INSIDE:
CUPCAKE POWER

Report from Rwanda

Humanitarians off the beaten path

Saving Marta
Fountain Valley School’s communications department created an innovative new admission tool that captures all aspects of the School in one publication for prospective students and families. “This is FVS” is published two to three times a year with fresh news and photos, student profiles, features and up-to-the-minute information. This is an exciting departure from a traditional viewbook that typically has a shelf life of four years.

Spread the word! If you know a family with a student for whom Fountain Valley School would be a good fit, please let us know! Call the Admission Office at 719.391.5251 or e-mail admission@fvs.edu, and we’ll send the family a copy of the magazine and a DVD. Word of mouth marketing is the most powerful outreach of all, and we appreciate your spreading the good word about FVS.
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DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FVS:

Fountain Valley’s value statement highlights compassion as one of the School’s core values. It describes compassion: “To demonstrate care and service to others, and to live a balanced and healthy life, enjoying the harmony of work and play.”

Compassion is expressed typically as sympathy, but I believe empathy, concern or kindness to be the better synonyms for the way in which our School values the term. We must acknowledge and reach out to others in order to empower and not to pity. In so doing, we fulfill ourselves, achieving that balanced and healthy life.

In this edition of the Bulletin you will find three feature articles from alumni and a former faculty member, all illustrating the power of enabling others and all testifying to the impact our community can and does have in the world. Or as Mahatma Gandhi was quoted, “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

Sarah Haas ’04 describes in “Cupcake Power” her effort to give purpose to the homeless and understanding to a Boulder neighborhood. Former faculty Peter Thorp has found a way to bring his incomparable experience in education to bear in Africa, enriching his own life in the process as he describes in “The ‘Moonstruck/Lovestruck’ Edition” from one of his reports from Rwanda. Finally, Morgan Smith ’56 describes the work of an asylum in Juárez, Mexico, as it restores humanity among some of the world’s most disadvantaged.

We are reminded by the pundits of 21st century education that we must empower our students to use knowledge and thought, not just to acquire it. Recent economic experience reminds us that unchecked self-interest can lead to a financial turmoil.

My wish for our community is that we all may find our own way to live life with authenticity, dedicated to purpose and shared with others.
Banquet Raises Awareness of World Hunger

As 50 Fountain Valley School of Colorado students entered Bancroft Hall at lunch hour, each drew a ticket that assigned them to an income level based on current statistics on the number of people living in poverty.

Fifteen percent in the high-income tier were served a sumptuous meal of spaghetti and meatballs, green salad and homemade cherry pie at a table decorated with candles, flowers, tablecloths and napkins. Thirty-five percent of middle-income status ate a simple meal of rice and beans while 50 percent in the low-income tier were limited to sparse portions of rice and water.

This was an Oxfam Hunger Banquet, a Global Scholar Diploma event sponsored by Dr. Susan Carrese. Oxfam America is an international relief and development organization that creates solutions to poverty, hunger and injustice.

While just a few participants left with full stomachs, all took away a greater understanding of the problems of hunger and poverty, and the motivation to do something about them.

Barrackman Earns Championship Title at All-American Congress

Matt Barrackman '12 earned a championship title Oct. 19 at the 45th Annual All American Quarterhorse Congress in Columbus, Ohio.

He placed first over 97 other riders in the Novice Youth 14-18 Western Pleasure division while riding his horse Amblin’ Impulsion. He earned three first-place votes and one second.

Later in the week, Barrackman was a finalist in the Novice Youth 14–18 Showmanship division on his horse Relax I’m Good (Rex). There were 147 riders in the category.

The All American Quarterhorse Congress is the world’s largest single-breed horse show and receives more than 17,000 horse show entries for its three-week schedule.

Giddings Foundation Names Sheamus Croke as a Student Intern

Fountain Valley School of Colorado junior Sheamus Croke has been named a student intern on The Giddings Foundation board.

The Giddings Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization that gives grants to organizations throughout the Colorado Springs area. As an intern on the board, Croke will help decide which organizations will be chosen and how much each will receive.

“I am really looking forward to having an equal say in which grants will be provided and being able to help out the Colorado Springs community through my own decisions,” Croke said.

Three Students Earn National Merit Recognition

Jonathan Colarelli ’12 has been named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist while classmates Hannah Carrese and Youngsun Won are Commended Students.

Colarelli has the opportunity to continue in the competition for 8,300 National Merit Scholarships worth more than $34 million. About 90 percent of the semifinalists attain finalist standing, and about half of the finalists win a scholarship.

Senior Awarded Rensselaer Medal

Youngsun Won ’12 has been awarded the Rensselaer Medal. The medal is a merit scholarship to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute that recognizes students who have distinguished themselves in mathematics and science. The scholarship has a minimum value of $15,000 per year and is guaranteed for four years to be applied to the tuition for medalists who are accepted and choose to enroll at RPI.
FVS Soccer Players Hit the Field in England

Eleven current and former Fountain Valley School soccer players participated in a weeklong England training camp and tour Aug. 5–11.

The trip, which was funded by the players and their families, paralleled similar trips taken by the Fountain Valley hockey club to the Czech Republic in 2009 and 2011. Led by former head coach Steve Kerchner and current head coach Derek Segesdy, the trip gave players a chance to train with and play against some elite English teams.

Practices were held at Primrose Hill, Regents Park and The Hive (the training ground for Barnet Club), and they were mixed with games and historical tours around London. The Danes finished with a 2-1 record on the tour.

AP Studio Art 2-D student Laura Ames ’12 had a photograph selected for the 2011–12 Drexel University High School Photography contest.

The contest drew more than 1,850 entries, but only 140 photographs were selected for the show. All photographs will be exhibited in the Drexel University Photography Gallery in Philadelphia, Pa., from Feb. 4–March 2, 2012. This is the fifth consecutive year that contest judges have honored a Fountain Valley School student.
**All-State Choir**

Nick Carter ’13 brought down the house at an All-School in November when he sang a solo in French. Directly after, Music Director Charlie Kurchinski surprised him with news that he had been selected for the men’s chorus in the Colorado All-State Choir. Carter was chosen from hundreds of Colorado high school applicants who participated in preliminary regional auditions. Before the Feb. 7 concert at the Wells Fargo Theater in Denver, choir members participated in two days of rehearsals with guest clinicians and conductors.

**Riding Kudos**

Haley Griffis ’12 was recognized by the United States Hunter Jumper Association Zone 8 Jumper Committee for her effort and successful representation of the zone at the North American Junior Young Rider Championship. She was awarded a $500 prize, which she donated to the Fountain Valley School Philanthropy Council. Griffis is president of the FVSPC.

**Sylvia**

The fall theater production, “Sylvia,” is a romantic comedy about a marriage and a dog, showcasing the talents of both seasoned actors and those fresh to the FVS stage. New sophomore Hannah Pratt played Sylvia, the street-smart dog that bites into the marriage of Greg and Kate, portrayed by veteran actors Brandon Barker ’12 and Maggie Imig ’12. The cast was rounded out by first-year junior John-David Slaugh as Tom, Jessica Schmitt ’14 as Phyllis and Ingrid Idland ’14, who garnered big laughs playing the therapist, Leslie. Kestrel Felt ’12 was stage manager.
Boys Soccer

First-year head coach Derek Segesdy didn’t know what to expect when he put his team on the field to open the 2011 season. The Danes lost 11 players from the successful 2010 team, and this year’s squad featured only two returning starters—Jon Colarelli ’12 and Luis Creel ’12. Segesdy, however, quickly built a local powerhouse out of his mixed group of veterans and newcomers. The Danes finished 11-5 and advanced to the second round of the state playoffs. Highlights included winning at the FVS Invitational, a first-round playoff victory over Denver Academy, and an emotional defeat over ECA. All of the Danes’ losses came to teams ranked higher in the state, including state runner-up TCA. Five Danes earned all-region honors, including leading scorer Caspar Ibel ’14 (19 goals).

Girls Volleyball

The Danes had their best season in years, finishing 14-7 and advancing to the district tournament. Behind setter Alex Chesley ’12, all-state hitter Kim Donaldson ’12 and outstanding defense, FVS cruised through its opening matches, winning eight straight. Five of the Danes’ losses came at the hands of state qualifiers Byers and Calhan. Their biggest win was a five-game battle over rival Colorado Springs School; it was the first time FVS had defeated the Kodiaks since 2003. A win over ECA sent the Danes to the district playoffs for the first time since 2006, but FVS was unable to overcome the top two teams in the district. Caspar Ibel ’14 led the Danes in scoring.
Cross Country

Freshman Dominic Carrese won his first-ever high school cross country meet and never looked back, as he led the boys team to ninth place in the state. Carrese never finished out of the top 10 in any race, and he earned all-state honors with a seventh-place finish at the final meet. He was a welcome addition to a team that graduated three of its top runners from 2010. Carrese joined returning runners Daniel Wilkins ’12 and Zack Eberhart ’13, and newcomers Jeff Brabec ’14 and Tyler Martin ’15 to form the core of the competitive squad.

Hannah Carrese ’12 and junior Emma Reynolds were the top runners on the girls team, which again qualified for the state championships. Reynolds saved her best for last, as she ran her season-best time at the state meet, followed by Carrese, Hayley Crowell ’12, Julia Rogers ’13 and Maia Presti ’14. The girls qualified for states after a third-place finish in regionals, which included an exciting battle for points on the final straightaway between the Danes and rival Kiowa.
Outdoor Education

The first day trip to Mt. Tijeras exposed this fall’s adventurers to the challenges of serious off-trail hiking in third-class terrain. The next adventure took students to the Lake of the Clouds and a successful ascent of 13,200-foot Spread Eagle Peak. Next, Mountain Bike Weekend’s single track riding opportunities added variety to the normal activities. The marquee trip of the season was to be a four-night trip to Chicago Basin in the Weminuche Wilderness, but weather intervened. Instead, students spent a morning at City Rock Climbing Gym perfecting knots and sampling the fantastic bouldering. The last outing was spent at local crag Shelf Road, climbing limestone routes and improving rock climbing skills.

Boys Tennis

With two of the state’s top teams in their region, including state champion Cheyenne Mountain, the Danes played to the best of their abilities with a third-place finish at regionals. FVS once again dominated its regular season competition with an 8-3 record, led by junior William Chu at No. 3 singles. Chu was fourth in the region and finished the season with a 12-5 record. Seniors Taylor Reid and James Grundy playing No. 1 and 2 singles also had good years. Grundy finished third in the region and Reid was fourth.

Golf

Two Danes qualified for the state tournament in a successful season for the Danes. Senior Sean Johnson earned his spot with an 84 at the regional tournament while newcomer Trevor Shott ’13 scored a 92. Overall, the Danes finished 11th out of 24 teams in the region.

Riding

Both riding teams spent the fall learning new skills and competing in local shows and rodeos. The English Riding time kicked off the season by winning an IEA show at MM Ranch. Individual winners were Maya Kobacker ’12, Hannah Neuman ’12 and Kat Kinder ’13. The Western riders competed in two rodeos. At Las Animas, Bailey Ross ’13 competed in five events and was second in the trail course. Clare Hamilton ’15 won the trail course. Two weeks later, Laura Ames ’12, Sarah Eustace ’14 and Piper Naylon ’12 competed at Latigo Trails. Naylon finished fourth in her first-ever competitive attempt at goat tying.
Check out the new online Dane Spirit Store!

Nearly 50 products, including clothing, ties, bags and housewares. Visit fvs.edu/store to place an order today.

Did you know there’s a way to make a gift to Fountain Valley School and get something back in return?

It’s called a charitable gift annuity, and it makes stable, fixed payments to you for life in return for your gift. It’s a great way to both give and receive.

To learn more about Charitable Gift Annuities and other life income gifts, please contact Director of Institutional Advancement Joy Kliewer at 719.391.5252 or jkliewer@fvs.edu.
By Sarah Haas '04

Sarah Haas '04 graduated from Whitman College with honors in studio art and philosophy. She was a teacher’s aide at the Pilchuck Glass School in Washington where she worked with famed artist Cork Marcheschi. While at Fountain Valley, she was student body president, captain of the varsity swimming team and a member of both the Hispanic Honor Society and the Froelicher Society. She was inducted into the prestigious Trident Society that recognizes outstanding members of Fountain Valley’s outdoor education program and received the Varsity Award at Commencement.
he crowds amassed quickly; it was only a matter of minutes before the chairs were taken up and people packed into the back of this oversized garage. Most of the people who came to the meeting were part of the North Boulder Alliance, a recently formed political group against “the concentration of low-income services in North Boulder.” Those facing them from the front of the room were people behind the planning of the proposed Lee Hill Project: 31 apartments to be built for chronically homeless adults of Boulder County who would be engaging in Housing First. This is a program that provides housing in exchange for the client’s involvement in case management and counseling.

I was stationed in the back corner of the room with three men, Bill, Tim and Phil, all standing behind a table covered in miniature cupcakes. The four of us made them earlier that day as part of Street Fare: The Boulder Shelter Bakery, a new business that I started and now direct. Street Fare employs Housing First clients in baking and selling tasty miniature cupcakes at farmers markets all over Boulder County. There we stood behind our cupcakes, serving them with a smile, all the while bracing ourselves for what was to come.

The moderator’s voice piped up on the microphone. He calmly and clearly laid out the meeting agenda, but before he could get very far, the room started whispering, then grumbling, then shouting out of turn.

“How do we stop the project?” From here, the meeting snowballed into anarchy. People yelled, cursed and complained. From above the noise could be heard exclamations: “Not in our backyard!” “How can I protect my wife? How can I protect my children?” “I don’t care about my safety; I care about the value of my home!”

The moderator was overwhelmed, and the chaos of the crowd prevailed as the meeting spun out of control.

I took a moment to survey my employees, knowing that they were the most vulnerable people in the room. They all stood stoically, unflinching in the heat of the fear that surrounded them about their past, their misfortune and their perceived inability to be a safe part of a community. They were looking at me too, wondering how I was faring in the midst of it all.

“Sarah, you’re crying on the cupcakes!” Phil said as he quickly moved them and patted me on the back. The concerns of the people were real and valid, but also unfounded. Never in my young life had I seen real live oppression, fear so deep
that it motivates injustice. It awakened a great sadness within me.

Those who object outright to integration with certain populations act from prejudice. This is not to say that they are wrong or evil, just to say that they are not being sincere regarding their motivation. For others, homelessness is a cause, a social problem that will require attention until everyone has a roof over his or her head.

But for me, homelessness is something else. It is a persistent part of society that will always require attention and should always get attention. People who live their lives in shelters, on the streets or in the wilderness deserve consideration and generosity in spirit. More often than not, however, they are not only deprived of social empathy, but are victims of its lack.

The aspects of a person that contribute most severely to their homelessness (mental illness, physical disability, addiction, social disorders) typically cause them to be intolerable to others. This is evidenced by most people who reside at the Boulder Shelter who report that they have family in the region, but whom they are not welcome to contact. Homelessness is not caused by its symptoms; it is caused by extreme marginalization.

The homeless are outcasts. If you look up synonyms for outcast in the thesaurus the list is almost entirely composed of words referring to homelessness. Among them are: bum, castaway, derelict, displaced person, fugitive, gypsy, hobo, tramp, untouchable, vagabond and vagrant. This suggests that homelessness is in part caused by our perception of the marginalized. If this is true, then perhaps there is indeed a solution for the problem at hand! If society can incorporate the homeless, if not into their homes then at least into their perceptions, perhaps the root causes will alleviate. The question then becomes: how do we compel such acceptance of the homeless?

To put this another way, how do we make the outcast “sexy?” When I asked myself this question a year ago, I could not come up with some big and universal solution. Instead, my mind kept going back to all the time I’d spent in New York City, baking on the fourth floor of a warehouse in downtown Brooklyn. In New York, many people feel marginalized. Amidst the throngs of eight million people, it is easy to feel anonymous and alone. For me, the exception to this rule was when I was at street markets selling cupcakes.

Cupcakes are an icebreaker. Cupcakes are cute. Cupcakes are delicious. Cupcakes are trendy. Cupcakes are profitable. Cupcakes are “sexy.”

The cupcake is the antithesis to the homeless, and so they are a perfect pairing.

Along with luscious classics such as Red Velvet, Vanilla Sparkle and Chocolate, Street Fare has a lineup of wildly inspired flavor compositions that have helped account for the business’s quick success:
Cheryl was born and raised in Boulder, Colo., and educated in the Boulder school system. She was one of the few children in the lunch line paying with food stamps. As a student, she was underwhelming, but as an athlete she excelled in track. In the middle of one of the most important races of her career, she froze up, stopped running and fell to her knees in tears. Cheryl was overwhelmed by the prospects of her young success.

The rest of her life would be a struggle. In 1986, she had her first child and moved to Alaska with her husband who quickly became violent and abusive to them both. With her young son under her arm, she chose to live on the streets rather than risk her child’s life. Ten years later, her son committed suicide and Cheryl spun into the depths of a depression that rendered her unsociable and outcast.

I met Cheryl in April of 2011 when she elected to enroll as an employee of Street Fare. Cheryl had fond memories of baking red velvet cake with her mother as a young girl, and she was eager to work in a kitchen once more. Cheryl and I worked side by side on recipe development and she quickly put her juju into the batters with our red velvet cupcakes quickly rising to our number one seller. Soon, Cheryl became known as the Cupcake Diva, famous to our customers and shelter clients for her spatula skills and wild laughter.

Two months into her employment, she began to ask me for help finding employment. Knowing that she would be unhappy in a typical work environment, we found her an internship at a psychic institute in town. Energized by the position and with a renewed sense of confidence, Cheryl took it upon herself to enroll in some business classes at the community college. Due in part to her entrepreneurial experience with Street Fare, she received a full scholarship for her courses and found a low income apartment near school.

Cheryl no longer works with me, but called last week to order some cupcakes for her graduation party. “Nothing fancy,” she says, “just some red velvet cupcakes!” We both laugh, me as I adore her health and humility, and she as she revels in her success.
Peter Thorp taught history and coached soccer, ice hockey and lacrosse for 18 years at Fountain Valley School of Colorado, from 1975–1993. He is the founding head of Gashora Girls Academy of Science and Technology, a boarding high school for girls in Rwanda. He has been in the country since May of 2010. The school opened its doors for the first time with 90 girls in February 2011 and ended its first year at the end of October. Next year, there will be 180 girls, and the school will reach capacity in 2013 with 270 students. Between his appointments at FVS and Gashora, Thorp was headmaster of Cate School in Carpinteria, Calif., founding principal of Gateway High School in San Francisco and chief of staff for the California Charter Schools Association. Thorp graduated from Williams College with a degree in art history, has a master’s of education from Boston State College, and has pursued advanced study at the University of Colorado and Harvard Graduate School of Education.

According to Suzanne McGill, one of Gashora Girls Academy founders: “Peter has brought together all of his experience from private, charter and public schools to build a student-centered model for educating girls in Rwanda. He is one of the most incredible educators, and is more and beyond anything we anticipated. Peter has become part of Rwanda’s national conversation on the country’s vision for education.”

Following is Thorp’s June 2011 “Report from Rwanda.”
Last Wednesday night was the happiest night I’ve had in Rwanda. There was to be a total lunar eclipse, visible only in certain parts of the world, and East Africa was front and center.

At breakfast I had announced that we were not going to have “preps” (study hall) that night since the next day was African Child’s Day, and we would have no classes. The girls clapped and cheered in response. My next announcement was about the eclipse that night and how exciting it would be to see it together. Stone silence erupted. I’ve learned that Rwandans don’t look to the heavens much; their sorrowful past and ambitious development plans for the future keep them looking down or straight ahead, or so it seems.

This eclipse was going to be a once-in-a-lifetime beauty—a two-hour absolutely total transformation of the moon into a floating sphere of blood orange caused, believe it or not, by volcanic ash from the recent Chilean eruption half a world away. But the day had been overcast—would we even be lucky enough to see it?

As night fell, some of the teachers and I put out a few plastic chairs on our quad lawn. Many of the girls were in classrooms despite the night off, working on book reports for English, or taking advantage of “open studio” time from our three-week fine arts program provided by Misses Lisa and Shawn, our two wonderful volunteer artists from the Bay Area. By 7 p.m.
The moon had risen behind the clouds, creating a back-lit Albert Pinkham Ryder dreamscape stretched across the Southern skies. “Come look at this,” I called, “and help me blow away the clouds.” Ever responsive to the requests of the headmaster, they came running, and together we flapped our arms and huffed and puffed to blow the clouds away. And then, together, we dissolved into giggles.

But it worked! Soon the clouds disappeared, the now-liberated moon’s incandescence began blotting out all the stars, but not before we pointed out to the girls Miss Thea’s favorite constellation, Scorpio, the Scorpion, with its long, arched tail just to the west of the moon. And just above the horizon, my wife Donna’s favorite constellation, the Southern Cross, was lying on its side, a celestial reminder, perhaps, of Christ’s stumble and fall on the way to Calvary Hill.

Now we had the girls’ attention, and they gathered around. I had my binoculars and iPhone with my Google Earth app at the ready. The girls eagerly grabbed for the binoculars, though just a very few had ever used them before. As they passed from girl to girl, I could see that some of them were either using them as a monocular, or looking in the wrong end, or simply pointing them at 0 degrees to the horizon wondering why they couldn’t locate the man in the moon. But soon one, then another, let me stand behind her and help aim the binoculars until they found the bright light in the vast blackness. With each discovery, the girl would joyfully jump up and down, and we’d have to find our bearings again. “Thank you, headmaster,” each would say as the glasses moved to the next in line.

I then sat in my chair, booted up Google Earth, announced that I was going to take them on a tour around the world while we waited for the eclipse to begin. Now Rwanda girls could stuff a VW Beetle in Guinness Book of World Record proportions, so I was immediately surrounded by a score of girls craning to look as we found their villages, passing from Gashora to Muzanze to Gisenyi to Cyangugu, then across the continent and the Atlantic to our homes—the muzungu teachers’ homes—in Marion, Mass., Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Orange County, Calif., before finding my house on Clay St. in San Francisco. “Is that where your family is?” they asked. “Yes,” I said, and out of the corner of my eye I could swear I caught a glimpse of a couple girls waving at the iPhone.

Now it was 8 p.m., the eclipse had begun, and the girls were finally mesmerized. First a bit of the lower left quadrant was enshrouded, then in an hour and a half was covered. The cold, bright white light of an hour ago was gradually being replaced by a Crayola burnt orange hue. As I watched them staring wide-eyed at the eclipse, I couldn’t help but think of what prehistoric eclipse watchers had imagined millennia ago. So I told the girls that in ancient times when an eclipse happened, the people would beat drums, chant, clap, or do whatever they
could to bring back the moon (or the sun as appropriate). And so at the exact moment the moon was completely engulfed by the earth’s shadow, the girls started clapping and chanting “Bring back the moon, bring back the moon, bring back the moon.” Though I suspect a few were serious, we all laughed and laughed and laughed again at our collective silliness. It was now 10 p.m., well past their (and my!) bedtimes, so off they went to the dorm and me back to my house. It had been such a great night together with these most extraordinary girls. I fell happily asleep, thinking how incredibly fortunate I am to be living this experience.

Yet Rwanda is a country of often jarring juxtapositions, so I must confess that my happiness had been tempered all night by the fact that the next morning I was going to have to deliver devastating news to yet another girl (now three of them) who had lost her daddy that day. And this would be doubly painful as the deceased was the father of our only set of twins. During the eclipse, I could see Yvette and Yvonne trying the binoculars, staring at the moon and sitting in quiet conversation with their close friends whose joyful present unknowingly awaited the morning’s visit of the grim reaper. I wish I could have made that night, their night, last forever, for I didn’t want the morning to come for Yvette and Yvonne, for their friends, or for me.

Thursday was African Child’s Day as I had mentioned, and our plan was to tell the girls before the “celebration” had begun and to take them immediately to Kigali to be with their family. Dean Betty and Nurse Gisele fetched them from the crowd (there would eventually be 1,000 children in our Community Center that day) and brought them to me in the back, out of view. I’ve learned through too many occasions having to tell students about death that the only way to do it is be direct. “Yvonne and Yvette, your mother called us yesterday to tell us that your daddy has passed away.” I don’t think I had finished the sentence before they started shrieking and wailing in visceral agony. I clutched Yvonne, Betty had Yvette, and we held tight until Yvonne said, “I want to go home.” We had arranged a car to take them, and Gisele and Kisso, our math teacher and one of their advisers, accompanied them to Kigali.

The rest of us now had to endure six hours (which naturally had been scheduled for only four hours) of the African Child’s Day celebration which was a bizarre kaleidoscope of dancing, singing and skits (most of which had a “Don’t get pregnant” theme, including one where a young man placed a condom over his foot to demonstrate proper technique, I kid you not). For the Gashora girls, the celebratory breath had been knocked out of them for they all now knew what had happened. Twelve of our girls danced two beautiful traditional dances (earlier that morning they doubted they could go ahead with the dancing, but I asked them to dance for Yvette and Yvonne and their daddy), but aside from appreciating that, our girls sat glumly in the audience like me, counting the interminable moments when we could escape and start our grieving process.
At our much-too-late, silent lunch, I spoke to Solange our “religious prefect” and suggested that she organize a prayer service that night for Yvette and Yvonne and their family. With a team of girls, Solange organizes our Sunday morning worship services and more recently our Friday night worship for the Seventh-day Adventists. I knew I could count on Solange.

And please now forgive a very personal digression. I must tell you that I am a “fallen” Catholic, certainly not a “lapsed” Catholic. Lapsed is too weak a descriptor, as if my rejection of the church was born in some fleeting, febrile moment, soon to pass. Fickleness is not countenanced when exiting the Catholic Church; Martin Luther was not a “lapsed” cleric, Lucifer was not a “lapsed” angel. No, “fallen” is just the right word since it captures the no-turning-back finality of my transformation from altar boy to nonbeliever.

Or so I’ve thought all these years. In my prior “Reports from Rwanda,” I’ve shared the obstacles, cultural clashes, and downright nuttiness that have presented daily challenges here. But now I’m wrestling with perhaps my most profound challenge of all—my well-constructed belief system is under attack from the very girls I’ve come to love here at school.

“My well-constructed belief system is under attack from the very girls I’ve come to love here at school.”

Maggie Smith in The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, aren’t I?). They would press me, saying “And now?” Hoist by my own petard, I had to come clean. “I no longer am a Catholic,” I would add, but that didn’t stop them. “Why?” they cornered me. So I told them the (most current) truth—“I cannot attend a church that for so many years has ignored what priests were doing to children.” While Rwandan girls may not be terribly au courant, they are all too familiar with child rape and the “sugar daddy” syndrome, so they understood intellectually what I was saying. But my response disappointed them, and they looked away, wordlessly letting me know that they felt sorry for me because I did not have God in my life.

And, oh, how God is in theirs and in this country’s. Not being a man of faith, it is
hard for me to comprehend the centrality of faith in Rwanda. When Donna came to visit last September, we did a weeklong “tour de Rwanda,” and on our first day we stopped at what we soon realized was the country’s most horrific genocide site, Byimana, where in 1994, 50,000 people were slaughtered in a not-yet-open technical college and buried in mass graves (upon which French soldiers shortly thereafter built a volleyball court!). When President Kagame’s Rwandese Patriotic Front gained control of this area, the graves were dug up and those bodies caught in the throes of death were preserved—Pompeii style—in ghostly white lime and then stacked on slatted wood pallets in what would have been the dorm rooms. I’ve been to the Dachau concentration camp, but this was far more overwhelming; we couldn’t get out of there fast enough.

An old man was sitting outside the entrance, and he asked our driver, Moses, if we could give him a lift to the village. “Sure, of course,” we said and it was only then we noticed the obvious indentation of a bullet hole on his forehead above his left eye. As we drove off, he showed us an international magazine’s article about him and proceeded to tell us his story. He was one of only five survivors among the 50,000, grievously wounded, left for dead. He told us how the local Catholic parish priests had encouraged all the Tutsis in the area to go to this school site saying they would be safe. The priests then gave the Hutus the word to attack. He told us that one of the priests involved is still the local parish priest. “How can people go to his church?” we asked. “Some do, some don’t” was his measured reply.

But for reasons I am incapable of fully understanding, rather than feeling abandoned by God during the genocide, there is in Rwanda a universal closeness to God spread across multiple denominations (Pentecostalism is the fastest growing sect here). Saddleback Church’s Rick Warren (author of Purpose Driven Life) is an adopted son of Rwanda, very close to the president who himself, interestingly enough, is not a regular church-goer.

And so as this country goes, so do my girls, and while we are a secular school, faith permeates everything they do. To their great credit, they have taken it upon themselves to establish a pervasive spirit of inclusive ecumenicalism here that is both personal and shared. And it has begun to affect and, I think, effect me.

Sunday morning church in our Community Center starts at 8 a.m. The service is completely planned by the girls, and it is an amazing, uplifting two hours of singing, dancing and some mighty powerful preachin’. From Monday to Saturday, it is hard to get the girls to speak in more than a whisper in class; on Sundays they blow the doors off the place. And while I can’t understand the Kinyarwanda (though every Sunday a girl comes up and offers to sit next to me and translate), I can tell that their orations are organized, thoughtful and compelling. My favorite preacher thus far has been Janvier. Two weeks ago Janvier, who is at best 4’8” and perhaps a Tua, Rwanda’s indigenous pygmy population, chose as the topic of her sermon the story of David and Goliath. Yes, you guessed right whose side she chose! Janvier combined her strong message about how David trusted in God (the constant theme of the girls’ preaching) with a self-deprecating style and a stand-up comedian’s timing. It was both inspiring and hilarious!

I particularly appreciate that Sunday
morning worship is a leveling experience at the school. Our Kigali girls dominate the leadership positions at the school and set the tone for much of what happens each day. But on Sunday in our Community Center church, the country mice are the equals of the city mice. Some of our shyest, most reticent students, like the girls from Cyangugu, blossom on Sunday mornings as preachers, singers and dancers—often hopping out of their chairs in spontaneous dancing outbursts. It’s impossible to leave church here not feeling uplifted.

I choose to participate fully in the life of the girls, and this means that I have been in church more in the past six months than I have been in the past 45 years. The girls like having me there; in fact, without fail they greet me and thank me for coming when I attend. But more than anything, they want me to preach, too.

I didn’t know how to respond at first. I questioned whether it would be hypocritical of me to preach faith, lacking it myself. But the sweet earnestness of their wish to hear me speak forced me to find the right path where I could speak about important lessons to be learned through my lens while relating the lessons to their faith so that they can weigh my lessons through their lens. I believe I’ve been able to achieve the right balance. Just this week I spoke about our new “cultural norms,” or school values, that we recently developed and adopted. One is: “We shall be honest and transparent at all times” (transparency is a major component of Kagame’s presidency). I then asked them what my name Peter meant—they knew it meant “rock” and they were familiar with Christ’s presentation of Peter, “And upon this rock I will build my church.” So I read from Mark, Chapter 14, the story of Peter’s denial of Christ three times before the cock crowed thrice, then I asked the girls if Peter was a weak man. They hesitated at first, a few then said “yes,” but most said “no,” recognizing his fallibility. I ended by saying that we will all be challenged by this value of truthfulness we have adopted, but that if they trust in their god, they can find the right path through difficult choices.

I could never have imagined myself speaking this way before this year, and I feel most positively changed by it all, thanks to these girls. Saturday morning as I was driving our Seventh-day Adventists to church in the village, I asked them if they liked what I had said the week before (not looking for cheap compliments, but simply curious to know if I was getting through). “Oh, yes, headmaster,” Rosine said bouncing up and down in the back seat. “We loved what you said to us.”

Nothing like a little positive reinforcement to keep your transformation going!

So Thursday night, we had the prayer service for the twins and their dad in the dining hall. As I knew she would, Solange had organized it beautifully, with Bible readings and songs, but none of us were prepared for the girls’ outpouring of sadness and grief. They were clearly shaken by what had happened, many of them wept throughout the whole service. I spoke about the meaning of the importance of our community, our family, especially at a time like this. But the most powerful moment came when Divine, who herself had lost her daddy in March, spoke about what it was like to lose her father and how she had coped with it. And the service ended with Sandra choking through a poem, “All for a Purpose,” [by Russell Kelfer] that served as a catharsis for the girls.

Their grief expressed, the next day they went about the business of classes and preps.

I happily live now in a world of both faith and reason, and whereas I would have said previously that the two truly cannot co-exist, I am convinced otherwise now, and I have these amazing girls to thank for it.

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All for a Purpose
by Russell Kelfer

No, this trauma you are facing isn’t easy,
God also weeps that it hurt you so,
But it was allowed to shape your heart
So into his likeness
You would grow.

Along this road
You have met sharp twists and turns
Many falling tears,
But through it all, he is there.
To lend a hand to hold on to
A shoulder to cry on.
He is there
Longing to be trusted.
He knows where he is leading you to.
It is a place of no sorrow
Of happiness, joy and real fellowship
One that you desperately long for.”
t’s Sunday, July 10, 2011, and I’m standing in the desert outside of an insane asylum southwest of Juárez, Mexico. The temperature is 103 degrees and eight municipal police officers have just arrived, most of them carrying automatic weapons. Now two of them pull a woman out of one of their cars. She is wearing only filthy underwear. Her hair is matted. This is Marta.

The asylum is called Vision in Action and it was founded by El Pastor, José Antonio Galván, a big man, almost 60-years-old with curly gray hair, a soft voice and a U.S. Special Forces pin in his black jacket. A native of Juárez, he married and went to the U.S. when young and had four children, one of whom is now in the Special Forces in Afghanistan. He was a successful crane operator in California but got into drugs, was deported and ended up living on the streets of Juárez as an addict. Some 16 years ago, he had experienced a conversion and started this asylum to help people who lived like he once had.

Earlier, the police had called to see if they could place this woman with him. She too had been living on the streets of Juárez, and no other facility would take her.

Fortunately, Sunday is the day that Dr. Vicente Pantoja, Galván’s consulting psychiatrist, visits so he was able to help Galván make the decision to admit
Marta. He is one of only 11 psychiatrists in Juárez, a city of about 1.5 million. By way of contrast, there are some 30 psychiatrists where I live in Santa Fe, a town of 80,000. A short, stubby man who says he never smiles, Pantoja is also in charge of the psychiatric unit at the cereso, or municipal jail. Seventeen inmates were killed in a recent riot, so this is highly dangerous work.

Galván and I have become friends through Charles Bowden, author of Murder City: Ciudad Juárez and the Global Economy’s New Killing Fields. I visit the asylum every month, know most of the patients by name, and in addition to writing and photographing, I bring paint and other supplies for his rehabilitation programs. This is my first meeting with Pantoja, however, as well as my first opportunity to see how the actual intake process works. It’s very different from what we would see in the United States.

First, the very basic conditions must be viewed in the context of a desperate shortage of money. Unlike in the U.S., Galván gets no financial reimbursement for these patients, even though most of them have been brought to him by police and other government officials.

In addition, our treatment philosophies are very different. Earlier, Pantoja described the Mexican reliance on simple human contact and interaction as opposed to our more legalistic and formal approach. I see this when Pantoja or Galván enters the courtyard where the patients spend their days. The patients all shout their names and rush over to hug them. I see this when the patients hug and comfort each other. “Es como una familia aquí,” Pantoja says.

Now I’m outside with the eight police officers, hoping I can photograph them. One of them takes the clip out of his pistol then reinserts it, over and over again. “Click, click, click.” Pantoja is behind me.

The sweat is pouring off both of us. It’s hard to believe that we’re more at ease in an asylum with patients, many of whom are killers, than out here with the police. Then, one of the officers walks behind me, his automatic weapon across his chest, and says that they don’t want their faces to be recorded. I’m here to photograph, to “stop time” as Galván says. He tells me that my camera is my scepter. But even I know better than to keep after the officers, so I retreat into the asylum.

There appears a new Marta. She has been bathed by several of the women patients and is wearing a clean blue smock. Her head is shaved and the matted hair is gone. Now patients calm her as a man named Benito trims her long, cracked, dangerous looking fingernails. When they point to her torn toenails, however, she breaks free and runs across the courtyard.

“Let her calm down,” Galván says.

We wait, I walk toward her, ask if I can take her photo and then I kneel perhaps six feet in front of her. With her shaved, bullet head, wide shoulders and thick tattooed arms, she looks like a wild animal. When she jumps to her feet, I flinch, thinking she’ll charge.

Then Elia, one of the patients, approaches her and Marta sits again. Elia is a smallish young woman who is always smiling and helping out. She has a speech defect; the only word of hers that I can understand is “foto” because she likes to be photographed. Her older sister, the tiny Leticia who is even more incoherent, then joins her.

Elia sits on Marta’s right and Leticia sits on her left. They lean toward Marta who has covered her face with her hand. We can see how well trimmed her fingernails are now but we can’t see her expression. Galván, Pantoja, the other patients and I watch in silence. Is she about to explode? She is big enough to trample both Elia and Leticia.

Then she lowers her hand and we can see her face. She is calm, smiling. These two tiny incoherent women have brought her peace. Now she’s part of the family. This is what Pantoja was talking about.

Morgan Smith ’56 lives in Santa Fe and travels every month to towns like Palomas, Nogales and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, to assist, photograph and write about various humanitarian programs. Despite the staggering levels of violence in this region (Juárez has more murders per year than the combined total of the eight largest U.S. cities), he has found a number of extraordinary individuals who run programs like Vision in Action, Pastor Galván’s asylum.
THE TRUTH, a TALL TALE, OR IS BROWNIE “LION?”
I brought a lion to the zoo (Brownie also said he had done much of the original collecting for ‘Spec’ [Spencer Penrose, who established Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado Springs]. Many big cats etc., etc.)

“She became a real friend. We used to go for rides in the car with her in the front seat—people would be terrified to see a lion look out of the window.

“I visited her regularly: one time I took the Honbrigdans (sp?) to visit her. She had recently had cubs, and though I’d been able to see her several times, she had always been preoccupied with the cubs back there in the interior of the building. This time, she greeted me as she always did; paws out through the bars, nose pressed close to them so that I could rub noses with her and scratch her head. But now she clearly wanted me inside the cage with her. The keeper tried to keep me out—said she’d maul anyone because of the cubs, etc., but I persevered. When he said he’d get his rifle, I said I’d shoot him with it if he touched her. So I went in. Sat on the concrete water trough where I always did. She came and greeted me, arms around my neck as usual, then told me to wait. She vanished, then reappeared carrying one cub which she put on my knee. Then another and another. Then she sat back and enjoyed watching while they crawled all over me. I got wet through and through, of course—they were babies. Then Mary said she wanted to touch them. I wasn’t sure, but she stroked on through the bars and the mother didn’t move. So she came into the cage. And again the mother just sat and watched proudly while Mary picked up one of the little ones and cuddled it. Finally, the lion went over to her and asked her to put the baby down, so Mary put it down on my shoulder again. And a few minutes later, the mother told me it was time for them to go in and took them away one by one.

We were really close friends for 12 years.”

F. Martin Brown is the legendary founding science master who taught at Fountain Valley School from 1930–1973, with some years spent away during World War II where he rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He spent three years at Columbia University and although he did not graduate, he went on to become a scientist of renown, authoring more than 250 scientific papers and publishing several books and textbooks.
Meet the New Trustees

Peter Packard ’66
(Previously a trustee 1979–89; brother Guthrie Packard ’63; parents gifted the Chase Stone Infirmary building to FVS in 1967.)

HOME: Tucson, Ariz.

EDUCATION: Arizona State University

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS: This is a good question at my age. Presently “jack of most trades.” Friends and family calling me to do this, that and the other. Photography is something I am working on getting much better at and would like to get published and accepted into a gallery.

HOBBIES: Tennis, biking and photography

PROFESSION OTHER THAN YOUR OWN YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEMPT: Wouldn’t mind being a National Park Ranger. Would have loved to have been a Navy Seal, but I think it’s too late for that.

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Hawaiian Islands with all of my extended family

LAST BOOK READ: Blood and Thunder: The Epic Story of Kit Carson and the Conquest of the American West by Hampton Sides

YOUR DREAM FOR FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL: This is the fun one but easy. As I call FVS a mini-city, I would love to see it become a state-of-the-art energy/sustainability classroom with solar, wind and geothermal energy running the School’s physical plant.
Ian Griffis
(parent of Haley Griffis ’13 and Georgia Griffis ’14)
HOME: Palmer Divide Ranch, Larkspur, Colo.
EDUCATION: Colorado College, B.A. in drama
PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS: Co-founder and co-director of Griffis Group of Companies based in Denver. The firm invests in apartment communities throughout Colorado. I have been investing in Colorado apartments since 1985.
HOBBIES: Supporting my family in their equestrian show jumping events, working on my ranch.
PROFESSIONAL OTHER THAN YOUR OWN YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEMPT: Development of alternative energy; horse show productions; hotel investment
FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Rome and San Sebastian, Italy; New York
LAST BOOK READ: Currency Wars, the Making of the Next Global Crises by James Rickards
YOUR DREAM FOR FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL: To see the School become an environment that supports each child’s unique talents and special interests, and attracting and retaining the top teachers in the nation by offering a rich environment of professional learning, advancement and mentoring.

Jim Webster
(parent of Danny Webster ’14)
HOME: Bozeman, Mont.
EDUCATION: St. Lawrence University, B.A. in history; Babson College, M.B.A.
PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS: Investment adviser
HOBBIES: Skiing, cycling, fishing, hiking, reading and historic preservation
PROFESSIONAL OTHER THAN YOUR OWN YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEMPT: Writer for Car and Driver magazine
FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Georgian Bay, Ontario, Canada
LAST BOOK READ: The Big Short by Michael Lewis
YOUR DREAM FOR FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL: To be the premier boarding school in the West with a unique land management and sustainability program; to also be financially sound in an era where the boarding school model is being severely challenged; and to help the alumni base understand how important they are to the ongoing operation of the school.

Betty Schultz
(parent of Andrew Schultz ’12)
HOME: Horse ranch in Larkspur, Colo.
EDUCATION: Duke University, B.S. in oceanography; University of South Carolina, master’s degree in geology; Colorado School of Mines, post-graduate certificate in hazardous waste management
PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS: My career was in petroleum geology. I worked for major oil companies until 1987 when I formed my own little exploration and development company with my husband, Toby Schultz, who was a petroleum engineer. He passed away in 2007, and I retired in 2009 when Andrew began attending Fountain Valley, and we moved to Larkspur.
PROFESSIONAL OTHER THAN YOUR OWN YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEMPT: I am currently pursuing a new profession/hobby. We are building a small, passive solar heated indoor riding arena with attached meeting room so that we can host equine therapy workshops at the ranch.
FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: My favorite vacation spot is Costa Rica, where Andrew, his cousins and I spent Christmas in 2010.
LAST BOOK READ: The Wise Heart by Jack Kornfield
YOUR DREAM FOR FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL: My dream for FVS is to spread its reputation throughout the country until it becomes well known as an excellent college preparatory boarding school in the Rocky Mountain region.
Class Notes

40s

JIM COHIG ’47 enjoys coming to reunion every year and this June, it is the Class of ’47’s 65th reunion, and he is rallying for his classmates to join him, particularly PHIL ATCHISON, ROGER FITCH, JOHN FRAUTSCHI, DAVE JACKSON and EDOUARD THYS.

Director of Alumni Relations LAURA MAHER caught up with EDOUARD THYS ’47 who shared that he had a good ski trip to Colorado this past November with his family. He is living in Squaw Valley, Calif.

WALLY ROWE ’49 commemorated a chair at Rockport Music in Rockport, Mass., in honor of “ERNEST KITSON/ Musician and Teacher/Extraordinaire.” Rowe credits Kitson for igniting his passion for music that continues 50 years later, and says that he modeled his own 40-year teaching career after Kitson’s example.

50s

HARRY BETTIS ’52 has been busy on his ranch, and in between cattle runs and shipping livestock, he manages to travel to various benefits across the country, particularly for The Peregrine Fund, which works to conserve wild populations of birds of prey. He has served on the fund’s board of trustees for many years.

50s

Class Agent Bill Mullin ’57 has been working on rallying his class for their 55th reunion this June, and he is looking forward to seeing everyone return. Mullin wants to remind his classmates of the time when he “could not find his jersey but his jersey found his socks!” Pictured is Mullin, his wife and current FVS Trustee Mary Lou, his son Scott ’93, daughter-in-law Shelby and daughter, Amy.

BOB WOODWARD ’57 had a story published in the autumn 2011 issue of Oregon’s 1859 Magazine. Titled “Happy Hill,” the article focuses on fellow alumnus EDDY MILLER ’70 and his family who had strong ties to the Rogue River and surrounding land. Miller died in a hiking accident in 2009.

Ed Sherin ’48 Receives Prestigious Directors Guild Award

The Directors Guild of America honored ED SHERIN ’48 with the 2012 Honorary Life Member Award recognizing outstanding creative achievement, leadership in the industry, contribution to the Guild and to the profession of directing.

Previous honorees include Larry Auerbach, Walt Disney, Elia Kazan, Sidney Lumet and Darryl Zanuck.

Sherin began his career in entertainment in the late 1950s as an actor in television and Broadway stage. A decade later, he established himself nationally as a theater director with the production of The Great White Hope, which won the Pulitzer Prize, the Tony Award and the New York Drama Critics Award. He joined the DGA in 1969 and went on to direct the feature films Valdez is Coming and My Old Man’s Place; television movies including A Marriage: Georgia O’Keefe and Alfred Stieglitz; and television series including L.A. Law, Moonlighting, Hill Street Blues, Medium, and Law & Order (for which he was also executive producer), Law & Order: Criminal Intent and Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.

Sherin has won many awards during his career, including an Emmy for Outstanding Drama Series (Law & Order), a New York Drama Critics Award, the New England Theatre Award and Off-Broadway’s highest honor, an Obie Award.
60s

Class Agent NORM JONES ’62 attended an admission reception in Denver to assist Fountain Valley in its recruiting efforts. Three generations of Joneses have gone through FVS, and he is hoping to send his grandchildren as well. Jones and his wife, Susan, are active in their community and church, and enjoy watching their grandsons play youth hockey. Jones, the consummate hockey fan, also attends Avalanche, Denver University and, of course, Fountain Valley hockey games... go Danes! He reports on a weekly NHL and college hockey segment for a local sports talk radio station. Jones is also busy rallying classmates for their 50th reunion.

ED NICHOLS ’64 reports: “In 2007, after decades in high tech with IBM and my own software company, I completely changed direction and accepted the job as president and CEO of the Colorado Historical Society. We have since undergone significant change that involved creating an entirely new organization with a 132-year history. The Colorado Historical Society has evolved into History Colorado, and we have built a new facility, the History Colorado Center, that is a state-of-the-art model for history museums nationwide.”

JIM LOGAN ’65 has been named to the board of directors of the American Alpine Club, an organization that provides knowledge for climbers, as well as advocates for climbers around the world. He is an accomplished climber who made the first free ascent of the Diamond on Longs Peak and the first ascent of the Emperor Face on Mt. Robson, both Rocky Mountain peaks.

70s

Class Agent JAMIE BACHANT ’75 continues to travel the world for his company, and when he is home in Denver, he and his wife, Chris, follow their favorite local bands.

The Palmer Land Trust in Colorado awarded the STUART P. DODGE ’39 AWARD to the Frost Hanna Family in October 2011. The award is for “a tradition of caring for the land through holistic range management.” On hand to receive the award were JAY FROST ’78 and FVS riding director ANN HANNA, widow of KIRK HANNA ’73.

MARY CROUTER ’79 shares her news: “David and I have just returned from travel to Vietnam with our children and several other families over the winter break. Our daughter Leah is a very happy sophomore at Stanford, where she recently met FVS alumna MAXINE LUCKETT ’10.”
KAT STRICKLAND ’79 stopped by the FVS Alumni Office to share news that she is currently working with a school in Tanzania, raising awareness and funds for it through an event in her community of Colorado Springs. In addition to her volunteer work, Strickland is an art teacher for children and adults at a studio in town.

Michael Shaheen ’71 and partner Mary Ann Horwath hosted a Southampton clam bake at their home last summer for area alumni. They have a successful real estate company in town and the Shaheen family has been in the community for generations. Guests enjoyed lunch, swimming in the pool, walking on the beach and catching up with friends, old and new. Back, left to right: Director of Alumni Relations Laura Maher, Patrick Cremin, Lulu Maher ’12, hosts Maryanne Horwath and Michael Shaheen ’71, Starr Densford ’01, Rebecca McVeigh, Tom McVeigh ’71, David Gilford, Catherine Bettis ’94, President of the Alumni Association and Trustee Josephine Parr ’84, Director of Advancement Joy Kiever. Front: Laura Pruden ’87 and her two daughters Sophia and Izzy. Not pictured, Class Agent Jay Peterson ’91, his wife Alice and daughter Vivian.

80s

CHAD FRANK ’82’s oldest daughter, Casey, is in her sophomore year at The George Washington University. Frank reports: “I am enjoying life with my family in North Jersey. My three kids, 20, 16 and 13, are busy and happy, and I have now been running a photography firm in NYC for 23 years.”

In September, JOHN MOORE ’82 participated in an Ironman competition in Madison, Wis. He and his family continue to enjoy living in Boulder. Moore is looking forward to attending his 25th class reunion in June.

Rick Gydesen ’77 reports: “I am the publications director for the French American International School in San Francisco. I’m still loving it and getting better and better at my graphic design skills. My parents (Fred Gydesen ’42 and Dorothy) are quite elderly now, so I’ve been making more frequent trips back to Colorado Springs, and each time try to stop by Fountain Valley to say hi and dish the dirt with Laura Maher, Brenna Payne and the rest of the gang in the Alumni Office. In August, I had the pleasure of photographing my best pal Jolene Lane ’79’s wedding to King Lewis in the Lewis Perry Jr. Chapel. Here is a photo of another wedding—my own June 2008 wedding to my partner of 31 years, Alan Schroeder, from our ceremony at the Swedenborgian Church in San Francisco. We were one of the 18,000 same-sex married couples who were grandfathered in, and thus we are legally married. I am currently working with my classmates Walter Lovely and Susan Williams (Kiggins) to plan and recruit attendees for our 35th reunion in the spring, including organizing a memorial service and tree planting in honor of the many members of our class who have passed away. From the tsunami of e-mails I have been receiving, I am hopeful we will have a bonafide turnout for Reunion Weekend!”

Jolene Lane Lewis ’79 married King Lewis on Aug. 9, 2011, in the Lewis Perry Jr. Chapel and held her reception in the Hacienda courtyard. She was surrounded by close friends and family with several FVS local alumni attending. Lane Lewis says: “We would like to express our loving gratitude to the staff at Fountain Valley who made it possible for our wedding to be absolutely perfect. With their help, we were able to pull off a stunning ceremony with only five weeks of planning! It seems Mr. Perry is still looking over my shoulder smiling, a perfect metaphor of my tenure at FVS as a student and beyond. The amazing photographs were taken by Rick Gydesen ’77 in his typical outstanding fashion. Rick has been taking my photograph since the ninth grade, so it was perfectly appropriate.”
TIM SMITH ’82 reports: “On a summer trip, I had the pleasure of dining at the home of BETTY NEWTON MILLS ’82 along with her husband, Andy, and their two high school boys, Ben and Jake. I also got to see JOHN MOORE ’82, who continues to race triathlons and is starting to look toward college for his oldest son. On that same trip, I stayed with TRACI HOOPS ’82 and her family in Boulder and had dinner with Martha and MIKE SHERNICK ’82, all of whom are looking forward to kicking our 30th reunion off at the Mountain Campus.”

The Admission Office held a reception in Fort Worth, Texas, hosted by current parents Craig and Patty Adams, and PAM ZAMARRON ’83 who joined the admission efforts by sharing her FVS history. Zamarron works for Colonial National Mortgage and enjoys living in Fort Worth.

Alumni Association President JOSEPHINE PARR ’84 shares: “On my recent trip to FVS, the class of 1984 had a mini-reunion. It was great to see R.A. BURRELL, GREGG THATCHER and LESLIE BEAN GOTTESMAN. I also just got back from an incredible hut-to-hut hiking trip in the Austrian Alps and then kayaking the canals of Venice. I highly recommend both!”

SARAH KISHNER ’85 met up with JIM WATERS when he visited California on business. She also has this news: “I went to Scotland for a couple weeks during the summer with ROSALIND MCGARY ’85 and DONNA MCGARY ’82. We all had a great time. Recently saw ANGELA HOLLEY ’83 and MARSHA FOULKS ’86 at the memorial service for the McGarys’ father. It was a sad event, of course, but it was really good to see old friends.”

Class Agent DAVID COLODNY ’88 took two professional development trips last summer that will contribute to his position as director of service learning at Colorado Academy. He participated in a National Outdoor Leadership School “Light and Fast” backpacking program in Wyoming’s Wind River Wilderness where he hiked 100 miles in 12 days with a backpack weighing no more than 25 lbs. He also traveled to Nordette, a small mountain community in Haiti with which Colorado Academy is building a long-term sustainability and service partnership.
News from Chad Harrison ’86: “I have been living in Paris since November 2010. Neither my girlfriend, Linsey, nor I had any prior interest whatsoever in France, but after 12 months of a spirit-crushing job search in Denver, an old colleague made me an offer I couldn’t refuse. So the two of us (and a dog named Simon) headed across the Atlantic not knowing what to expect. We had a wonderful Christmas in Copenhagen with Josh Mortensen ’89 and his family, and our own share of adventures around the city and countryside. Also, I was back in Colorado Springs for my 25th Reunion in June, and even though there were only four of us who managed to make it, it was wonderful because my daughters came, too. It was on that trip that ‘if’ we go to FVS, turned to ‘when’ we go to FVS!”

Heidi Markey ’86 has been promoted to associate director of advising in the financial aid office of the University of Denver. She has been working for the university for almost 10 years. Markey continues to volunteer for FVS by hosting financial aid workshops annually for FVS parents and lending her expertise to the FVS Admission Office.

Since moving back to Colorado last June, Class Agent Karina Wetherbee ’86 has not wasted any time adjusting to the West again. She and her husband, Charles Wetherbee, along with her brother Erik Tieze ’84 and his wife, Lee Massaro, started The Dercum Center for the Arts and Humanities in Summit County. The nonprofit hit the ground running with a summer of chamber music, a photography workshop with Jon Paul ’86, and a Halloween Carnival featuring music by The Pine Beatles with band member Ben Brewer ’86. Over Thanksgiving weekend, the center hosted a presentation of the book, “Back to the Wild,” the follow-up to “Into the Wild,” giving the audience a chance to hear the parents of Chris McCandless speak about their son’s tragic journey into Alaska. There was also an art market featuring Wetherbee’s photography and Mark Wong ’86’s pottery.

Mark Wong ’86 is working on a new installation that will open in February 2013 at the UCCS Gallery in Colorado Springs. His plan is to make 1,000 wall plates with crane images etched and glazed into them. His project is based on the Japanese myth that the folding of a thousand origami cranes will bestow a wish on any who undertake the task. The actual number of wall plates created will be based on a presale of plates through the end of 2012.

Class Agents Dan Patten ’87, Caroline Haines and Burton McLucas have been busy working on rallying for their 25th reunion this June and hope to see everyone there. They currently have confirmed attendance from Mercer Borden, Jose Trujillo, Eric Hemingway, Courtney Touw, Steve Flahive, Steve Lemme, Arnaud Dumont, Bill Good, Scott Woodward, Demetrius Semien, Heather Hume and Joy Smith.

90s

Heather Rees ’94 is currently co-owner of Roadmonkey Adventure Philanthropy, a company she runs with her business partner and Roadmonkey founder, Paul von Zielbauer. Roadmonkey is an unconventional small group adventure expedition company that combines physically challenging adventures with sustainable volunteer projects. Rees’s company travels to Central and South America, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean. She currently lives in Colorado.

Class Agent Julia Moench-Parent ’92 writes: “I have been fortunate this year to continue to have my primary job be a stay-at-home mom. This has meant lots of fun days playing with my very active 3-year-old, Kai, as well as volunteering in my older kids’ classes and school. Alec is now 12 and in sixth grade, and Jasmine is 10 and in fourth grade. I’ve also been filling my time with lots of other community volunteering at the local food bank, a no-kill animal shelter, church and La Leche League. It’s amazing how full and busy you can make your life, and never get a paycheck! We live in Utah outside of Salt Lake City, have lots of extra space and love visitors. I’m planning on being at reunion and hope to see tons of you there!”

Class Agent Brett Nathan ’92 reports, “We are all good here in Denver. Emma, 7, and Caroline, 5, (pictured) are hoping for snow as ski season is gearing up. Looking forward to seeing everyone at reunion!”
Class Agent **PJ Hollenbeck** '96 is no longer just watching Dane hockey games from the stands but is assisting head coach **Mike Payne** on the bench. He is often at the practices and helps with as many games as he can given his busy travel schedule.

**Joe Hoverstock** '96 reports: “Sara and I moved with our two boys to Singapore in February 2011. Sara is general counsel for Crocs Asia and I am the product line manager for men’s/unisex/golf lines for Crocs Asia. We feel fortunate to have this opportunity and plan on being in Singapore for about another year and a half. While Singapore has taken some time to get used to, we now feel more at home, but miss the mountains and the snow (and overall space) of Colorado. Singapore has a very Western feel compared to many places in Asia, so the transition has been fairly smooth. If anyone is out our way, give us a call. I got to play some golf and catch up with **Matt Busenhart** over my break in the United States. Always great to see an old friend.”

**Kizzy Bailey** '97 reports: “Since graduating from Fountain Valley, I received a degree from the University of Oklahoma and began my career as a morning reporter/producer for news stations in Oklahoma and Tennessee and then onto CNN. I now have an energetic son, Caleb, who is 9 years old and keeps me quite busy. I recently left CNN to pursue a career in employee and executive communications for Lockheed Martin in Atlanta. My responsibilities shifted from delivering the day’s top news stories to writing speeches for executives and crafting communications campaigns directed to more than 8,000 employees. Currently, I am writing a book and have two commercials airing with Proactiv Skin Care. I also completed my master’s and would like to volunteer more as a motivational speaker working with young girls in the community. Life is very busy, but I have managed to give a little extra time to Fountain Valley as I am working with their Volunteer Admission Program. I keep in touch with so many of you on Facebook and you are all doing such great things!”
Cale VanVelkinburgh '97 reports: “Declan Connor VanVelkinburgh was born Oct. 24 weighing in at 6 lbs. 15 oz. I still have no idea why everyone wants to know a baby’s initial birth weight—as if he was a trophy bass in a fishing competition—but tradition in this case dictates. Nonetheless, it has been hands down the most awe-inspiring event of our lives and continues to bring us plenty of rich smiles on a daily basis, even when the little man goes nuclear.”

Kelley Madden '98 reports: “I traveled to Portland in December and met up with several FVS friends. I am living in Fort Collins, working at Colorado State University and enjoying life with my husband, two dogs and 21-month-old son, Emerson.” Pictured are Leslie Buettner, Kelley Rees Madden, Bren Reis and Buck Ritchey.

COLIN DAY '99 reports: “I am enrolled in Colorado State University as a master’s student in landscape architecture. I would like to send many thanks to FVS faculty SHEILA GRIFFITH and MARK DILLON for writing my letters of recommendation. Sending love to all fellow Danes! 💫

00s

Class Agent SAM KNOWLTON '02 writes: “I’m running an indie production studio in Lawrence, Kan., which is currently producing a series of videos that teach men in their 20s how to cook. I keep in touch with many of my fellow classmates via Facebook but look forward to actually seeing them in June for our 10-year reunion.”

SAM CLARK '03 reports: “I have been at the University of Stellenbosch School of Business (South Africa) as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. I completed a management certificate over the course of the year, as well as helped out with Rotary projects and made presentations to Rotary clubs. I also did a little internship with a beekeeper, biked around Namibia and debuted my boxing career, which was fun but bloody. No more boxing for Jumpin’ Sam Flash.”

Morgan (Rudolph) Henson '99 has been consulting in event/marketing and project management for the past two years. She currently manages 3C Event Center in Colorado Springs, and Alison Christofferson assisted Henson during the planning stages of the business. ADAM HENSON '99 is a physical therapist in Colorado Springs working toward a lymphedema specialty. Pictured, the Henson daughters, Finley and Emma.

TAMIEKA-NICOLE ARMSTRONG '98 shares: “I am happy to be gainfully employed by our U.S. government. I travel a lot for work and pleasure. Currently, I am located in sunny California. Don’t be shy about saying ‘hi’ if you are in the area.”

Brandy and Jeff Fugate '02 celebrated the birth of their daughter, Addison Grace, born Nov. 5. They say that they have “enjoyed every sleepless minute with her.” Along with classmates Kevin McCaffrey, Dan Barney and Former Faculty Paul Kim, they have published their eighth book for The Endangered Species, Empowered Communities Project. This is a collection of children’s books written by women and children from eight countries about eight endangered species. Proceeds support the communities where the stories were written. They are looking forward to seeing everyone at their 10th reunion.

CHRISTINA ZENTMYER '03 is the production manager at Cunning, a small creative agency in Soho, New York City. She reports: “We recently created and produced a festival for the opening of the new midtown hotel, Yotel, this past June. One hundred acts in five genres performed two-minute performances for 800 guests in two hours. I’ve been keeping very busy with work, taking a photography class, volunteering for an organization that supports local food initiatives, and raising money and training for the Nike Women’s Half Marathon, which I ran this past October in San Francisco. I’m currently living in Brooklyn with roommate and former FVS classmate LAURA STIASSNI '03.”

CAROL SIMONSON '05 reports: “In July of 2009, I began work for the United States Peace Corps in El Salvador. I worked as an environmental education volunteer in a small pueblo of about 5,000 people. My contract was up in September 2011 and another opportunity presented itself to work for FUNZEL (Fundacion Zoologica de El Salvador), a wildlife conservation NGO in the capital city San Salvador. At FUNZEL, I am the director of strategic alliances. We work to conserve..."
ClaSS nOtEs

Katy VonNostrand ’01 writes: “My husband John and I drove from Carbondale, Colo., to Alaska because my husband is a traveling nurse and had an assignment there, as well as a job leading a Denali mountaineering trip. The Denali trip was highly successful, and he and the climbers summited in 12 days (it typically takes 30). After much adventuring, including living in our car for almost seven months, getting up close and personal with plenty of wildlife, climbing many mountains and skiing many back country slopes, we ended up in Anchorage. Upon arrival, we then realized that we really just love Colorado and made plans to head back to Carbondale. We were able to take the Inside Passage home via ferry on the Alaska Marine Highway, which included many hours of chitchatting with random strangers and hundreds of games of backgammon. Currently I am getting started on a nursing degree, working at the local doctor’s office, and we have just put an offer in on our first house. John and I plan on settling into the best small town in Colorado (in my humble opinion). I also get to see plenty of Megan Holmes ’01 and her stellar pup, Harper Hound, who live just down the road. Can’t wait for my brother Samuel Clark ’03 to return from living in South Africa... hopefully I can convince him that Carbondale is the place to be!

Travis Titus ’03 and his fiancée, Victoria Pane, traveled for six months stopping off in nine countries, returning just in time to marry on Aug. 20, 2011, in Vermont. There were several FVS alumni who attended including his sister Rebecca Titus Smith ’99 and classmates Rose Delles, Samuel Clark and Blaise Treeson. The couple has just moved to Minneapolis where Victoria is completing a master’s degree in public health nutrition and Titus is working as a mechanical engineer.

Tess Phillips Leach ’04, far left, and her husband, David, recently spent a few days in New York City and visited classmates (left to right) Maia Murphy, Melissa Komadina and Patrick Lavender.

and protect the wildlife of El Salvador. Our biggest project is a sea turtle conservation program, with more than 10 hatcheries set up along the entire coast of El Salvador. The idea is for the tortugeros, who used to dig up sea turtle eggs and sell them at local markets, to instead donate them to our hatcheries. They are compensated for their environmental services. Buying and selling sea turtle eggs for consumption has been illegal in El Salvador since 2009, but there is still a pretty strong market for sea turtle eggs. However, with the support of our sponsors and donors, we are able to pay a higher than market price for the eggs, so it’s really a win-win situation for the tortugeros and especially the sea turtles. When the turtles hatch, they are released into the ocean. We offer public and private releases for interested people, businesses, schools, organizations, etc., to participate in the release of these newborn creatures—an unforgettable experience! I love my job, and I’m still getting settled into my new house and new life in the capital. If anyone wants to come down for some awesome beaches, surfing, hiking, volcanoes etc., please don’t hesitate to contact me!”

KIMI LOVELACE ’06 was featured in the fall 2011 Horse Connection magazine. JANE HARDY ’12 wrote an article about the Lovelace Award, an honor given to one rider every year at FVS. Lovelace donated her horse, Contessa, to the School six years ago, and “Connie,” as she is lovingly called, is ridden by the Lovelace Award recipient for the school year. The award also comes with a scholarship to allow the winner to compete in A-rated shows during the year.

Wedding bells rang at the Lewis Perry Jr. Chapel where Erin Smith Meredith ’02 married Mathew Meredith on Sept. 24, 2011. Soon after the wedding, the couple moved to Lake Oswego, Ore.

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NIKOLA DENISOVA ’07 received her B.A. in geology this summer from Charles University in Prague, and she is studying for her master’s degree in exploration geology at Lulea University of Technology in Sweden.

SARAH HINNEGAN ’07 interned at Los Alamos National Lab last summer. She is at the Colorado School of Mines completing a thesis on the internship project to be applied toward her master’s degree in physics.

Former faculty WALLY GOODWIN reports that his granddaughter ANNIE GOODWIN ’08 is in Dallas training and riding competitively in events that include dressage, jumping and cross country.

Riding Director ANN HANNA thanks the several alumnae who visited the stables over winter break to ride, visit and help with the care of the horses: MAGGIE HANNA ’07, EMY HANNA ’09, ANNABEL VOORHEES ’09, EMILY MALOOF ’10 and KATIE GILBERT ’11.

Ramona Richards ’05 dropped by campus for a visit with English Department Chair Dave Reynolds and she reports: “I’m in graduate school now at Dominican University in Chicago. I just finished my first year of teaching first grade and man it was hard! I had 22 Spanish-speaking 6- and 7-year-olds and was teaching them mostly in Spanish (thank you Señora Kule!).

Veronique Van Pelt ’06 visited the School in September and performed at both All-School and one of Music Director Charlie Kurchinski’s choir classes. Van Pelt earned her B.S. degree in music industry from the University of Southern California—Thorton School of Music. She works for a public policy company as an executive assistant while teaching voice lessons at Rock Nation, a school in Los Angeles for ages 7–17. Van Pelt also plays in three bands as a lead singer.

Across the Atlantic, Stacia Koster ’09 is studying in Paris, and her mother reports: “Stacia was accepted into an international journalism program at Sciences Po in Paris through Johns Hopkins University, where she is majoring in international studies. She is excited to be writing again and has an article that is scheduled to be published in an upcoming issue of The Paris Globalist. The photo is of Stacia at the door of a Paris home where Ernest Hemingway was known to have lived.”
10s

ALIX HINNEGAN ’10 is spending her free time as the head coach for the junior varsity girls basketball team at FVS.

ELLIE Schaack ’11 recently wrote an article for Duke University’s ethics magazine, Encompass, titled “Breaking Down The Walls.” She used her FVS Global Scholar Diploma research along with her Interim trip to Israel and the West Bank as the basis for the article.

During a business trip to Costa Rica, former faculty David Maher met up with Gregor Wangerin ’10 who is working at a clinic there as part of his medical school education in Germany. He joined Maher on a community service program with the Crane Country Day School of Santa Barbara.

Jose Garcia ’11, Adam Schiff ’11 and Trace Tomme ’11 enjoyed one last climb together before heading off to college, summiting Mount Lincoln (14,286 ft.). All three participated in FVS’s outdoor education program.

Co-Directors of Communications Laura Fawcett and Jeanne Olive met up with Chris Kozlik ’10, left, and Katherine Rowe ’07 in Boston. Rowe graduated from Clark University in December and will enter the Army as a second lieutenant. Kozlik transferred to Clark University this year and played field hockey with Rowe as the team’s assistant coach.

In her freshman year, Quincy Koster ’11 played the lead in Bowdoin College’s play, Doll House. Koster also had a poem published in Bowdoin’s literary publication, The Quill.

IS FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL WORTHY OF YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFT?

Only if you (or someone close to you) have been transformed by the people, the place, and most of all, by the relationships.

Please give to the Annual Fund at fvs.edu/annualfund or by calling 719.391.5314.
**Class Notes**

**Former Faculty**

Former faculty **D. SCOTT WIGGINS** is the new head of school at Manlius Pebble Hill School in DeWitt, New York.

Former faculty **TIM BORSTELMANN** recently published a book, “The 1970s: A New Global History from Civil Rights to Economic Inequality,” addressing how the 70s shaped contemporary American and global politics. After finishing his Ph.D. at Duke University, Borstelmann taught at Cornell University for 12 years. Since 2003, he has been the Thompson Professor of Modern World History at the University of Nebraska.

Former faculty **MICHAEL CRONK** reports: “I have been living on the beautiful Olympic Peninsula in Washington, where I seem to be running into FVS alumni in my everyday life. I retired from my career in education in 1996 and moved here in 1999. I had a part-time job working in a marine supply store and on a couple of occasions, I heard the name ‘Peter Robinson’ come up and I wondered if it could possibly be the student I knew from FVS. One day in 2001, **PETER ROBINSON ’71** appeared in the store and, sure enough, it was my former Algebra I student. One of my most vivid memories of Peter is that when he returned to FVS in the fall of ‘69, he had long hair. One of my responsibilities at that time was to make sure the boys’ hair was cut to a ‘proper length,’ so I escorted Peter to the barber to get a haircut! I remember commenting when I took him in the shop, ‘It’s OK, he’s a good kid.’ We all learned that same school year that there were far more important issues in that day and age to be worried about. The haircut rule disappeared soon. We have seen each other a few times, and I apologize to Peter every time I see him. By the way, his hair is shorter and he sports a full white beard! There were no girls at Fountain Valley until 1975, and I had the pleasure of introducing them to the School when I was FVS director of admission. I was very fortunate to have spent 35 years in education and now, probably 300 of my 400 Facebook friends were students in the three independent schools at which I worked.”

The Denver Post honored former faculty **CHRISTOPHER LOWELL** by naming him Colorado’s Best Actor in a Drama for the year 2011. He was Shylock in the Colorado Springs TheatreWorks production of “The Merchant of Venice.”

Former faculty **Bridget Schletty** and her husband, former outdoor education coach **Elias de Andres**, reached the summit of Shisha Pangma in Tibet. At 26,290 feet, it is the world’s 14th tallest peak.

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**Grab the Torch Philanthropy Camp at FVS**

**June 10–June 15, 2012**

This five-day overnight camp lights the fire to inspire leadership and philanthropy in young people. They learn how to think and act as thoughtful and active philanthropists. It is never too early to start developing the future leaders of America. The camp gives students the opportunity to learn from leading philanthropists about many service organizations. For more information, go to grabthetorch.org.
Spotlight on Class Agents: Dan Patten ’87 and Caroline Haines Patten ’87

Caroline and Dan are also inviting classmates to join them as class agents, knowing that the most connected alumni classes are those who have a team of class agents.

“Our plan is get our class more involved, and to use our 25-year reunion as the year to do so,” Dan Patten ’87 says. He and his wife, Caroline Haines Patten ’87, are new class agents determined to “invigorate the connections” among their classmates. Recently, Dan said that his weekend goal was to call everyone in the Class of 1987 to personally invite them to reunion.

Caroline and Dan are also inviting classmates to join them as class agents, knowing that the most connected alumni classes are those who have a team of class agents.

Both maintain strong ties to the School, especially Dan, who grew up on campus from ages 1 to 18 as the son of Jon Patten ’60, trustee and former math faculty. “I love the School,” Dan says, “I love the people who went to Fountain Valley, and everyone I have run into around the world who went to FVS, there is a great bond. So many successful people who chose to take the road less traveled.”

What are Caroline and Dan up to these days?

Caroline reports: “When we are not walking the boys [Topher, 9, and Parker, 4] to school 10 miles uphill in the snow barefoot, we are enjoying life thoroughly. We live in Jackson, Wyo., and spend many weekends at the Patten family ranch in Yellowstone. I am succeeding so far in keeping the boys away from the evils of video games and shopping malls, but can’t shake the fear of what the teenage years could bring.”

Dan is CFO of Millennium Bank in Vail, Colo., and travels home on the weekends.

Both say to the Class of 1987: “Looking forward to seeing each of you at our 25-year reunion!”

HAVE NEWS? Send your class note to alumni@fvs.edu.
In Memoriam

DAVID MYRICK ’36

David Myrick ’36 died at the age of 93 on Sept. 25, 2011, in Montecito, Calif.

After leaving FVS, he attended Santa Barbara State College before going to Babson College to earn a business degree. In August of 1944, he began a long career working in the president’s office of Southern Pacific Company at its headquarters in San Francisco.

He was an expert on Western railroad history, and one of the 17 books he wrote was “Railroads of Nevada and Eastern California: Volume II, The Southern Roads.” He also published more than 100 articles and book reviews, with a special focus on writing about different locales, including Telegraph Hill and Montecito.

His two books on the Montecito area are definitive accounts of the establishment and development of the town, located just south of Santa Barbara.

Myrick did not finish his high school career at FVS, but he was well liked by founding headmaster Francis Froelicher, who wrote, “We failed to change his interest from railroad timetables, stamps, etc., to academic work, though we tried hard. David is an individualist to the extent that he will have to make up his own mind. Anything he makes up his mind to do, he will do well.”

CHARLIE SWIFT ’37

Dr. Charles R. Swift III ’37 died Sept. 30, 2011, at the age of 92.

Swift epitomized the Fountain Valley School experience and the ideals set forth by founding headmaster Francis Froelicher. He entered FVS as a fourth former and proceeded to tackle all aspects of his education. In his three years, he skied and played football, soccer, tennis, basketball and track. He received the Yale Award for highest scholarship in his first year and was president of the Student Council. He also served as editor of the School literary magazine, was the senior class president and participated in the fall play. In the yearbook, his bio read that he was mainly interested in “sociology and English, and cherishes the idea of ranching in his spare time.”

He attended Yale University but earned his bachelor’s degree from New York University. He later graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia with a specialty in child psychiatry and a master’s degree in public health from Johns Hopkins.

After spending 12 years as the medical director of the Child Guidance Centers in New Jersey, he took a job with the Ministry of Health in Tanzania. He became head of psychiatry at the University of Dar es Salaam, where he helped establish clinics throughout the country. His memoir of life in Tanzania, “Dar Days,” was published in 2002.

Back in the United States, he directed mental-health programs in New Jersey before he and his family moved to Durango, Colo., where he was the medical director of the Southwest Colorado Mental Health Center.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Mary Lou Swift, five children, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

PETER V. GARDNER ’42

Peter V. Gardner ’42 died April 10, 2011, at the age of 87.

Gardner came to FVS from Missouri in 1942 as (according to the yearbook) “a rather bewildered lad with hair neatly combed and shoes well shined…debating whether he should enjoy the winter in comfort or whether he should freeze to death and save money by not buying that radiator.”

Active athletically, Gardner played football as the team’s No. 1 tackle, and although he couldn’t skate at all when he arrived at FVS, he later earned a spot as a defender on the hockey team. He was a member of the stage crew, and his yearbook bio states, “First House still has a legend concerning his phantom leap from the balcony.”

Gardner was a World War II veteran and went on to attend Princeton, where he was captain of the crew team. He coached crew at Princeton for a few years before moving to Dartmouth, where he coached from 1957-1988. Some call him the Father of Dartmouth Rowing, and
one of his crowning achievements was the construction of the The Friends of Dartmouth Rowing Boathouse in 1986. He coached numerous U.S. National teams and won a silver medal as a coach in the Munich Olympics in 1972. He was again named coach for the 1980 Olympic Games, but those Games were boycotted by the United States. He was inducted into the U.S. Rowing Association Hall of Fame in 1987.

Blair Fuller died July 23, 2011, in Petaluma, Calif. He was 84.

Fuller was born in New York to a family of prominent artists, and that upbringing had a profound effect on his literary career. After FVS, he served in World War II, then graduated from Harvard with a degree in philosophy. He moved to West Africa to work for Texaco, and his experiences in the Ivory Coast and Ghana in the 1950s were the basis for his first two novels, “A Far Place” and “Zebina’s Mountain.” From Africa, it was on to Paris where he was an early editor of the Paris Review. He was later named editor emeritus.

He taught English at Barnard College before moving permanently to California when Wallace Stegner hired him to teach at Stanford’s creative writing school. He co-founded the Squaw Valley Community of Writers and was a mentor to dozens in the literary world. One of his most recent works, “An Evening with J.D. Salinger,” appeared on the Paris Review blog in February 2011.

At Fountain Valley, Fuller was known for “his ability to relax and forget, especially the latter.” He was also known as the student body’s connoisseur of jazz and participated in Glee Club and drama. He was president of the Student Council and assistant editor of the news, proving “a capable literary artist and copy reader.” In two years of varsity sports, he won eight letters.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene, three children and a granddaughter.

Tamblin C. Smith died in Newport Beach, Calif., on Dec. 24, 2011. He was 85. Smith had been a resident of Costa Mesa, Calif., for more than 40 years.

Born in Chicago, Smith entered Fountain Valley in the second form. He played soccer, tennis and was an avid photographer. About soccer, the 1945 yearbook states, “Tam often ventured to the soccer field to give us a dazzling show. This black-haired wonder would often transform himself into a veritable flash, and his feet would try valiantly to keep up with his expeditious mind.”

He graduated from the Wharton School of Finance at Penn in 1949. After several years of working on Wall Street and in England, he returned to his hometown of Neenah, Wis., to work for the family company, The Menasha Corporation. Later, he moved to California to work for the family company branch in Anaheim. After many years of running this division, he became a part of Men-Cal, a subsidiary of Menasha, for the rest of his career.

He is survived by his sister and a number of nieces and nephews.


Skutt began FVS as a third former, and the 1948 yearbook states that he was always “the best dressed young man on campus. His saddle shoes are always clean, and his dungarees are always stylishly rolled up at the bottom.”

He was part of the 1947 undefeated football team that was inducted into the FVS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008. Skutt was more than just an athlete. He was on the Honor Roll, Dance Committee, Glee Club and Yearbook. His main hobby was flying: “His prowess at the controls of his father’s twin-engined Cessna is a wonder to behold,” noted the yearbook.

He graduated from the University of Denver with a degree in marketing and sales, and then spent a few years with the Air Force specializing in security and intelligence.

During his career, Skutt eventually became the sales manager for Denver’s Cessna distributor, traveling throughout all of the Rocky Mountain states. He later worked for the Western Corporation and Doug Morrison & Co.

He is survived by three children and eight grandchildren.
John Weatherly ’50

John Weatherly ’50 died July 26, 2011, in Houston, Texas. He was 79.

A native Houstonian, he entered FVS in the fourth form. He was known for his political theories, but the yearbook states, “Perhaps J.R.’s greatest achievement…consists of missing sports every afternoon for two and one half years before being apprehended by the faculty sleuth, Mr. Newman.”

Weatherly took his political theories into the law field. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and law degree from the University of Texas. He joined his father in legal practice where he was a partner with his father and later his son in the law firm of Weatherly & Weatherly, which his son continues to run.

He is survived by three children and seven grandchildren.

Lee Bartholomew ’68

Lee Bartholomew ’68 died June 30, 2011, at the age of 61.

Bartholomew’s family lived in Colorado Springs, and he entered FVS as a second former. He was a member of the Glee Club and Sly Dogs, and was in “Finian’s Rainbow.” He also played varsity hockey and tennis. Following FVS, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin and earned his law degree from the University of Colorado. He practiced law in Colorado until his retirement in 2009.

He is survived by his wife, Debra, and three children.

Bradford Church ’73

Bradford Church ’73 of Denver, Colo., died May 30, 2011, at the age of 56.

Church was only at FVS for his senior year; however, his adviser Hunter Frost said, “I believe Brad has had a good year…it seems to me he has benefited from his year of campus and dormitory life.”

Adam Van Norden ’73


Van Norden spent his junior and senior years at Fountain Valley. His adviser, Richard Kimball, said he had a “naturally inquisitive mind…and an excellent sense of humor.” He participated in Gun Club and was assistant editor of the yearbook.

He worked the last 20 years for Xerox Corporation in Reno, Nev.

Chip Kenney ’76

Chip Kenney ’76 died Dec. 7, 2011, in Kenwood, Calif. He was 53.

Kenney attended FVS for almost three years, finishing his high school days at Colorado Academy. He was a dorm proctor for two years and Student Council president as a senior. As president, he helped lead the school through the first semester of coeducation. Athletically, he skied, rode horses and played lacrosse. Director of College Guidance Waldo Johnston wrote in his college recommendation that Kenney had “put in his time and effort to see that things go well in this community, and he is deserving of the thanks, credit and respect that he has received.”

Brothers Jay ’73 and William ’77 are also FVS alumni.

After FVS, he graduated from the University of Denver and followed his love of nature and sports to the California coast, where he lived until his passing. He was a lover of animals, and his family enjoyed woodworking and growing organic fruit.

He is survived by his wife, Judith, and a daughter.

David Rowsey ’77

David Rowsey ’77 of Tulsa, Okla., died Nov. 6, 2011, at the age of 53.

After FVS, he received a degree in land management from Oklahoma State University. Most of his career was spent in car sales, a position he loved.

Rowsey entered FVS in 1974. Former History Faculty Waldo Johnston said in a 1977 letter that “David was a positive influence in many aspects of school life. He was an outstanding citizen, a strong supporter of the school and a spirited horseman.”

In addition to spending weekends rodeoing, he also participated in Glee Club and performed as Elisha Whitney in “Anything Goes.”

The Rowsey family has a strong connection to FVS. David’s sister Ann White is a 1978 graduate, cousin Paul...
graduated in 1973, and cousin John graduated in 1975. Second cousins Lee Olney ’00 and Rebecca Kilibarda ’02 are also graduates.

David Rowsey is survived by his wife, Hannah, and two children.

SCOTT CORNGOLD ’80
Rabbi Scott Corngold ’80 died Nov. 26, 2011, in San Luis Obispo, Calif. He was 49.

A Los Angeles native, Corngold worked as an editor and writer for a decade before studying to become a rabbi. He was ordained in 1999 and went on to work at both Temple Am-Echad and Temple Shaaray Tefila in New York. Before his death, he was the rabbi at Congregation Beth David in San Luis Obispo for two years. Corngold was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Williams College.

Corngold entered FVS as a sophomore in 1977. An excellent student, he was one of approximately 1,500 seniors across the country who received a scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Dean of Studies Waldo Johnston said the following in a college recommendation for Corngold: “Consistently seeking out the most challenging courses and approaching them with concern and dedication, he earned recognition as the top student in his class…In class, his work has been not only accurate and thoughtful but has reflected his excellent sense of humor and his ability to analyze and use course material imaginatively.”

Corngold also had the lead in two FVS drama productions and was part of the FVS MatchWits team.

FRANK STANLEY ’86
Frank Stanley ’86 died in the summer of 2011 in a hiking accident on Bison Beak in Colorado. He was 43.

Stanley was only at FVS for four months, although he was on the Dean’s List for his only full semester. He played on the basketball team, and all faculty members spoke very highly of his talent and dedication.

He later graduated from Denver’s Mullen High School and from Colorado State University. He received his master’s in education from the University of Colorado and became a reporter for the Sangre de Cristo Chronicle in New Mexico. He worked for three years as the communications manager for USA Cycling and then began teaching at the Ricks Center for Gifted Children. He was a member of the faculty and a coach there until his death.

Faculty

VICKI MYERS
Longtime Fountain Valley School employee Vicki Myers died Aug. 7, 2011.

A member of the physical plant staff, Myers began working at FVS in 1987. She was well loved by students and other community members for her hard work and friendly demeanor. Myers and her husband, Larry, worked together at FVS for 22 years before his death in 2009.

She is survived by two brothers and a sister, five children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

MICHAEL RUSSELL
Spanish Faculty Michael Russell died Sept. 24, 2011, at the age of 36.

Russell came to FVS in the summer of 2011 after teaching for 10 years at Seabury Hall in Hawaii. At FVS, he taught Spanish and coached soccer; his wife was a Gannett houseparent. He had studied aboard in Chile and taught English in Spain, Costa Rica and Peru on a Fulbright Teacher Exchange. He was a Middlebury College graduate.

He is survived by his wife, Shawnde, and two daughters.
WALTER WILSON

Former Arts Faculty (1957–1983)
Walter Blakelock Wilson died Dec. 17, 2011, at his home in Tubac, Ariz. He was 82 years old. Wilson passed away peacefully, surrounded by his six children and his wife, Patty.

Motivated as a boy by the works of his great grandfather, the renowned 19th century American painter Ralph Albert Blakelock, Walter Wilson painted and drew throughout his youth. He graduated with honors in fine arts from Colgate University in 1951 and married Patty in 1952, the same year he became an Air Force pilot. He flew C-46 Troop Carrier aircraft in the Korean War and painted Air Force murals and portraits of generals.

The Wilsons settled in Colorado Springs in 1956 where he continued to fly for the Air Force Reserve. Wilson began teaching at FVS in 1957, quickly building great momentum for the arts curriculum. He moved the department from a single room in Penrose Hall to the first floor of what is now the Art Barn. On the second floor of the barn was the auditorium where Wilson and his students created sets for the plays and musicals performed there.

The Wilsons raised six children and lived on campus for many years. Four of the siblings graduated from FVS: Richard ’74, Blake ’78, Myra ’80 and Lincoln ’82 (the two eldest daughters, Polly and Eva, attended Colorado Springs School because FVS was not yet coeducational). During these years, Wilson also found the time to earn his master’s degree in art at Colorado College in 1964.

He taught at FVS for 26 years and it was a time of great momentum. The Arts Department grew with the School. As a prolific professional artist, Wilson specialized in landscapes, portrait painting, stage and scenic design, and custom artwork for corporations. He is represented in more than 300 collections, and his work has been featured in numerous museum exhibitions and solo shows. As an entrepreneur, Wilson founded art, antique and Oriental rug galleries in both Colorado Springs and Tubac, Ariz.

Wilson was inducted into the Fountain Valley School Arts Guild during Reunion 2011. He was present to accept the award along with his wife and several family members.

Wilson is survived by his wife, six children, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.
Why I Give

“I had to sing. I was a leprechaun in Finian’s Rainbow.”

Tim Boddington says he was “conscripted” to join the School plays. “When you are in a small school like Fountain Valley and they need you in a play, they give you a shot, and it can make for an incredible experience.” However, Boddington was best known for his magic on the FVS athletic fields and ice. “At FVS I was a little guy in a little world and had a lot of opportunity to play,” he says.

As a freshman, he played both varsity soccer and hockey, unheard of for a third former. He won the School’s pentathlon in 1966 and helped lead the soccer team to win three Headmaster’s Cups. Boddington was instrumental in taking lacrosse from a club sport at FVS to a full varsity program in his senior year. He was co-captain of the soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams. At Commencement, he won the Varsity Club Award and outside of FVS, earned recognition on all-city and all-conference teams. Boddington was also awarded the Peabody Award for soccer and the Doc Romnes Award for hockey. At Colorado College where he played soccer, he was co-captain and was named MVP as a senior. In 2009, Boddington was inducted into Fountain Valley’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

He was also a natural leader, and by his own account, his crowning achievement was his selection for the Bunting Award in his sophomore year for the lower form boy “who demonstrates outstanding qualities of character and spirit.” Boddington’s artistic creativity was also sparked while at FVS, and he won the Robinson Award in his senior year.

“I was always encouraged by them to support the community, to support those things that are important to me. It’s just the right thing to do.”

“Fountain Valley celebrates the things you can do; they allow it to happen and make sure it gets noticed.”
YEEHAW!
Save the Date for Reunion:
June 1–3

Mountain Campus Reunion Kick-Off:
May 30–June 1

A full weekend of Western fun that will knock your boots off!