

# American School of Paris



# World Wide ASPECT

Winter 2009

## ASP ALUMNUS IN WHITE HOUSE!

Even though the American School of Paris was in a different location 50 years ago, the quality of its students was equally as strong. A young man who sat at an ASP desk will now have a new desk to sit at in the West Wing of the White House. General James Jones, who attended ASP from 1957 to 1961, has been selected by President Barack Obama as his National Security Advisor.

### Letters of congratulations

As National Security Advisor, General Jones will be the President's top advisor on national security issues and will have far reaching new powers.

Past National Security Advisors include Henry Kissinger, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. Before being nominated by President Obama, General Jones held various positions including Supreme Allied Commander for Europe and Commandant for the US Marine Corp.

The ASP Middle School Global Issues Club has been tracking General Jones' appointment and recently sent him a letter of congratulations. The expectations are equally high for the types of desks these students will be sitting at in fifty years! November's US presidential election was watched across the world and unlike any election before was closely followed by the global community.

And here at the American School of Paris in line with our mission to educate global citizens, the election of the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States became a tool for our faculty to nurture our students' political understanding and illustrate the complexities of democracy with a live and unfolding model.



**General James Jones**  
Class of '62

Students from Lower, Middle and Upper School all followed and learned from the events of November 4 in both fun and reflective ways.

From the formation of a weekly Election Club by seventh grader Robert McKendry at the start of the campaigns, through to the school wide election forecasting contest and the all night results party in the PAC, the election of the US President generated an energy at ASP in students of all

nationalities.

And finally, everyone interested was encouraged to write a letter to the new President and they were all mailed to The White House following the inauguration.

**For ASP eyewitness accounts of the Inauguration Celebrations see p.4**



Students followed keenly the events unfolding on historic November 4

# THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTORS

Time and time again we hear with pride how ASP teachers influenced the course of successful alumni careers. This month at ASP a new alumni mentoring program was launched in conjunction with Careers Day giving our alumni the chance to help current students find their way in the world. And what better way to launch it, than this tribute to an ASP mentor by Steven J. Girardi, class of 1972.



“ I entered my sophomore year at ASP when it still looked like US military buildings which housed the Paris American High School up until 1967. Of course being in high school and discovering Paris was quite the adventure. We ended up moving outside of Paris to the beautiful area of Le Vesinet. Fortunately, the train and metro system made it easy to explore Paris.

As a young musician just entering ASP, I was amazed at the unusual number of excellent musicians at the school. For the next three years I played at school dances with my bands, as well as other places in and around Paris. All of this, and frequent trips to the Paris Olympia and a French

recording contract, influenced my decision in my junior year to pursue my passion for music as a career.

There were many good teachers at ASP but to this day, Chris Chater remains foremost in my memory as I took a Music Appreciation class

from him in my first year there. I still remember him for his positive attitude and encouraging words. It's great that he is still there after 40 years. (Congratulations Chris! You're now at the halfway point in your career. Here's to another forty!)

Well I graduated from ASP and within a couple years I followed in my father's footsteps. I was in the CIA for a number of years, helping win the Cold War. All along, the seeds planted at ASP were growing. Today, as a professional musician/composer/producer along with my wife, I have been in contemporary Christian music for the past 27 years. From time to time I look back fondly to the days where it all began...when I was a foreigner in an exciting city and among the fortunate few who attended the American School of Paris.



Girardi jamming in his school days at ASP

## ASP Music History Chris Chater Seeking Musicians' News

Chris Chater has been looking through ASP Yearbooks and has discovered that very few of the ASP rock bands ever made it to those glossy pages. He is preparing a timeline/genealogy of ASP Rock from 1968 to the present and invites you to contribute information for this ongoing quest – titles, members, links and other information that may be freely shared on the web: [cchater@gmail.com](mailto:cchater@gmail.com) If you remember Les Irresistibles, The Daisy, Clinic, Toto and the Saint Bernards, Chronometre or Metrognome, or any other special rockers, he'd like to hear from you. Let's write the musical history that is also part of the ASP profile!

## Online Alumni Career Mentors

Upper Schoolers at ASP started the New Year with a host of new perspectives thanks to a very successful Careers Day. Nearly 25 speakers, most of them current parents, spoke to 150 students about careers in engineering, pharmacy, fashion, art, airline industry, finance, law, foreign service, journalism, psychology, nursing and physiotherapy, IT and more. This was an opportunity for Upper School students to develop their understanding of possible careers, industries, and education plans.

And on the same day we launched an online alumni mentoring program so that ASP students today can benefit from your wisdom and life experiences! We have alumni ready to give online email advice



to students from careers as diverse as architecture, accountancy, teaching, military and environmental management.

If you would like to be involved helping the next generation of ASP students enter the world with their eyes wide open, please get in touch with Amanda Nagele: [anagele@asparis.fr](mailto:anagele@asparis.fr) for more information.



# GLOBAL PARTIES!

ASP alumni have been joining together for a wide range of events over the past few months, including big reunions in New York and Paris as well as small holiday gatherings in Washington DC.

## Alcazar Reunion: Celebrating the New Year in Paris

ASP organized its eighth Annual Alcazar Reunion on January 8, 2009 bringing together ASP alumni, teachers, staff, and trustees for a traditional French aperitif in Paris' Latin Quarter. Although freezing temperatures and icy roads did hinder some guests from attending, we were delighted to welcome alumni from class years 1961 to 2008 to the event.



Peter Barnet '61, alumnus and trustee, addressed the group commenting on exciting news that ASP alumnus General James Jones '62 has been appointed as National Security Advisor under the Obama administration. He also remarked on the important role alumni support can play in ensuring the continued growth of ASP as a leading institution in international education in both Europe and the world. For those of you unable to attend the event, check out a photo slideshow of the reunion at [www.asparis.org/reunions](http://www.asparis.org/reunions).



## Thanksgiving Reunion in Washington DC

Thanksgiving was the opportunity for many ASP alumni whose families are still in Paris to join together and celebrate stateside, thanks to Elizabeth and Martin Ferenczi who hosted their second annual Thanksgiving feast this year. Their son, Basil Ferenczi '07, invited many of his former ASP classmates who weren't going home to Paris for the holiday to spend the long Thanksgiving weekend at his family home in Washington DC.

Class of 2007 alumni came in from all over the US and some flew in from as far as California, Wisconsin and Texas: Alex

Biles, Basil Ferenczi, Tim Fox, Dirk Fruitema, Clara Galeazzi, Lindsay Knox, Tomas Leijtens, Robin Marcenac, Seol Joon, Chris Nolop, Frank Papalia, Ben Sigman, David Sigman and Caitlin Smith. And there was also Jennifer Gonzalez '06, former ASP students Greta Maarleveld and George (Trey) Schmitt '07 and Issei Nino '08.



## 3rd Annual International Schools Reunion, NYC



" My 21 years at ASP have been the best years of my life largely because of the wonderful students it has been my pleasure to teach and know. To meet up with a number of them from my first year (Josh Socolow, class of 1988) and my last (Alex Tancredi, class of 2008) and many in-between, Tim Dolan, Nilou Safinya, Sophie Maarleveld, and Genevieve Tremblay, brought back the fun times we enjoyed together. What became obvious

immediately in talking about the ASP days, was how special a place the school holds for each of them. To say that they loved reminiscing would be putting it mildly; their eyes lit up at each tidbit of news that I conveyed and, if truth be told, they, too, said to me that the ASP years were the best of their life. The "ties that bind" run through our years at ASP and will continue to do so all the more with alumni meetings like the one just held in New York."

Hal Judis, ASP teacher



# S TUDENTS AND TEACHERS WITNESS HISTORY

While the world watched the inauguration of President Obama on television, members of the ASP community were among the millions in Washington, DC who had a chance to witness history with their own eyes. The following accounts have been edited for the WWASpect but you are encouraged to read them in full online: [www.asparis.org/inauguration](http://www.asparis.org/inauguration)



## A PEACEFUL TRANSITION

By Dave Lynn (MS teacher)

My tradition of attending the first inauguration of US Presidents started when I was ten years old and joined my father in witnessing the swearing-in of President George HW Bush in 1989. Having now spent four



Inauguration Days in Washington, this one certainly stood out. My father once reminded me how fortunate we are to live in a society where power can be transferred between individuals and political parties in such a peaceful, orderly and festive process. It's meant a lot to be able to pass this message along to my current students.

While we are all too often reminded of reasons why government doesn't work well, it is healthy to be occasionally reminded of its strengths. I'd like to think that 2 million people came together on January 20<sup>th</sup>, not just to witness a historic event, but to also go home to their families and communities to share a sense of pride and hope in a democratic process that an ever increasing number of countries in the world enjoy.

## HYPOTHERM-OBAMA

By Adam Willems (Gr.8)

At 8:30am the National Mall was already filled with people. I heard someone calling it a "Blanket of Humanity". And it was basically a blanket,



despite the freezing temperatures, this dense "Blanket of Humanity" kept everyone's body heat in. Without this blanket, I think my six layers would have failed me. When Barack Obama arrived in the Capitol Building, everyone in the crowd started chanting either "Yes We Can" or "O-ba-ma" and his speech kept everybody's eyes on

the Jumbotron. After the speech was over, the mass of humanity tried to leave the National Mall. But this took a long time. "They say we can't get out of this place," one supporter said. "I say, 'Yes We Can.'"

## A VENTURE INTO HISTORY

By Fay Hutchinson (MS teacher)



The atmosphere at the mall throughout the ceremony can be best described by a newspaper headline that read "Feelings reach a heightened pitch in the USA".

A one-in-two-million surprise was that I literally ran into Pierre Lord '95 (son of MS teacher Claude Lord). This was a very unexpected and exciting reunion.

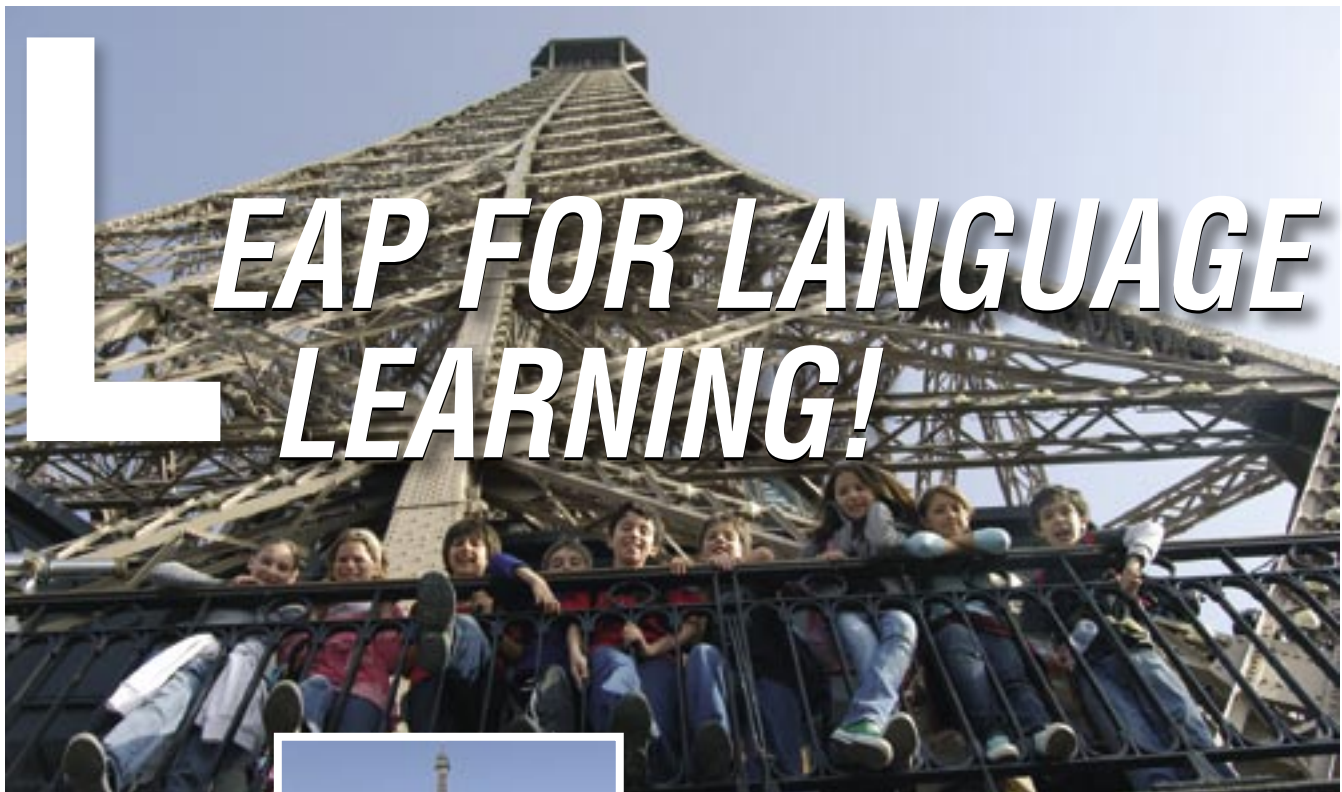
There was definitely a gamut of emotions transcending the crowd at the mall - jubilation, pride, relief, hope, gratitude and joy to name a few. People openly cried and hugged each other when President Obama took his oath. President Obama represents for me what is echoed by millions around the world - a new voice of hope. His daughter declared "First African-American President...Better be good!" I hope that we will all have patience and provide the support that President Obama will need to travel that "...long road with the steep climb..." as he so aptly describes it. Overall, this has been the most fulfilling adventure that I have ever embarked upon.

## A MOVING EXPERIENCE

By Lorenza Pellicioli (Gr.12)

It was evident just from the metro ride to get there that this wasn't just any inauguration. When we arrived at the capitol, the line to enter our seating section was over a mile long. It was insanely cold but everyone was willing to withstand it to be part of this historic moment. It was a challenge not to cry during the inaugural address, the feelings are so overwhelming. This is a man I have greatly admired, staying up late listening to his speeches on YouTube, greatly inspired by his words and his actions, and now I get to see him speak in person. It's difficult to describe the feelings you have when you witness such an important moment in history, to be a part of it. It was and will remain one of the highlights of my life.





Today's advanced technologies are enhancing proven teaching methods to enrich and accelerate foreign language learning at all ages. ASP's language faculty agrees. Every student from Kindergarten through Grade 12 studies French at ASP. In the Upper School one third of the students also takes Spanish.

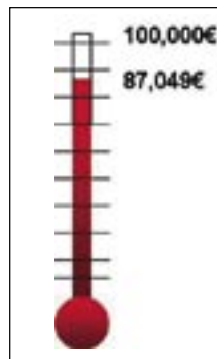
This year our Annual Giving Campaign is supporting language learning at ASP. Now with your help our students will soon be utilizing the best that modern technology has to offer in tailor-made language facilities for ASP's classrooms. These technologies will not only accelerate the learning of French and Spanish today, but will also allow ASP to offer many more languages in the future.

Thanks to the immediate support of alumni, parents, faculty/staff, trustees, and our corporate partners, the "Leap for Language Learning" campaign has reached 87,049 euros, and ASP students will benefit from these donations this academic year!

The Upper School has already selected which classroom will be transformed into a 20-station Foreign Language Lab - the only one in the Paris area - and the installation will be completed during the April break.

We are now seeking your support to raise an additional 15,000 euros to invest in the

Lower School and Middle School Multimedia Language Centers, which will significantly enhance the way we teach our students using French broadcast medias. If you have not already made a gift, please



visit [www.asparis.org/donate](http://www.asparis.org/donate) and help transform foreign language learning at ASP today and for years to come.

**Contact Amanda Nagele for more information:** [anagele@asparis.fr](mailto:anagele@asparis.fr) or visit the campaign website: [www.asparis.org/annual-giving08](http://www.asparis.org/annual-giving08)

**THANK YOU!**

## "WHY I SUPPORT ANNUAL GIVING"

A strong, involved alumni community is vital to ASP's continued success and one way we seek alumni support is through annual giving. Here a member of our alumni community explains why she feels it is important to support the school by making an annual donation to the ASP Alumni Appeal Fund.

"Like many students, I don't think I fully appreciated ASP while I was there. I took the diversity of the student body for granted and pretty much assumed that all people were interesting, multi-faceted, and culturally aware. Over the years, my husband and I have attended several ASP reunions in various locations. We cheerfully pack our bags, realizing that it doesn't matter whether I know people there or not—we're going to meet interesting people and have a great time. There's the guy with the 3000 rare vinyl records in his basement in Maryland, the 70's alumni rock band that packed the bar in Greenwich Village, the missionaries we strolled on the banks of the Seine with. By helping ASP carry out its wonderful mission, I can ensure that future students will also get to have these insights some day."

By Helga Stoess Warren, class of 1974



# STREETWISE: CHANGING ONE



When we heard about Anita Muyeed '89 and her work in establishing a school for children from the slums of Dhaka, we were anxious to learn more. Amanda Nagele had the opportunity to interview Anita, Executive Director of Streetwise, to find out more about how this one-of-kind institution is “changing the world, one child at a time”...

#### Anita, where are you from originally?

I am from Bangladesh. I left Bangladesh at age 3 with my family and attended ASP from grades 1 to 12. At 18, I went off to University in the US and spent my years there as a young adult. I returned to Bangladesh in my early 30's and am now settled in Dhaka, the capital city.

#### Where did you go next?

After graduating from ASP, I went for further studies in the US. Soon after graduating from University, I realized that I had a propensity to teach. Even as I was working in different fields throughout my career, I always found myself teaching on the side. While working at the Child Study Center at Yale University, I spent my evenings teaching art to underprivileged children in New Haven, CT. Although teaching wasn't my career path, I've always been drawn to education, perhaps because I knew that knowledge was indeed a powerful tool, capable of shaping people and having tremendous impact.

#### When and why did you move to Dhaka?

I was drawn back to Bangladesh for several reasons, but I think the most important one being my parents' inculcation that we, as 'privileged' children of the world, had to give back to those less fortunate. My father had been a diplomat to the UN for many years, as an education specialist to Africa. He passed away while I was still in university in the US. With his death, I strongly felt the urge to go back and work in Bangladesh as that was what he had wished for. I first moved to Dhaka from 1994 to 1996. My very first job was with the Grameen Bank, where I worked as Prof. Yunus'

personal assistant (who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2007 for his endeavor in trying to eradicate poverty by providing micro-credit to the poorest of the poor). Alongside that, I taught French at the Alliance Française in the evenings and directed a weekend English program at a local school (Holy Cross School) for children in grades 1-6.

#### How did your idea for StreetWise begin? Was your initial goal to start a school?

After two years in Dhaka, I went back to the US in 1996 and worked there for some years. It was not until 2003 that I returned to Dhaka with a full-hearted commitment of settling there. I began teaching art at the International School of Dhaka. Teaching was fulfilling, but there was something missing. On my commute to and from work, I would spend an awful lot of time in my car trying to ignore children tapping on my window for a few pennies, and I would spend even more time feeling uncomfortable and guilty for not being able to do anything meaningful for them. There were so many children living on the streets. What could I do, on my own, for them? I was not sure, but I knew I wanted to get to know them and stop ignoring them. I wanted to work with them and offer THEM what I had to offer to the children at ISD. In 2006, I took a bold move and resigned from ISD to start my own pilot project, the StreetWise Project.

#### What were the steps in creating StreetWise?

In January 2006, a cousin and I decided to invite ten children that we had befriended at the traffic lights to meet us for lunch the next day. My aunt, who runs a school, lent us

her school's playground one Friday for that occasion (Friday is a day off in Bangladesh). The idea was that the children could come for a hot lunch, get some clothes, and just spend the day playing with us. After the first day, we asked the kids if they would like us to do this again the following week and the overwhelming response was "Yes!" We proceeded like this for a couple of months and then the children began to ask, "Aren't you going to teach us anything?" It was then I asked my aunt if we could use the school's garage as a classroom. We had a core group of ten children who would come back week after week. After about a year, we wanted to expand the program to more than just once a week. To do this though, we needed to get our own space, which raised the question of funding. In January 2007, we were able to move the program into a flat that we rented. We finally had our very own classrooms. We began offering classes five days a week and offering breakfast and lunch. Our students are between the ages of 4 – 14 and we have two homeroom teachers.

#### How many students do you have today?

Today we have 28 students. Being small in size allows us to be flexible and adjust to the new challenges that we face as we grow as a school and improve our program. As we are still in our pilot phase, it is important that we learn from our challenges and adopt new strategies to make sure that all of our students' needs are met.

#### What can you tell me about the kids in the program?

Our children are different from mainstream children. They have to make many sacrifices to attend school. They need to earn their own bread and support their families. Older children need to look after their younger siblings so that their mothers, who are often times single mothers, can work too. These children bear tremendous responsibilities



# THE WORLD, CHILD AT A TIME



towards their families. They have become students by sheer determination. Regular attendance has been our biggest obstacle, not because the children do not want to attend, but because they have so many other responsibilities. School is a luxury for them.

### **If StreetWise didn't exist, would these children be getting an education?**

Very early in the program, we realized that guardians would not allow the children to attend school on a regular basis because they were economically dependent on them. We had to find a way for our students to continue to provide for their families while getting an education. Since we needed to generate income for the guardians, in order to keep our children off the streets, we decided to sell goods. Each StreetWise product for sale has one thing in common, whether a T-shirt, a poster or a lamp, it bears a reproduction of our students' artwork from art class. The reason behind our choice of producing 'printed artwork' is that it can be reproduced in large numbers. Instead of each child having to spend endless hours creating a handful of art products, the print reproductions maximize the value of each piece of art. The time saved, and the supplemental return in funds, not only allows the students to get an education, it enables them to provide for their families and generate income for running the school. StreetWise makes sure, however, that the students' first priority is getting an education. Fifty percent of the proceeds from sales go to the school and the other fifty percent go to the children's families. We have developed a clientele for our

products through word of mouth and have a mailing list. We have also been able to sell items at neighboring international schools. Our goal is to set up a StreetWise Shop and to expand the range of products we can sell. We also intend to set up an online store. This will allow us to become fully sustainable. The fact that children are able to earn an income while going to school also encourages their attendance. We weight the amount of income they receive each week according to the number of days they attend school. This is also an incentive for parents to allow their children to go to school.

### **What are some of the obstacles that you face?**

Losing kids. I lost one of my students because she was married off. She was only 13 years old. She got pregnant at 14 years old and it will be very difficult for her to come back to school now. We don't have the support system needed, such as a crèche for young mothers. We will continue to face this sort of obstacle on a regular basis until we get the funds to provide more facilities and services. Drugs are also a



prominent obstacle, particularly for the boys. Drug dealers use them as delivery boys and they try to get them addicted to drugs so that they keep working for them. After losing two boys to drugs, we decided to partner up with CREA (a drug rehabilitation, education and awareness program), and they have helped us bring back one of the boys. What makes StreetWise different from other street schools is that we understand the children's need for social services as well as an education and we strive to provide both.

### **How do you see the school growing in the future?**

For now, we are able to provide three children with overnight shelter on a rotating basis. Allowing the children to spend the night at school gives them more time away from the streets. StreetWise intends to offer boarding privileges for all its students in the future. Its goal is to offer the best education, including IT and English as those are the keys to lucrative careers. StreetWise has also launched an adult program for the guardians as they also need social services to help them become independent from their children. Once the guardians are economically independent, only then can the students be granted a safe passage through school.

### **What is the relationship between StreetWise and the surrounding community?**

Word has gotten out that StreetWise is not a typical school for children living on the streets. We have a librarian from the American School who comes every Saturday to do storytelling. The International School of Dhaka, the American International School of Dhaka, and the Australian International School have all offered ways to help StreetWise by supplementing our educational program and lending us their facilities and/or staff. The Australian International School of Dhaka set up a fundraiser for StreetWise at their winter carnival in December. They raised over \$1000 in just one day for the school. People are really interested in helping. They ask me "What can we do...", "Can I sponsor a child..." It's really wonderful when people come to us, willing to make a difference for our students.

To find out more about Streetwise, please visit their website at [www.streetwise.com.bd](http://www.streetwise.com.bd)

# A LUMNI VISITS

We are always delighted to welcome back our alumni to campus! If you're planning a trip to Paris and would like to visit the school please feel free to contact Amanda in the Alumni Office – she'd be happy to give you a tour.



**Lindsey Pace (Armstrong) '96**

and her husband Tony came to visit ASP this past February and had the chance to visit old classrooms and see familiar faces

like Chris Chater, Neal Yocom, and Dave Stead. Lindsey and her husband currently live in New York City where she works in marketing for Forest Laboratories, a pharmaceutical company.

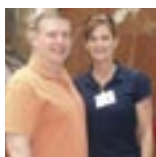
Lindsey has fond memories of traveling across Europe with her teammates during ISSTs.



**Rory Doyle '98 and Liz Russomanno-Doyle '00**

visited ASP this past June. Rory and Liz married last year and have spent the past few

years living in London. Rory has just completed his Masters of Science degree from the London School of Economics in International Political Economy and Liz currently works in television.



**Kristie Romer (James) '86**

and her husband visited campus this spring along with **Teresa Rodenbaugh (Bradshaw) '81** and her family (pictured).



**Gail Gsell '78 and Carrie Gsell '87**

visited ASP in October 2008. Gail currently lives in Arizona and Carrie lives in Virginia. They

were excited to see how the school has developed over the past 30 years while still being able to recognize familiar sites like their old gymnasium.



**Hyung-Jun '04 and Ji-Won '06**

visited ASP last month. Hyung-Jun and Ji-Won were returning from a recent trip to Gabon when they made a quick stop-over visit to Paris before heading to back to their home in South Korea where they are both attending university. While visiting campus, they had the opportunity to see ASP faculty member, Laura Schupack, and visit our new Digital Media Lab where students take classes such as Digital Music Composition, Filmmaking, and Claymation. Ji-Won took part in one of the first filmmaking classes at ASP and was excited to see how the course has developed in such a short period of time.

## THE VISITING WRITER PROGRAM 08-09

A rather different kind of visitor to ASP – but nonetheless all thanks to an ASP alum!

One of the highlights of every year is the prestigious Visiting Writer Program in which ASP is fortunate enough to host some of the literary world's best known names thanks to the especially generous annual gift of an alumnus, **Steven Barclay '77**.



**Dr. Azar Nafisi**

There will be a writers workshop with students during the day and then in the evening, parents and faculty are invited to the US Ambassador's Official Residence for a special evening event with a champagne cocktail and reading.

The Visiting Writer for the 08-09 Program is

bestselling author, **Azar Nafisi**, probably best known for her work *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books* which recounts the experience of a young university professor and her students during the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

To find out more about Dr. Azar Nafisi:  
<http://www.barclayagency.com/nafisi.html>

We are very excited to welcome Dr. Nafisi to ASP on April 6, 2009 when she will join a long and prestigious list of visiting authors:

- Alexander McCall Smith - [click here for Biog](#)
- Robert Pinsky - [click here for Biog](#)
- Billy Collins - [click here for Biog](#)
- Naomi Shihab Nye - [click here for Biog](#)
- David Sedaris - [click here for Biog](#)
- Marjane Satrapi - [click here for Biog](#)

# FROM THE NEXT HEAD...

It was announced at the end of last year that ASP will welcome Daryle Russell as new interim Head of School for 09-10. He will work with current Head, Jack Davis and the new permanent Head of School, Mark Ulfers, to ensure the seamless transition at the helm of ASP up to July 2010.

Daryle and his wife Dannie will move to Paris this summer, and he takes this opportunity to introduce himself to ASP alumni.

“Dannie and I joined the US Peace Corps in 1963, with idealism and enthusiasm ignited by President John Kennedy. We were assigned as teachers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I soon found my way into administration at the Haile Selassie I University Laboratory School. We returned to the USA during the turbulent mid-sixties. I completed graduate studies at Washington State University prior to accepting a high school principal's position outside of Seattle. For the next three years I learned a lot about school management. My idealism and ego took a few knocks, but not my enthusiasm. I wanted a different venue. Being back overseas seemed to make sense for our family. We have never looked back. With two young children, we landed in 1972 at the recently fire-bombed Manila airport. A typhoon had just passed through the city. There were still disturbances and President Marcos was about to declare martial law. The International School of Manila was home for the next 10 years. During that period, we introduced the IB Diploma program and graduating students attended



"I am not afraid of long working hours and tough decisions."

the best colleges and universities in the world. There were kidnappings, several periods of continuous bomb threats directed

at the school and on-going Government demonstrations. This was our welcomed reentry to living and working overseas.

Career paths have lots of twists and turns. From Manila I went to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as Superintendent of the American School in Riyadh. For 11 years I worked with a corporate Board of Trustees, a superb management team and outstanding teachers. At one point the school had over 2800 students. There were many challenges in that assignment, including keeping the

school open during the Gulf War. Many stories can spin off my 11 years in Saudi Arabia. In 1993, I announced my "retirement" from working in overseas schools. Few of my colleagues took me seriously. Since that first "retirement," I spent three years as a school head in Islamabad and two in Dubai before the start of my "interim career."

## Sense of humor

Then, there were interim assignments in Belgrade, Vienna, and Mumbai, back to Dubai and most recently in Bandung. Each assignment had its own unique opportunities and challenges. I am not afraid of long working hours and tough decisions. I enjoy my work and yes I have still been able to retain my sense of humor. What do I do for diversion? I am an avid fly fisherman and a fading golf enthusiast. Dannie and I enjoy travel, especially African camping safaris. There is a final note of family pride. Dannie and I have two children who are mid-stride in their own overseas careers. Jessica Russell is an Associate Professor of English at American University in Dubai, while completing a doctoral program. Dr. Ian Russell is the K-11 Principal at Concordian International School in Bangkok. We have five grandchildren.



# CLASS NOTES

August 2008-February 2009



Kendrick Powell, Senior Speaker at his graduation in 1951

## Kendrick Powell, class of 1951

There was an article in the Summer 2008 **World Wide ASPECT** by Charles N. Leach '52, mentioning yours truly, Kendrick Powell '51. Possibly Charles Leach may be interested to learn that I am still amongst the quick. I attended ACS (American Community School) from 1946 to 1951. I served in the US Air Force for four years and obtained a BSME, MSME and PhD, in mechanical engineering from Purdue University. The yearbook described me as "the only boy at ACS to go steady with a motorcycle for three years," but the fine teachers at ACS under Mr. de Rosay managed to drum some academic skills into me.

I worked in the industry for 25 years, taught at Lehigh University and Lafayette College for a dozen years and am now retired.

## Ann Elkinton (McClure), class of 1954

I have really enjoyed the newsletters and photos that ASP sends to alumni! I remember my ACS days as clearly as if I had attended the school just last year (and I graduated in 1954 with a

class of 10!). My Dad was with the Marshall Plan and Agency for International Development in the US Embassy. Keep the info flowing. It means a lot to all of us. Here's a photo of our 10-person 1954 graduation. I'm at the

podium as Senior Speaker. There are as many dignitaries on the left as seniors on the right!

## Dan MacKinnon, class of 1956

Prior to a recent trip to Paris (the first in 55 years), I googled ACS and was amazed by the changes and growth of the school. My next shock was Paris itself. Everybody seems to be really busy but also eating or drinking. There are so many restaurants, cafes, and shops - no recession here. I don't know who would be still around from my era in Paris - maybe Peter Sostack, Michele Henquet or Pierre Sussmann and elsewhere who knows? I still have copies of *Le Phare* for '53 and '54.



Ann Elkinton (McClure) '54, Senior Speaker

## Clare Whitney Cooke (Agrapart), class of 1964

I take this opportunity to say that my husband and I are now retired. We have a lovely clan - two daughters and sons-in-law and four granddaughters. One family lives in Colombes, France and the other in Charlottesville, VA. We are always busy and live a very happy life. I always remember my days at ASP with certain nostalgia and enjoy keeping up with news thanks to your on-going work.

## Jo Cook Schorp, class of 1968

Recently, William and I had dinner with Alan Knollmeyer. He and I were in the same graduating class (1968) at ASP. He was in Houston for a business meeting. We had a great visit and caught up on classmates.

## Marc Gross-Maubry, class of 1971

I'm working as Vice President of Product Planning for a company in the Midwest. My sole responsibility is to travel the world and create cruise and land vacations. Our primary clients are university alumni groups. Thus, if and when you receive

# HIGHLIGHTS

from your respective university an International Tour vacation, look for the small print and you will see our company's name. Since leaving ASP, I have lived in Wyoming, Hawaii, Kansas City, and St. Louis. I have seen quite a few ASPers in my travels.

## Wallace Driver, class of 1971

I'm a Senior Chief Engineer. Since my ASP years, I have lived in Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Washington, Minneapolis, Newark, Bradenton, Shanghai, Guiyang, Shenyang, and Atlanta. I have never been back to Paris; I miss it and our times there. I'm married to Hong Wei and Corinne is my lovely daughter.

## Leonard Trimmer, class of 1973

I returned to Paris with my family 1987-1993 and am living in Garches and working near Melun. Daughters Jessica '96 and Corissa '99 attended ASP. Cori is a Russian linguist in the USAF after studies at the Defense Language Institute. To our great sorrow, Jessica passed away Nov 25, 2005, leaving two children Nathan and Samantha behind. Brother Doug owns Trimmer Hardware & Jeff is an Estimator in Hamilton, OH. Earl is a CPA and Fire Captain in Alliance, OH. Take care, everyone.

## Scott MacLeod, class of 1973

My latest project, **Serious Publications**, is now open for business. **Serious Publications** is a self-publishing venture done through Lulu.com. Books contain fiction, experimental prose, poetry, and theater texts. You can read full descriptions of the various works at our online storefront: <http://stores.lulu.com/store.php?fAcctID=1835422>. I'm also looking to get some written responses from readers that I could quote from and use as blurbs on the back covers of these

## Baby Announcements

### Chad Fairey & Lisa Apligian, Former Faculty

Lisa and I are extremely excited to share news of the much-anticipated arrival of our twin boys, born October 3, 2008. Aidan Parker Fairey came first at 3:43pm, weighing in at 6 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 18.5 inches in length. His brother, Dylan Thomas Fairey, followed 11 minutes later at 3:54 pm, weighing in at 6 lb. 4 oz and measuring 17.5 inches in length. Both of our little angels are healthy, nursing well, and gaining strength and awareness. Everyone says that the difference between one child and two is quite significant (and tiring); the jump from one to three has left us positively exhausted! We will be in touch soon with more details and pictures. For the moment, here's a shot of the two little guys.



books, to replace the quotes that I'm using now. I'll give a bonus gift of your choice (book, drawing or small sculpture) to those people whose quotes I end up using as published blurbs. Thanks & best wishes, Scott MacLeod  
(<http://seriousprojects.blogspot.com>)

## Camille Russell (du Aime), class of 1976

I'm in Europe, in an international school, but this time as the Principal of an elementary school in Berlin. Both a short and a long trip!

The long version catalogs my 10 years in Asia (Hanoi and Bali) and introduces my kids Tom (13) and Kate (12) adopted in Vietnam. The short version highlights my apparent stability: same area, same



environment (actually worked at ASP for a while). Married an ASP alumnus too (Sam Russell '72)! Class of 1976 makes a pretty weak showing on this site. Where are you?

## Teresa Hill Neptune, class of 1976

I've just opened my own fine art photography, working studio/gallery on Canyon Road in Santa Fe, New Mexico. If you are ever in Santa Fe, come by! You can learn more about it and see what I've been up to at [www.TeresaNeptune.com](http://www.TeresaNeptune.com). Shout outs to Becky Shaw, Rebecca Rosen, Jack, Zeb, Sandra Quarles, Martha Gould, Camille DuAime, Peter Buck, Ole, Geraldine, Virginia Gift and the class of 1976! Best Wishes to All!

## Phillip Lowe, class of 1979

Laura has worked for the State Department of Ecology for a long time, keeping them out of the local newspaper for ethics violations.

I went to work for the State Department of Health about four years ago keeping their IT development efforts on track. I can be found in Atlanta talking to the CDC from time to time.

Our older son Dan can be found at air and small-bore rifle events of national caliber. Aniston, AL was his last trip and he earned a JR Olympic Gold and Bronze in Precision Air Rifle. Younger son Alex is tackling Kindergarten this year.

# C CLASS NOTES HIGHLIGHTS

August 2008-February 2009

## Alan Hellowell, class of 1986

*Hi all. I am now based in Hong Kong working for Deutsche Bank. Please do get in touch if you head out to Asia!*

## David J. Corrigan, class of 1989

*Mrs. Robinson's fourth grade class fieldtrip is still a great memory. I'm living outside DC now. Anyone remember a short term student named Sasha??*

## Melissa Roberts (Bothwell), class of 1996



*After Paris, my family and I moved to Memphis, TN. I graduated high school there and met my husband there also. We have*

*been married 11 years and have three beautiful children. We now live in northern Kentucky, a suburb of Cincinnati, OH. I have always looked back on my time in Paris as the best part of my childhood. I miss it and wish I could take my kids there.*

Don't forget to update your Class Notes online with ASP's Alumniweb portal. For more information contact Amanda Nagele: [anagele@asparis.fr](mailto:anagele@asparis.fr)

## Wedding Announcements

### Stephanie Young Rosen, class of 1986

Although I enjoyed the many times I was a bridesmaid, it was a thrill to finally be a bride! I married the incredible Jory Rosen in Malibu, California on November 1, 2008. (I'm probably amongst the last of our classmates to walk down the aisle, but he was so worth the wait!) Our wedding was a blast - both my sister Pauline '84 and brother Jake '89



were in our wedding party, and Lori McNaughton Roeller '85 really dug that Lionel Richie tune we played - ha! We followed our celebration with a relaxing stay in Cancun (thanks Pat Birchall '86) and then had a great adventure touring Cuba. We now live in Venice, CA where I write and Jory is launching his own advertising and marketing firm. I'd love to hear from any classmates: [stepheene@gmail.com](mailto:stepheene@gmail.com). I'm helping to plan an ASP evening in LA in February - hope to see many of you there!

## In Memory

### Bert du Aime (November 7, 1925 - October 29, 2008), ASP Parent By Chris Chater



These few words are to remember Bert du Aime (aka William Wharton, ASP parent, painter and author). Bert is best known among the ASP community as husband of Rosemary Du Aime, legendary Kindergarten teacher. Like me, Rosemary was hired in 1968 - as I was someone quite new to international education I often looked to her for guidance. She continued to teach here for over twenty years and is still remembered with great affection by the hundreds of children who attended her classes. Bert was mostly known to them as the character

who appeared at the traditional Lower School Holiday Assembly - as Santa Claus. Few knew about all his other lives. The obituaries reveal sides we adults knew little of; though later we all revealed in his fame as prize-winning novelist. His two daughters both taught at ASP at different times (Camille in first grade and Kate as Kindergarten assistant) and now Matt is a current member of the teaching staff. To celebrate his memory there are some slideshows and galleries of his paintings at this link: <http://chrischater.org/ada123>. Feel free to pass these links to anyone you know who remembers Rosemary and Bert.