scovel, SAS ’49 learned about this book from a friend and thought a review of it might be interesting for SASA News. Carl wrote, Mayfair Yang was “raised by mainland Chinese parents in Taiwan. In studying the industrializing coastal area of China she discovered a lot of religious associations behind non-governmental and voluntary organizations. She deals with the history of the Western religious impact and its continuing influence in subtle ways as well as the obvious religious organizations. The book is a compilation of scholarly essays on contemporary Chinese religious life.”

Good idea, Carl! And so good to hear from Father Augustin Roberts who lives in a monastery in Argentina. You may remember that he was a wonderful presence and speaker at the SASA Reunion in Gatlinburg, TN 8 years ago. We look forward to his future contribution on this book or anything else he may wish to write about.

Ted Stannard SAS ’48 has a request. Does anyone have Columbians from before 1936? He has a collection from 1936 onward, but not before, and would love any donations of earlier Columbians (or even later ones) you might wish to make in that regard. Ted’s email is tedstannard@yahoo.com. His address is 4328 Frances Ave., Bellingham, WA 98226. He hopes to scan the pages of the collection for archival posterity and easy information retrieval. He is also suggesting that SAS make a student project out of scanning the school’s collection of early copies.

Espey, See, and Williams

Dan Williams, ’38

“The current best seller Shanghai Girls, by Lisa See, has a direct connection to SAS: renowned writer John Espey (SAS ’31, 1913-2000). John’s amazingly perceptive humor, exhibited in my favorite Minor Heresies and Major Departures focus on fascinating activities of American missionaries in Shanghai and their “MK’s” (missionary kids)
was always evident even to us younger schoolmates. As a USC literary professor, a continuous writer of books depicting the intriguing lives of foreigners in China as well as of stories delighting their New Yorker Magazine readers, John was also mentor to two famous authors, his life partner of 26 years, Carolyn See, and her daughter Lisa See.

“Though all three enjoyed individual fame for their best selling books, they did collaborate on the novel 110 Shanghai Road under the pseudonym “Monica Highland”, with some readers assuming that the book’s street number 110 was inspired by the former SAS address of 10 Avenue Petain. In this February 2010 photo taken at a local bookstore signing, I am holding a copy of John Espey’s Tales Our of School and Lisa See is inadvertently displaying the back cover of her Shanghai Girls. I quote John’s book inscription, “Celebrating another place, another time.”

“John Espey wrote for the SAS Nooze. Which I read in the 4th and 5th grades, when he was there as a 11th and 12th grader, without appreciating his deep humor and charming subtlety. Those aspects were thoroughly explored when I read Nooze files later, followed by enjoyable immersion into his books and New Yorker articles. John was living in LA, so we saw him at 1980’s and 90’s reunions – Asilomar, Santa Rosa, and San Diego.

Reunion 2011

A lovely location with many amenities where we can gather for a low-key, let’s-just-get-together, not too expensive time is the consensus for our next SASA Reunion. Split Rock Resort was recommended by Delma Baxter Romano (SAS ’49) and we think it just fits the bill so we have booked it. Please mark your calendars for Monday, September 12 through Thursday, September 15, 2011!

We will all be housed in the Galleria Slopeside Suites where there are also meeting rooms, a private banquet room and/or lakeside barbecue facilities, weather permitting. Included in the cost of $504 per person based on two in a room is breakfast and dinner daily, many of the resort recreation offerings, the use of meeting rooms, and all taxes and fees. In the next issue we will have booking details for you to make your own reservations, identifying yourself as part of the SAS Reunion.

For those of you who had hoped for a cruise this time, the expense and lack of consensus on where to go led us on the Executive Committee to settle on Split Rock Resort as the very best alternative.

Getting there: it is about a two hour drive from either Philadelphia or Newark Airports. The nearer and smaller airports are Allentown/Bethlehem/Easton or Scranton/Avoca, which are about 40 minutes away from Split Rock.

(Continued on next page)
As you make your reservations and travel plans next year, if you let me know (mimihollister1@verizon.net or Mimi Gardner, 7 Glover Square, Marblehead MA 01945), we will try to coordinate some carpooling and shared vans for those flying in. Many of us in the east will be driving, so we can pick up folks at airports if we know your schedule. If you google Split Rock Resort, you will get a good feel for what it is like. More next time.