

# HOO S A C

TODAY



Fall 2019

# A Message from Dean Foster, Headmaster



Opening day has come and gone and the excitement of a new year has faded and been replaced by enthusiasm for all the activities that occupy the students and faculty of Hoosac. Between the new curriculum initiatives such as the S.T.E.A.M. Program, headed up by Director Michelle Gocio, the totally revamped art curriculum, designed and implemented by the "Dynamic Duo" (you will read about them in this issue), new music clubs and our elite level athletics, everyone could not be more engaged in learning, living and growing.

As we approach the end of the first term, all thoughts begin to focus on the penultimate experience that all Hoosac alums share as a common connection, The Boar's Head & Yule Log Christmas Pageant. The countdown has begun and the cast list is complete, save one

part. As always, all eyes will turn to the spotlight at the beginning of the second act to see who the Jester is. This year's performance is especially important as Hoosac alumnus Raoul Mongilardi '77 will be present as the writer-director of *Valley of the Owl*, a documentary on the Boar's Head & Yule Log that is in production. Contact me if you would like to be a part of this amazing endeavor.

So while the leaves have fallen and the beauty of autumn is passing, the thoughts of the first snow and the winter season at Hoosac brings new excitement to the school. Hopefully, after reading this issue of *Hoosac Today*, you will feel it and join in. Come back to visit, see the Boar's Head & Yule Log, drop in at a game or join us in June for the bi-annual reunion. If nothing else, send us an update and let us know that Hoosac is still in your heart.

## HOOSAC TODAY

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# Towne Hall Dormitory

*The earth is moving at Hoosac!*



The site work for our new girls dormitory has begun! Centrally located in the middle of campus near Wood Hall and Memorial Hall, the new dorm will provide space for 23 students with two faculty residences. Over the past five years, a record number of girls have steadily enrolled making Hoosac's female enrollment initiative a success!

Building this dorm will serve to gain back the much needed classrooms on the second floor of Tibbits Hall, and it will restore the common room which was converted to a dorm room in order to accommodate a higher enrollment of girls.



***A new girls dormitory is underway. Girls pose near the site of the new dorm.***

*Left: Dunja Ivanovic '22, Sofia Gurgel '21, Luana Pereira '20, Gabriela Palladini Macedo '21, and Ireland Ward '20.*



## **Towne Hall & Naming Opportunities!**

Please contact us if you have interest or questions regarding the naming opportunities that are associated with this new dorm. It has been named "Towne Hall" by Hoosac's Board of Trustees in honor of Hoosac legend, Margaret Towne.

*A rendering of Towne Hall*

# The Best Decision ...



## *Jill Sarmanian Larson '91*

I made one of the best decisions of my life during the summer of 1988. I had just turned 16 and this life-changing choice was to enroll at Hoosac School. I was looking for more guidance and daily structure so that I could focus on my high school education. At that time, both of my parents worked for TWA and traveled extensively, so boarding school seemed like the best option for me. Thankfully, my cousin (Pam English, class of 1989) had just enrolled at Hoosac for her senior year and told me how wonderful it was. She was right!

Having a consistent routine allowed me to thrive. I so enjoyed waking up and starting each day with our whole community gathered together

in our beautiful little chapel to listen to the organ, sing hymns, and have our morning meeting. This peaceful routine set the tone for my entire life. To this day, I begin my morning by quietly gathering my thoughts and saying a blessing. Throughout each school day and evening, our great big bell in the center of campus would be rung by one of our reliable peers to remind us that it was time for us to redirect ourselves toward our next activity. That bell is now ringing internally, and it guides me to my next task, just as it did decades ago.

I was honored to be elected as a prefect at the end of my sophomore year. At that time, I didn't know much about leadership; I had just spent most of the school year trying to follow the ringing bell! Now, suddenly, it became my role to help others follow the bell and succeed. My responsibilities included assigning weekly work jobs and creating the dining room seating chart. With my new responsibilities came maturity. I quickly realized that how we act and behave as individuals not only affects our own outcomes, but these choices also affect everyone with whom we interact. At Hoosac, we were a team on the field and off the field. This experience taught me some of the key aspects of leadership: personal accountability, dependability, and knowing that the whole team shares the outcome.



*Jill Sarmanian Larson '91 and her family, husband Lars, and sons, James and Brooks.*

*Their business website address is:  
<http://www.larsonnaturalhealthcenter.com>*

# ... Of My Life

To this day, I appreciate all the faculty members who gave their lives to Hoosac. We bonded with several teachers, such as Miss T (short for Miss Topolovec). She really put her heart and soul into Hoosac, so we did too. She taught us about algebra and geometry and so much more. She was kind and compassionate. She supported us in countless ways. Sometimes that meant making us rice crispy treats or giving us ice cream, which was the best remedies for final exam stress! She gladly opened her home and we would sit around her kitchen table working together to solve arithmetic problems. Her willingness to help was my first experience of sincere mentorship.

There were several other teachers who also displayed sincere mentorship by developing connections with the students and strengthening the relationships between the students. They taught us that punctuality builds integrity, honesty creates trust, and dependability enriches our relationships.

Now that I'm a proud mother of two grown boys, James (18) and Brooks (20), I can see that many of my parenting skills came from the structure that I received at Hoosac. My husband and I currently live in Siesta Key, Florida. Together we own Larson Natural Health Center. We help people of all ages get well and stay well in both their minds and body. As a Certified Life Coach, I enjoy teaching transformational

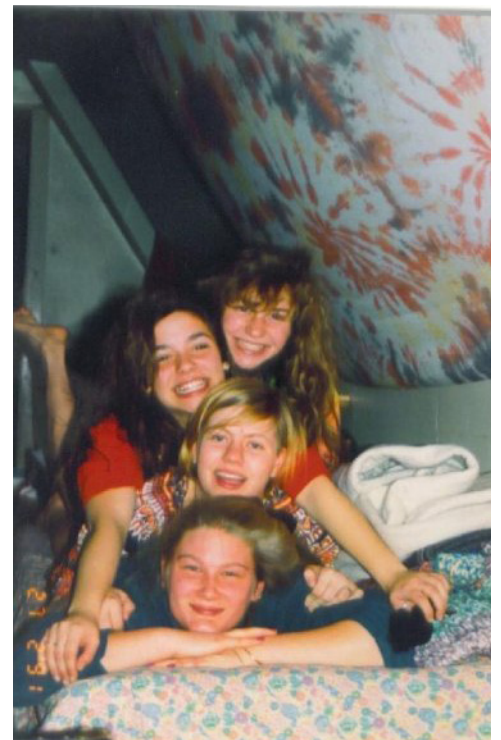
Self-Leadership, Life Skills, and Total Wellness workshops for teenagers, families, couples, professionals, businesses, schools, and organizations. Our program, Positive Solutions for Success, helps people increase their wellness (mental, physical, and emotional), their wealth, and their positive relationships. My personal passion is teaching teenagers how to succeed in life, because I know firsthand the impact of being able to look back to such a pivotal time and say, "I made one of the best decisions of my life."

*Jill is involved in her Sarasota community and enjoys networking with other professionals as well as planning a wide range of events including client appreciation days, informational seminars, holiday parties, and wellness retreats. Her retreats include yoga, Reiki as well as Personal & Professional Growth. She also enjoys tutoring and mentoring children to help them adopt a "Positive Lifestyle" and improve their "Life Skills." Jill also enjoys volunteering for Big Brothers Big Sisters.*

*<http://larsonnaturalhealthcenter.com/main/jill-larson-reiki-practitioner-health-wealth-and-relationship-teacher/>*

*Top: Jill Sarmanian Larson '91 - graduation photo*

*Bottom: Classmates, Jill, Nicole Constantine '93, Stefanie Thorson Goodwin '91, and Mona Peck Sturdivant '91 in a dorm room in Tibbits.*



# FULL S.T.E.A.M. AHEAD!

Science Faculty Member & Director of Hoosac's S.T.E.A.M. program, Michelle Gocio, has more than 30 years of experimental design experience. Guided by Ms. Gocio, five Hoosac students have selected research topics and are developing their experimental design, conducting their studies and analyzing their data using valid statistical methods. Throughout this process, Ms. Gocio teaches experimental design and statistics, approves each project, provides feedback, facilitates partnerships, and allocates resources. Our 2019-20 S.T.E.A.M. Research Scholars are out of the gate and at work on complex projects!

*In the words of Ms. Gocio:*

*Achile Spadone '21 and Stefan Popovic '20: Project BDS*

Project BDS is a top-secret project, designed to disrupt the current basketball shoe marketplace. These two students are currently learning shoe construction, investigating alternative materials and gaining customer insights in order to fine-tune their project. By the end of the year, the first prototype of the "Popospadon" will be unveiled. Wall Street awaits!

*Gavin Belton '20: Evaluation and Restoration of Tibbits Pond Ecosystem*

More and more people are noticing that Tibbit's pond does not look at all like the happy pond it used to be. "Why?" This is the question that Gavin Belton '20 strives to answer during his S.T.E.A.M. research year. Currently, Gavin is researching healthy ecosystems in order to better understand what makes a healthy pond healthy. Studies will then be designed to evaluate variables which might be impacting the pond. He looks forward to analyzing the data and making recommendations to senior leadership in hopes that the pond can be restored to its former glory.

*Sofia Gurgel '21 and Diogo Ameida '20: Alternative Energy Sources*

Coming from a country known for its natural resources, these two Brazilian students are interested in expanding the use of alternative energy. Their project focuses on comparing and contrasting energy sources through the use of models and predictive analysis. Models selected for their study include wind, solar and hydroelectric just to name a few. The students are actually building working models of each energy source for use in experimentation and analysis.



*Above: Students in science lab*

*Left: Hunter Cunningham '21 and Gavin Belton '21 work in the greenhouse.*



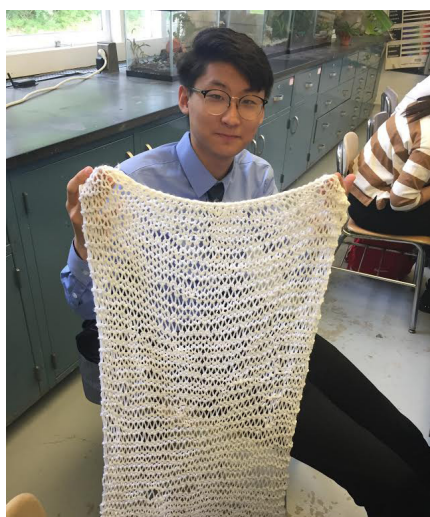
*Diogo Ameida '20, Sofia Gurgel '21, Ms. Gocio, Stefan Popovich '20, and Achile Spadone '21*

# Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics

## Fiber Arts

After last year's success as a one-semester elective, Fiber Arts is now a full year class! This very hands-on course provides an intersection point between science, *Grow Wild*, and art, as students explore fiber from the animal to the finished product. Students learn diverse skills ranging from how to plant and harvest a dye

garden to spinning wool into yarn! The basics of knitting, crochet, spinning, natural wool dyeing, and felting are taught, as well as more advanced techniques, such as pattern design and garment construction. Biology, chemistry and the science of color are essential components of this unique art class.



Zhuoyuan "Peter" Pan '23



Above: Zheng "Tommy" Xiang '20, Sebastian Tigerhielm '20, and Diogo Almeida '20



Left: Gerardo Ayes teaches math.

# Making a HOOSAC

## Second Chance Animal Shelter



**"I was really happy about this community service experience! First we helped weed plants and digging out roots. It took team work!"  
- Fangning "Tiffany" Zhao '23**



*Students pitched in at the Second Chance Animal Shelter in Shaftsbury, VT to help with clean up. Seniors require 20 hours of community service before graduation. Second Chance also held a large community event at the local bowling alley to raise funds and Hoosac students worked there as well.*

We have been to the bowling center to clean tables and chairs, and after we finished, Ms. Purvis allowed us to play bowling for an hour. It was a great experience. Also, we went to an animal shelter to help pull the weeds around the building, clean animal beds and spend time socializing some of the stray cats. Furthermore, we went to a nursing home in Hoosick Falls. We organized and played bingo and trivia question games with all the seniors. We specifically selected a lot of history questions; the seniors could answer those very quickly without time to think because they already had clear memory about events

which had happened before. In the end, the seniors were really happy; we said goodbye to them and truly look forward to the next visit there.

The school's community service program is fantastic. It allows students to spend extra time helping the community and the people around the school. At

the animal shelter, we not only cleaned animals' beds, but we spent time playing with some of the animals. It is beneficial to have students develop a loving and helping heart. Students are able to learn a lot in community service.

- Zhengjie "Zain" Liu '20

Right: Students have a chance to have some fun bowling after their community service.





# Difference

## HELPS Giving Back

"This year, the other prefects and I started off the year with fundraising right away. Within the first two weeks of school, we were fundraising for Hurricane Dorian Relief in the Bahamas. We organized a \$3 dress down day and had a concession stand at study hall and during sports events for a week and a half. Altogether we raised over \$800.

This month we did a *PINK OUT* dress down day to fundraise for breast cancer. Over half the student body donated and dressed down; raising over \$600."

- Ireland Ward '20



*"Pink Out" participants from left to right:  
Luana Canto Periera '20, Gabriela Palladini Macedo '21, Giovana Silva '21, Natalia Mesquita '20*

## CLUBS

In addition to sports, Hoosac has many different clubs for students to explore. Popular clubs include music, outdoor, Chinese culture, art, magazine, and ski club.



*Art Club*



*The outdoor club. Zach and Emily Durst; Antonio Vaccari '20, and Colton Foster '22 at the Mt. Anthony caves in Bennington, VT.*

***"The members of the outdoor club practice trekking, biking and plant identification."***

***- Antonio Vaccari '20***

# The Right Place

by W. David Slaymaker '74

Hoosac was the right place at the right time for me. My former teachers might recall academics were not my top priority during my Hoosac years, nonetheless it proved a great place that provided what I needed. My favorite part of being at Hoosac was the opportunity to be outdoors as much as possible. I took every opportunity to hike and camp with friends like Doug Taylor '74, Joel Prosser '76, Tom McAllister '75, and others, often hiking up the power lines or to the old sawmill in Tibbits Forest to camp. These experiences led to a lifelong enjoyment and interest in nature that is as strong now as it was then. It's now been 45 years since I graduated from Hoosac and time has passed so quickly, it is hard to fathom.

Although my studies at Hoosac sometimes took the back burner, my time at Hoosac was more than sufficient

to prepare me for college and graduate school. I am thankful for that! Likewise, the Hoosac environment of friendship and mentoring prepared me for several interesting and varied careers. I will share a bit about the work I do in Mexico, but let me quickly fill in where the last 45 years have gone.

From 1976 until 1994, I worked in a variety of law enforcement positions starting in my home state of Connecticut, then in Montana, which proved to be one of my favorite places. My various positions included park ranger, deputy sheriff, police officer, investigator, and finally police captain in Laurel, Montana.

After retiring from law enforcement, I completed college in Montana then went to graduate school in Texas while working on teacher licensure. Upon graduation, I found a job at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts (ASMSA), a public residential high school for motivated students. At ASMSA, I held several positions including Spanish teacher, Speech teacher, Department Chair, Distance Education Principal, and finally Assistant Dean for Outreach and Global Engagement.

I have always been an avid and curious traveler and my last position allowed me to travel extensively in Asia as I developed our school's Chinese and Japanese programs and led our students on Global Studies trips. I have never been to a country I didn't find fascinating, but Japan turned out to be my favorite place.

In June 2019, my wife Lorrie and I retired and moved from Arkansas to Idaho Springs, Colorado to be close to our daughters and their families, and to participate in the outdoor activities we enjoy. Although "retired," I continue to work as president of Oaxaca Streetchildren Grassroots in Oaxaca City, Mexico. The path that led me to this intertwines with my previous careers, and is a continued passion.

In my law enforcement days in Laurel, Montana, we began to see migrant labor coming to work in the Yellowstone

River Valley. We often had interactions with Spanish speakers and phone calls in Spanish to the police department. I realized it was time to study Spanish and its surrounding culture to help and understand the new members of our community. To this end, I started Community Education Spanish. One day I asked our teacher where she recommended we go to in Mexico to study Spanish and learn more about the culture of Mexico. Unequivocally she said "Oaxaca City." So, nearly 30 years ago, with our four and six-year-old daughters we traveled to Oaxaca and it changed our lives and perspectives. We heard indigenous languages, ate the local foods (including grasshoppers) visited pre-Columbian ruins, experienced the colonial architecture, and much more. But, we also saw poverty beyond our experience. Children barely older than toddlers in torn clothes and without shoes walked the streets at night begging for tourist dollars. Many of these children showed symptoms of malnutrition or other illnesses. It made Lorrie and I wonder if there were ways to improve this situation.

A few years later while in graduate school, we returned to Oaxaca City to attend a language school and came upon a brochure for Oaxaca Streetchildren Grassroots (OSCGR). We wondered if this might be a way to help. Returning to the states, I contacted Jodi Bauman, who founded OSCGR. I learned that she held the same concerns for the children we did and that she had applied her training as a social worker to start a small NGO that funded a grassroots program working to alleviate the cycle of poverty of Oaxaca's street children through education.

I learned that Oaxaca has the most diverse indigenous population in Mexico with 30 or more indigenous groups and languages who often spoke Spanish as a second language or not at all. Among these indigenous groups, the Triquis are historically among the poorest and, at that time, the majority of street children were Triqui. Political violence in rural



# At The Right Time

Oaxaca state often drove these children and their mothers to Oaxaca City for safety and the possibility of a better life.

When Jodi started OSCGR, none of the Triqui children in Oaxaca City were going to school. In fact, no Triqui had ever graduated from any school to her knowledge. At this time OSCGR was still a small program that helped a few Triquis go to school with a meal program. They also helped provide school uniforms, get birth certificates and pay school inscription fees.

I began to return to Oaxaca often to work as a volunteer. As I became more involved, I experienced some of the children's living conditions - one-room shacks, dirt floors, rain pouring through the roof, families of eight sleeping on one raised bench, two potatoes for dinner for large families, no clean or running water, no electricity, raw sewage running by and into shacks and other severely difficult conditions. I learned that swollen bellies were a sign of intestinal parasites and that warts on the head could be a sign of malnutrition. At this time, in the poorest indigenous populations of Oaxaca City and surroundings, possibly as many as 50% of poor indigenous children were dying from waterborne and other diseases prior to age eight.

In 2006, Jodi became terminally ill and sought to ensure the future of OSCGR. She asked me if I would serve on the board and continue the work of OSCGR. I agreed and soon I was left to determine the direction of the charity. I was able to recruit talented board members from around the U.S. and we began to move the organization forward. We instituted a variety of best practices for charities and saw giving double and continue to grow to this day with donors from around the world. Now OSCGR owns a center in Oaxaca City staffed by Oaxacan professionals and support staff. We can accept up to 640 children and young adults in our need-based program and provide assistance from elementary

school through secondary school, and in some cases, university. In addition to the services offered early on, our center now offers tutoring, a computer lab, periodic medical and dental services, and more. As you walk around Oaxaca City, you still see children in great poverty, but the impact of OSCGR is evident and we have had extraordinary success helping the poorest of Oaxaca's children realize their dream of going to school.

One of my favorite OSCGR outcomes is a young lady who migrated from rural Oaxaca state to Oaxaca City with her mother. With the help of OSCGR, she completed her education through university, graduating with a major in indigenous education and returning to her home village to teach. She is not alone. In addition to hundreds of high school graduates, we have had teachers, engineers, a doctor, a lawyer, and other professionals graduate from our program, all with opportunity for productive careers that would not have otherwise been attainable for Oaxacans in poverty. If you would

like to know more about our work, participate in our yearly tour to Oaxaca, or visit our office in Oaxaca City visit: [oaxacastreetchildren.org](http://oaxacastreetchildren.org) or email me at [dslaymaker@oaxacastreetchildren.org](mailto:dslaymaker@oaxacastreetchildren.org).

I might not have appreciated the value of a Hoosac education as I should have while there, but the setting, academics, and culture of Hoosac has much to do with my interests, successes and becoming an educator myself. I look forward to my next visit to campus!



**The OSCGR Board with Dave Slaymaker and some of the children they are helping**

# Art, Language, and Culinary Wonder:

**Julia Kopala '16**

I woke up to the sounds of motorized scooters, children playing in the street, and morning greetings. Buongiorno! Come va? Com'era la cena stasera? I didn't even get the chance to think in English as I entered the spotless kitchen of my Italian host mother's apartment. She'd ask me how I slept, what classes I had that day, or where I was exploring that weekend. At first, I was very nervous and shy about my Italian skills. So I tried to keep my mouth busy crunching on local bread smothered with homemade fig and clementine marmalade. But when you must navigate your own way to school and local shops in Florence, you learn to pick up the language pretty easily. You also learn the joy of connecting with the local people there, shedding your title of "tourist" after a while.

After graduating from Hoosac, I was the first in my family to attend a four-year university. I took a few Italian classes for fun, not knowing



where the experience would bring me. During my junior year at Franklin and Marshall College, I was privileged to study abroad in one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. I studied Italian, art history, classic Italian film, and family and gender dynamics in contemporary Italy. These courses allowed me to explore the more hidden parts of this Renaissance city. My Italian professor brought

us to local artisan shops, like Giuliano's metalworking business that produces unique pieces for some of the most famous Italian designers. Gucci, Christian Dior, and Valentino are just a few. Despite this impressive resume, Giuliano remains humble and personable. He invited my class in and showed us how he presses designs into metal plates for containers, jewelry, and ornaments. My art history

*Julia enjoys scenic Italy*

# An Italian Experience

professor held class once a week at local churches and museums. He brought art history concepts to life, as we looked upon private chapels, towering sculptures, and personal portraits. I also attended an annual film festival with my film professor, where we viewed Middle Eastern short films and documentaries.

Besides class, I traveled around Italy on day trips sponsored by the program. Each trip was led by a graduate student specializing in European history, art, or culture. We walked the streets of old Jewish ghettos and paths of ancient Roman ruins. We tasted the perfect combinations of goat cheese, prosciutto, and red wine. We admired terracotta and bronze statues in giant piazzas. We visited Matera, the third oldest civilization in the world, and its cave dwellings. That's about 8000 years before Christ!

Before this experience, I associated learning with a traditional classroom and books. But now I realize that some of the most valuable and touching lessons in my life have come from non-traditional settings. Like sitting in Hoosac's dining hall with other students from China, Turkey, Russia, and Canada or learning how to play lacrosse or volunteering at the Danforth. All of these experiences come together to inspire us to learn more, to try new things, to explore new parts of the world and ourselves.

Hoosac gave me the opportunity to seek such an education and I am much appreciative of my time there.



# HOOSAC ART



*Spencer and Emily Sussman with Wally*

As a 2004 Hoosac graduate, Spencer Sussman left rural Hoosick, NY to study Fine Art in Brooklyn, New York and Florence, Italy at Pratt Institute. With five generations of artists as family history, Spencer was well acquainted with the art world. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art and furthered his education at Pratt Institute in Fine Art Appraisal with the American Society of Appraisers (ASA). He has worked for prestigious fine art dealers and galleries in New York City. Having met all requirements set by Congress, Spencer is currently a candidate member with ASA, which authorizes him to legally document the value of works of art.

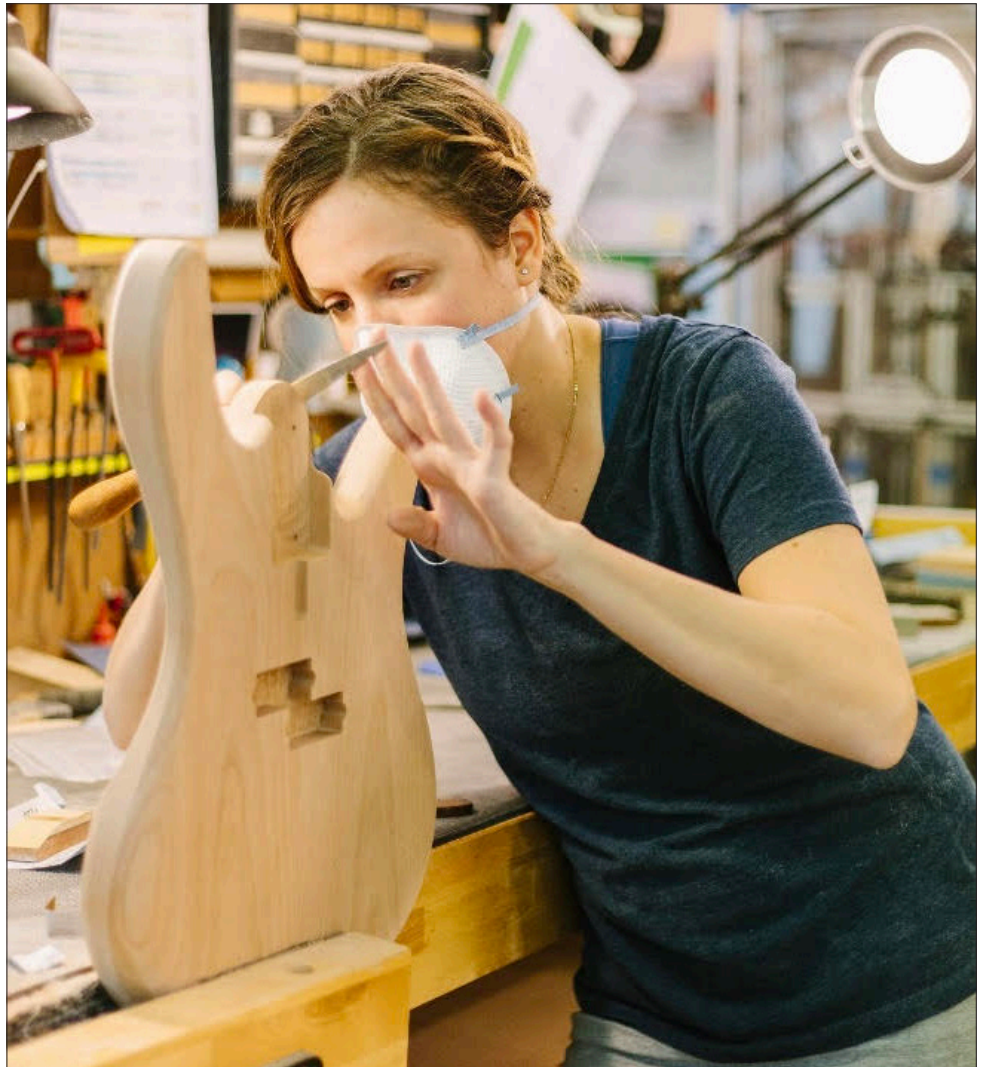
While working in Education for Admissions at Pratt, Spencer traveled to dozens of schools worldwide and met with hundreds of students with various backgrounds, skills, and cultures. He brings to Hoosac this rich experience in teaching portfolio development, reviewing student work, inspiring young artists to express their concepts and ideas, and adding feedback and guidance. His work as a studio artist includes paintings, drawings, mold making/casting, monuments, facades, murals, and interior design and fabrication. He has a lifelong understanding of the many different ways in which art impacts our lives every day and a keen perception of the creative minds of students. As our Director of Art, Mr. Sussman delights in teaching the history of art and inspiring our students to express themselves through their work.



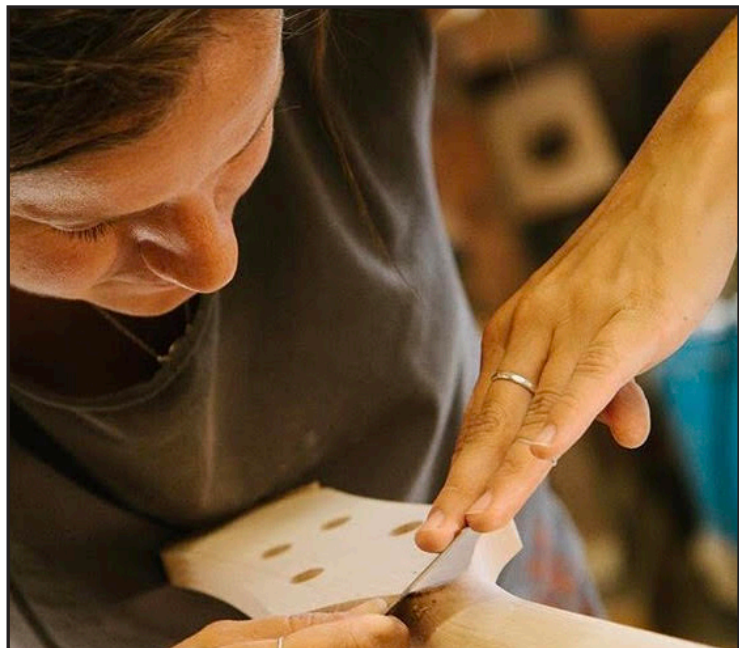
*Left: outdoor art class - stone art*

# & A DYNAMIC DUO

Ms. Emily Sussman studied Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Jewelry, and Sculpture at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. She graduated with excellence earning a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art and continued her residency in Brooklyn. Emily worked in a sculpture studio and in a high-level decorative painting company, and assisted commissioned studio artists before landing a role as an apprentice Luthier (guitar builder) at Fodera Guitars in 2012. Emily became one of the top Luthiers and Inlay Artists at Fodera and managed the production of the instruments and new designs at the highest level. Each handmade guitar is a unique work of art, played by a musician who in turn creates a new art-form!



With a unique background in and perspective on how art forms surround our everyday lives, Emily has exceptional talent in encouraging young artists to try new things and express their creativity. "I enjoy developing the creative minds of the students at Hoosac and the teaching opportunities that arise when you set goals, step outside of your comfort zone and try new things," she says. We have come to know Emily Sussman as a professional who is excited to share not only her experience but also the joy and inspiration that a life in the art world has provided her.



*Emily designs a handmade guitar.*

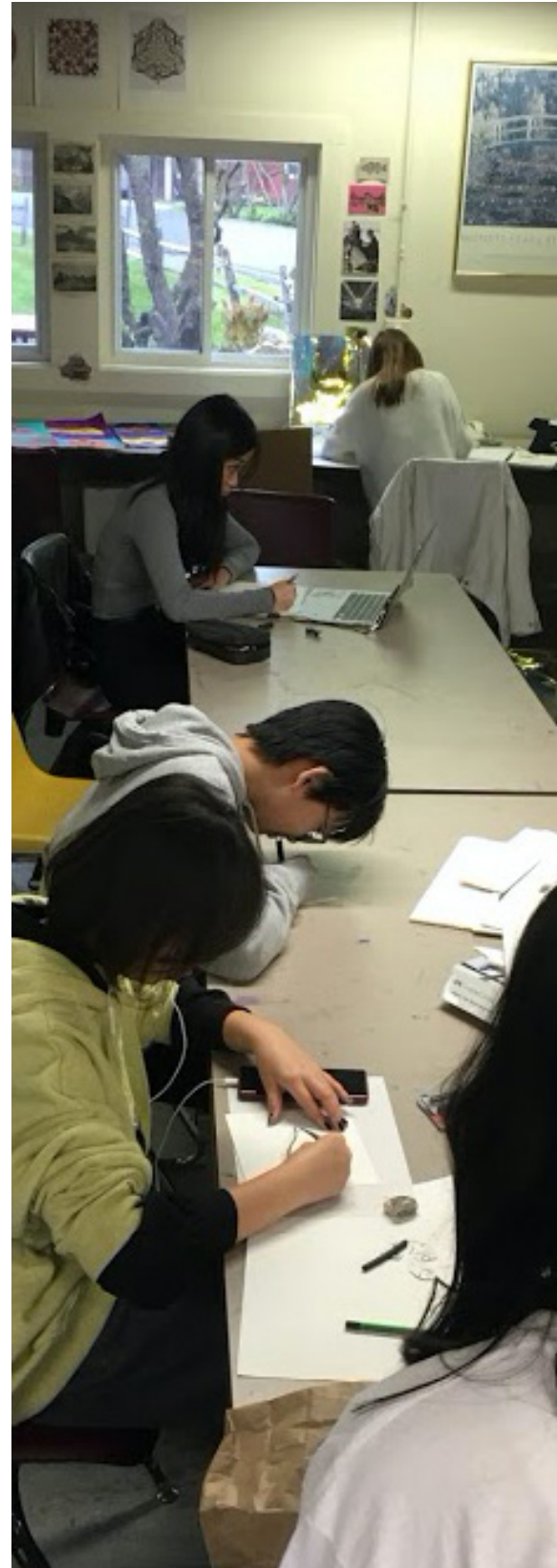
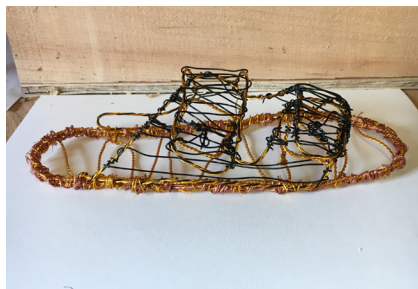
# ***EXPANDING ON ART***



Artists Spencer and Emily Sussman have brought their special brand of talent and fun into the art program! In addition to learning the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and sculpture, students are encouraged to explore their creativity and imagination using these different materials.



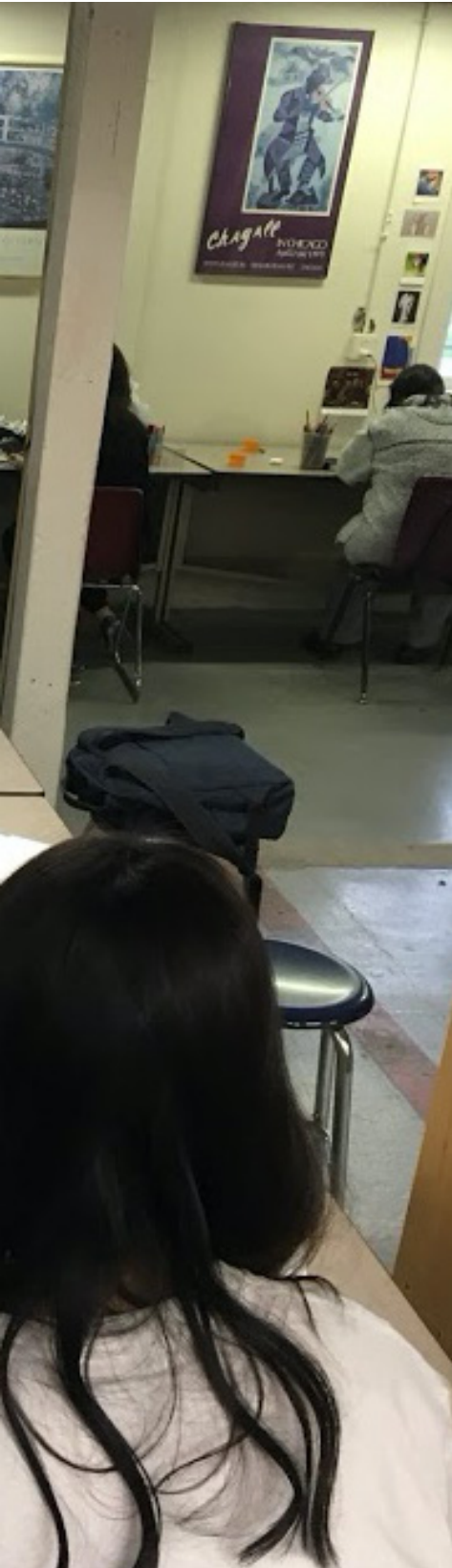
3-D Art and an art exhibit in Memorial Hall





# 3 Disciplines, 2-D, 3-D & 4-D

*It's happening at Hoosac!*



Mr. Sussman and an outdoor art class



Left: Art class at work.

Above left: Dunja Ivanovic '22 with 3-D art.

Above right: Girls in art class.

# HOOSAC ATHLETES

Our school is dedicated to educating students academically



Shown here with the tennis team, our Associate Director of Athletics & Admission Ricardo Canto Pereira (right) was a Brazilian Davis Cup Captain!



Coach Ryan is shown with the Varsity Girls Soccer Team.

# LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

and giving them the best when it comes to athletics and fitness.



Left to right: Brian Collado '21, Jose Miguel Garcia Martin '20, Angel Jimenez Cortes '20, Ivan Manzano Lopez '21, and Fernando Suarez Picatoste '22

The fall season has given us some great weather as well as many exciting contests. Hoosac teams are enjoying the outside where we have the boys and girls varsity soccer teams as well as a boys' JV and Cross Country team. The boys varsity team played a highly competitive schedule, compiling a record of six wins, nine losses, and one tie. They have two games remaining on the schedule and also the NYSAIS tournament of which we are members. The girls varsity currently has a NEPSAC record of three wins, one loss, and two ties. With four big NEPSAC games remaining on the schedule, the girls could get chosen as a playoff team if they perform well. The boys JV soccer team is currently undefeated with a record of eight wins and zero losses. The team is looking for a perfect 10 with two games remaining in the season. The cross country team ran on several nice courses, and although they didn't pick up any team victories, they had many runners that improved their times greatly. The girls volleyball team had many exciting games this season, compiling three wins and six losses to date, with two matches remaining on their schedule. Overall, it has been a great Fall with all the teams displaying great talent and sportsmanship as they put hard work into their sport. Thank you to all for entertaining us! Go Owls!

- Athletic Director, Michael Ryan



Coaches Samantha Bakaitis and Paul Reif flank the Girls Varsity Volleyball Team.



Teammates Ireland Ward '20 and Abygail Martel '22 mug for the camera.

# Player Coach

**George "Skip" Clayton '59**

Around Thanksgiving of 1958, Athletic Director and Coach Harry Dickie, came to me and asked if I would like to be the baseball coach in 1959. This was a big shock to me that I might be a player-coach. Coach Dickie wanted to concentrate on building up a track team that year. Hoosac had a track team in 1957, when the Taconic Conference had a one-day track meet, and the following season participated in two meets.

The challenge of being a player-coach excited me and I said yes right away. My first year at Hoosac in 1957 we were 7-1-1, and Father Wood said in his sixteen years at Hoosac this was the school's best team. Four starters graduated and the following year Hoosac was 7-4. When I looked over the roster for 1959, I was the only starter from the infield back at first base. Two outfielders and two pitchers returned. I needed a new catcher.

One of the things that I talked to Coach Dickie about was playing a tougher schedule. Some of the opponents that we beat in 1958 didn't provide a big challenge, and I thought a tougher schedule would make us a better team. It worked, and we played a lot of games against schools that were bigger than us.

Looking for three new infielders on our first day of practice, I had them all take ground balls at third base and see who had a good arm and who didn't. You needed strong arms at third base and shortstop. The team practiced hard and wanted to have a winning season.

When the season began, I had three pitchers who all got the job done. Tom Palmer '60 and Tom Shaw '61 were back from 1958, and I added newcomer Jack Broom '60 to the pitching staff. Bill Areson '60, who was the backup catcher the year before, took over behind the plate with Harry Rhodes '61 backing him up. Harry could also help out in the



outfield. I settled on Chuck Battin '59 at third base, Pete Lorraine '61 at shortstop, and Pete Decker '61 was at second base. I played first base. Tim Parsons '60 also saw a lot of playing time at third base, and Bill Denman '62 saw a lot of playing time at second base.

My outfield was in fine shape with Clay Hogg '60 in left field, Russ Reeder '60 in center field - both returning from the 1958 team - and newcomer George Moss '59 took over in right field. I had a strong bench with Bill Denman '62, Walt Lapham '60, and James Rockholt '60. Several of those players could play in the infield or the outfield. If I needed to go to the bench, I could use two of my pitchers to help out.

We went 8-5-1 and won the Taconic

Conference Championship. Two schools close to Hoosac - Hoosick Falls and Bennington - we beat for bragging rights in our area.

At the end of the academic year when the athletic awards were given out, the day before graduation, Coach Dickie asked me to give out the letters and certificates. It was a great honor to do this and it was great to coach the 1959 Hoosac Baseball team. A championship team.

*"...under Clayton's guiding hand, the team crashed into a rugged schedule of games; many of them against much larger schools..."*

# 1959 Baseball Team



## Varsity Baseball

Standing: Kinglsey (Manager), Shaw, Adams, Mitchell, Battin, Lorraine, Areson, and Coach Dickie

In Front: Bohn, Hogg, Palmer, Willis, Rodia, Loftus, Clayton, Hunt, Allen, Reeder

Seated: Chris Cooley, bat boy

*"...This year something unique was added to the coaching roster; George Clayton was successfully promoted to act as the playing coach while Coach Dickie transferred his attention to another facet of the athletic program."*

# Captain Douglas Graham

by Douglas Graham, Jr. '64



*Douglas Graham in 1964*

Hoosac was a chapter of my life that made me want to see more of what my life could and would be. My parents had taught me the basics in social manners and conduct, and in Connecticut society, that came in handy. I began my awakening when my parents first dropped me off at my dorm at Tilton School in Tilton, N.H., where I met - to this day - my closest friend. For me, that was the loneliest day I can remember and I was feeling so sorry for myself that nothing or anyone else mattered. That was until I saw my soon-to-be friend sitting on the gym steps. I said 'Hi, man you look worse than I feel.' After that life took a new turn. I made it through my first and only

year at Tilton. The following summer I was talking to Ted Juraschek '64 about what to do and he suggested that I go to Hoosac with him. That sounded better than going back to N.H., so I went to the interview with the 'Head Rector' and thought I was doomed. He asked me what books I had read and I almost said comic books but refrained as I knew what he meant. I am not what you call an avid reader, then remembered that I had seen the movie Moby Dick and told him I had read that. Then the arrow went in deeper when asked, 'Did I see any symbolism in the book?' OH -----, what did that mean?! I got through it and managed to get accepted. I think they needed students.

Ted helped me get acclimated to the routines & rules, which were similar to Tilton. I met my new roommate, Craig Guttermuth and we developed a good relationship. The next thing I knew I was a goalie on the soccer team trying to figure out what to do, how to do it and not get hurt in the process. I soon realized that the seasoned team members were more competitive than I was and they let me know it. That gave me incentive to be better. Since I didn't play hockey, it was wrestling. The last time I came to grips with anything was a fish in my boat. Again, my winter sport was a whole new experience and I won one match over my opponent at Bennington High when he whispered in my ear to please go easy on him, that he had a hang-over. BAM, the match was over very quickly, one reason being our coach

had said anyone who won would get the fried chicken & fries we were not allowed to eat the night before, in order to keep us in our weight class. I believe I was the only one who won that night. Match two was a different story. I was paired with a pretty good, more experienced fellow, who just happened to have a crush on the same girl I did, who lived in Bennington. To my surprise, I put up a pretty good challenge, but it was not quite good enough. When I was invited to her house a week later, she told me my opponent had told her that it was a tough match for him, which eased the pain a bit.

John Joslin '64 & Neal Lanigan '64 lived on the second floor. One night they bet me that I couldn't strip down and run around the front lawn of the dorm and not get caught. Guess what? I took the bet, stripped-down ran outside, then realized that everyone in the dorm knew about it. To make matters worse, they turned on a makeshift spotlight then started screaming and yelling. I took off like lightning back to my room and dove under the covers. The live-in teacher upstairs came running down to find the culprit, as he had seen me but didn't know who it was. It was a close call, but he never found out.

The dining hall was always a place of enjoyment at meal time. Of course we all had to take a turn at Galley duty, washing dishes and cleaning up, once a month or so. I didn't mind because I happened to find out where the frozen eclairs were stashed. After the chef told us to finish up and



*Doug and Verna Graham at their wedding*

leave when we were done, he would leave. That's when the real feast began. Again, we didn't tell anyone else because I figured they wouldn't miss one box. Sitting in the dark, eating eclairs was a treat from Heaven and a best kept secret.

One thing that has always been part of my life, embedded in me even before Hoosac, but also reinforced by Hoosac, was Good Manners & Respect for others no matter who they are. Of course my years of dancing school helped as well! An example of that occurred one Sunday afternoon when a couple of us were invited over to one of the girl's homes

in Hoosick. We were sitting in her living room talking and enjoying each others stories, when her mother happened to walk in to say hello. Well, it took me five seconds to stand up to introduce ourselves, when she entered the room. That pretty much blew her away. In front of all of us, she said nobody had ever expressed that type of respect for her. She was overwhelmed and said we were welcome in her home anytime. That made me feel pleased that we were able to give her that complement in a way that touched her so much. You don't have to be born with a 'Silver Spoon' to show respect for someone.

Since the age of 16, that has helped me both internally & externally.

Another thing that struck me were those awkward dances with the girls schools. We all looked forward to them, not just for the break in routine, but for the chance to meet the lady of our dreams. After the introductions, every emotion inside of me would race through my mind as we walked toward each other. One time in particular that emotion was just plain panic.

Do you ever think back and say to yourself, 'If only I could do this over, what would have happened or what would I do differently?' You make decisions in life based on what you think or feel at the time. Sometimes those thoughts are not based on reality, but just good times because we were young. Personally, I would have gone to a Maritime Academy to pursue a larger tonnage Captain's license. For me the old saying 'Good things come to those who wait' certainly worked. I had a wonderful career on the water in a variety of positions, but the best was meeting my wife 10 years ago when I accepted a G.M. position at the oldest yacht club in Maryland. She was the Service Manager there and you talk about Love at First Sight !

I have to mention a couple of winters with Ted back in Westport, CT. Ted, being the avid sailor that he was and is, used to talk me into going Frost Bite sailing in the harbor in January & February. Not only is it crazy, but stupid and darn cold. We used to yell at each other as to why we were there in the first place, between tacks & pushing ice out of the way. But alas, he brought out the coffee laced with rum and all of a sudden things didn't seem so bad. We drank a lot of coffee and I don't drink coffee.

# Alumni News

## '43-'49

### Class Agents, Needed.

**The Rev. Thomas R. Best '47** wrote in June: "I am doing fine with the only problem being worn-out knees. I have several thousand miles of hiking, backpacking, and climbing in Glacier National Park. From 1960-71, I ran two four-day backpack camps in the Park, originally church-sponsored but eventually the demand opened them to the world. Only 14 persons plus the National Park send rangers along to have them understand the backcountry as few were backpacking in those days. I did have three Episcopal Bishops go. One was my close friend who brought me to Montana from Nebraska, where we worked together with the Lakota Indians near the Pine Ridge Reservation." **Tom** lives in Kalispell, MT. His email is [tmbest75@centurytel.net](mailto:tmbest75@centurytel.net).

**Benson Noice, Jr., 44**, passed away in July at the age of 94. He received his bachelor's from Colby College and his master's from the University of Pennsylvania. **Benson** taught History at Mount Pleasant Jr. High and Concord High School for over 30 years in Wilmington DE. In 1955, he married Mary Ann Wenke. They raised two sons, David and Richard and one daughter, Catharine.

A child of the Depression and a broken marriage, he had 52 mailing addresses by the time he was 30. His beloved Aunt Sadie was his salvation as she paid for him and his siblings to go to prep school - his alma mater, Hoosac School. **Benson** proudly served in the Merchant Marines where he survived a tanker crash near the Admiralty Islands and the 38-day, 12,000-mile return trip with a broken bow across the Pacific. In addition to Colby and Penn, **Benson** studied at Berkeley, U of Minnesota, West Chester and the U of Delaware. He had a master's plus 60 credits and his only regret was not seeking his doctorate.

**Benson's** love for history was initially inspired by watching "Gone with the Wind," and then reading Toynbee's six-volume, "A Study in History." He was an outstanding teacher and inspired many students to become teachers with inno-

vative projects involving genealogy, field trips to Gettysburg and debating the validity of the Kensington Stone. During his summers, he taught countless campers to sail and canoe at Camp Rodney, Camp Tockwogh and Camp DeWitt.

**Benson** was an expert chess player. He started playing by mail at the age of 16 and won a hand-carved chess set by beating the chess champion of Delaware. He was a lifelong writer with a published family history that was completed in 1991 and had written a four and a half volume science fiction novel "Challenge and Response." He loved sailing on Lake Winnepesaukee, along the Maine coast and the Chesapeake Bay.

After retiring from teaching in 1986, **Benson** and his wife Ann moved to Windsor, CA. They traveled the world with the highlights being Russia, China, and New Zealand. He was a doting grandfather to Katie, Megan, Natalie and Benson, and spent countless hours visiting fish hatcheries, parks and pools and, in later years, sat in many a bleacher for soccer, football, marching band, and wrestling competitions.

There were no services and the family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to Hoosac School.



*Benson Noice as a student at Hoosac*

## '50-'51

### Class Agents, Needed.

**William G. Sharp '50** died June 27, 2019. **Bill** was almost 87 years old. He had lived in New York City.

## '52

### Class Agents, Needed.

## '53-'54

**Class Agent, Franklin W. Bulkeley '53**, 1150 Freddie Ct., Reno, NV 89503. Email: [frankandsal@gmail.com](mailto:frankandsal@gmail.com)

**Frank '53** wrote with updates in September. "Hello again! **Hank Coolidge '53** spent much of the month of August cruising up the Mississippi from New Orleans to Red Wing, Minnesota. Entertaining on the Mississippi cruise was Steve Marking who, it turned out, had once lived on Pine Valley Rd and directed the Yule Log for a number of years during the Lomuscio reign. **Hank** was to have gone to St. Paul on the cruise but, when Steve found out that **Hank** had once played Fair Saba in the Mummers Play, he was asked to leave the ship well short of St Paul. Undaunted, he went by train to Chicago as well as train back to New Orleans.

**Andy Olmsted '52** is "still upright-sort of." He's living in Schenectady now. He's "doing as well as can be expected," but his wife's health "is not so good."

**Kerry Payne '53** is back in Stuttgart, Germany. His summer idyll on Whidbey Island with his family in the Washington SanJuan Islands is over as both his son and daughter live in Europe (The Hague and Stuttgart), and **Kerry** spends the winter with his daughters' family in Stuttgart. Of the four of us, he's the only one that uses a walker and he travels the most by far!

As for me, I'm back to full activity after having TAVR heart valve surgery in May. We are planning on being in Desert Hot Springs in our motor home for a couple of months beginning in mid-December. Sal and I celebrated our 64th Wedding Anniversary on August 31st. Signed on for another ten - with an option!" **Frank** and Sal live in Reno, NV.

**Dr. Ephriam McLean '53** writes, "this year I celebrate my 50th year as a univer-



sity professor - 18 years at UCLA and 32 years at Georgia State University. Yes, I am still teaching and researching full time." **Dr. McLean** lives in Dunwoody, GA.

**David Miter '54** passed away April 23, 2019 at age 83 in Fort Myers, FL. A quintessential gentleman, **Dave** had a kind word and smile for everyone he met. **Dave** was born in Troy, NY to Thomas and Mariam "Pat" Miter of Lansingburgh. He graduated from Hoosac School and attended Clarkson University. **Dave** returned to Troy to begin a career in the family business, Miter Insurance Service, and also did a tour of duty in the United States Army. **Dave** is survived by his loving wife of over 55 years, Barbara and their children and grandchildren. A fisherman at heart, some of **Dave's** fondest memories were of summers spent with the family on Big Bowman Pond in Taborton, and in later years, deep sea fishing with his son in Florida. An adored grandfather, his four grandchildren will always remember their quiet nature walks with Grandpa **Dave**, his patience, quick wit and his amazing reputation as the family's "Mr. Fix-it." A gentle man with a generous heart, **Dave** will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

**Stefan "Tino" Sharp '54** died September 22, 2018 at almost 84 years old. He had lived in Chula Vista, CA.

## '55-'56

**Class Agent, Charles Rexford '60**, P.O. Box 697, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

## '57-'58

**Class Agent, Paul Rodia, class of 1958**, passed on Sept. 1, after a two-year illness with cancer. He lived in Woodbury, CT. His brother, **Arthur**, class of '61, writes, "**Paul** was one of Hoosac's best all-around athletes. He starred on the Owls' soccer, basketball, baseball, and tennis teams. Some of **Paul's** teammates included **Norm Bohn, Clay Hoag, Tim Parsons, Skip Clayton, Mark Yarborough, Tom Palmer, Bill Comer, Peter Lorraine, Bill Areson** and **Russell Reeder**.

He went on to Springfield College where he majored in Physical Education. **Paul** also served as Alumni Class Agent for several years. He and a few of his fellow Hoosac alumni friends were fre-

quent attendees at Hoosac reunions and events. **Paul** truly looked upon his days at Hoosac as "a wonderful experience." He was delighted to see the terrific progress Hoosac has made over the past 60 years. **Paul** will be remembered as a true friend of the Hoosac community."

**Paul's** obituary says, "Just three months prior, **Paul** was the life of the party at his 80th birthday celebration when he sported his signature dance moves and his gift for impromptu speeches that conveyed just how humbled and honored he was. His love of life and dedication to sports and fitness kept him strong until the end when he lost his valiant fight to cancer.

**Paul** was an exceptional athlete for his entire life. He excelled at tennis and was a ranked player in New England. As a competitive golfer, he won countless trophies and awards. For **Paul**, sports were also about friendships and new challenges. He was active wherever he was. Whatever the season, he found a way to be out in nature and moving. His pursuits included windsurfing, paddleball, hiking, skiing, basketball, softball, soccer, swimming, skating, refereeing ice hockey referee and most recently pickleball. A lifelong resident of Connecticut, **Paul** was born May 9, 1939, in Waterbury and raised in Watertown. His lifetime of achievements began with graduating from Hoosac High School where he was co-captain of the soccer and baseball teams. He began his professional life as a stockbroker. After a career of entrepreneurial pursuits in the athletic apparel industry, he joined Norman Drubner to create Drubner Industrials commercial real estate. **Paul** served in the U.S. Army and the National Guard and was on the board of the Waterbury Red Cross."



*Paul Rodia attending a reunion at Hoosac. (Ephriam McLean in background)*

## '59

**Class Agent, William Comer, 5650 Eden Roc Lane, Atlanta, GA 30342. Email: bill6465comer@gmail.com**

Hoosac heard from **Skip Clayton** in October about an honor he received. He says, "This was like being voted into a Hall of Fame. On July 6, 1969, Dover International Speedway ran its first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race. On October 6, 2019, they ran their 100th race. It was also the 50th anniversary of the speedway. Only two members of the news media, Al Pearce, a writer from Virginia and myself, **Skip Clayton**, were there covering that first race. We are the only two press members still around that were at the first race. We were presented with plaques and a basket of goodies. I have been hosting *Racing Wrap* on WBCB Radio since February 17, 1997, and I have done the show 1,181 straight weeks." You can see an article by **Skip** on pages 7 & 8 of this issue.



*Skip on the left, receiving honors*

## '60

**Class Agent, The Rev. Dr. Timothy Parsons, 12 Oak Ave., Norway, ME 04268. Email: timothyprns@yahoo.com**

**Norman Bohn** continues to enjoy retirement in beautiful Vermont. His career had been teaching high school history, a most worthy vocation. **Stephen Grochowski** moved into an adult care facility--he calls it a nursing home--over a year ago. **Groch** has slowed down a bit, as many of us have, and continues to extract from life all he can. A long-time resident of Hong Kong, **Bill Areson**, came to the U.S. after a three-year hiatus to attend the wedding of a niece and to spend time with family in Canada and San Francisco.

## '61

**Class Agent, Arthur Rodia**, 207 Grassy Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06799. Email: ac23rodia@charter.net

## '62

**Class Agent, The Rev. Malcolm Roberts III**, 520 Taberna Way, New Bern, NC 28562. Email: mroberts12@hotmail.com

**Charles Buckley, Jr.** wrote in June. "Over the years I have developed and displayed a collection of American political buttons and savings bond materials. These supplement a series of talks I give periodically on American history from the Civil War to the Truman Administration."

**Chuck** lives in York, PA.

## '63-'64

**Class Agent, Theodore Juraschek '64**, 100 Eastbury, Williamsburg, VA 23188. Email: theo\_juraschek@msn.com

## '65

**Class Agent, Charles T. Barnes**, 823 Waldens Pond Rd., Albany, NY 12203. Email: chasman823@gmail.com

**Charlie** wrote in September, "Regrettably I have not been active for the last 12 months - dealing with some health issues. I have tried reaching out to some of my classmates with not much success. We are nearing the end of an exhaustive renovation of our home on Cape Cod and are hoping to be more active in the near future."

## '66

**Class Agent, Lance Roepe**, P.O. Box 111796, Campbell, CA 95011. 207-326-2024. 408-879-9126 Email: lance3548@gmail.com

**Lance** writes, "I heard from **Tom Cochran** and have been in touch by e-mail. I did have a visit from Sherri Klein this summer, and we had an extended lunch at one of my favorite restaurants here. She brought me up to date on Hoosac. I have not been in contact with anyone else in my class. **Art Trevethick** moved and left no forwarding phone or address. I talked with **Dave Couvert** some months ago and have not heard from him since. Our class is very elusive. Most of them do not have a current contact. I am just taking care of myself and gratefully retired. I am no longer a 'human doing.' Now I have become a

'human BEING!' The golden years are here at last; the golden years can kiss my \$@%! So it goes. I always remember Hoosac with fondness---it was a major turning point in my life. To all, I wish well, and remember---Deus Regit! **Lance '66**

## '67-'68

**Class Agents, Needed.**

## '69

**Class Agent, Thomas Zissu**, 42 Paper Mill Road, Woodbury, CT 06798. 203-263-4266 Email: t.zissu@att.net

## '70

**Class Agents, Needed.**

**W. Harley Newman '70** co-starred in a show entitled "The Tricksters" in July. **Harley** was also featured on PBS as an internationally acclaimed sideshow expert. His shows feature dangerous stunts, showmanship and, storytelling. He lives in New Tripoli, PA.

## '71

**Class Agent, John T. Ober**, 30 Lake Meade Dr., East Berlin, PA 17316. Email: jtwober@gmail.com



Lance Roepe '66 and Sherri Klein during a recent visit, and below, Lance in his car.



Internationally acclaimed sideshow expert, W. Harley Newman '70. Harley has performed at Hoosac for students in the past.

## '72

**Class Agent, David Hoy**, 2-101st St., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

**Tim Campbell** has been in touch with Sherri Klein this fall. He says his favorite memories are "Walking to and from the Dining Hall for meals, movie night down at the old gym building, next to the tennis courts, surviving the challenge of going under the bridge, off the road in Hoosick, and remaining seated on the ledge next to the train track as a freight train barreled through a mere three feet away, making rafts to float down the Hoosick River, a yearly school event. The big challenge - allowing us to wear turtle necks instead of a coat & tie to class, learning/surviving the first three years at Hoosac which allowed me to enjoy my senior year, and the season of Fall - especially as I now live in California!"

**Tim** lives in Carlsbad, CA.



## '73

**Class Agent, Richard Montgomery**, 154 Samara Dr., Shrewsbury, NJ 07702.

Email: [rmontgomery211@gmail.com](mailto:rmontgomery211@gmail.com)

## '74

**Class Agent, Philip Smith III**, P.O. Box 944, Far Hills, NJ 07931. Email: [phillarymgmt@aol.com](mailto:phillarymgmt@aol.com)

**Alonzo Whitehead** wrote in June. "Currently, I am Warehouse Manager for SAC WIRELESS, a national cell tower installation company based in Chicago. My area of responsibility includes the PNW (WA., OR., ID). My lovely wife, Sarah, is a former Director of a YMCA Early Learning Center, and currently teaches at another closer to home. She is also an author of a compilation, "Beautiful You Are" (Sarah Smith). Believe it or not ...we met on Facebook!" **Zo** and Sarah live in Renton, WA.

**Al Meyer** writes, "After 38 years I have decided to let my EMT card expire. I will do other things within my fire department." **Al** watched our boys varsity soccer team beat Canterbury and says it was a great game!



Top right: Tim Campbell '72

Bottom right: Zo Whitehead and his wife, Sarah.

## '75

**Class Agent, Seton Ijams**, 311 E. 71st St., Apt. 5H, New York, NY 10021. Email: [sijams@aol.com](mailto:sijams@aol.com)

## '76

**Class Agent, Craig Kanner**, 17 Gage Rd., Brewster, NY 10509

## '77-'78

**Class Agent, Matthew McCormick '78**, Grace House, 5731 Monticello Ave., Portage, MI 49024. Email: [mattmcco@gmail.com](mailto:mattmcco@gmail.com)

## '79

**Class Agent, Jeremy L. Mordkoff**, 101 Chestnut St., Pepperell, MA 01463. 508-433-5936. Email: [jeremy.mordkoff@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.mordkoff@gmail.com)

Jeremy wrote to Sherri Klein, "I have seen **Lansing McVickar '79** and **Ed Gilbert '78** recently and I would like to catch up with more alums, although I suspect tracking down alums from that time period is more difficult than others. Lavino Hall was my first dorm, and my first roommate was the headmaster's stepson **Tim Ives '80**.

Everything I see from Hoosac these days reminds me of what Hoosac was my freshman year. After Ashton Crosby left, it just wasn't the same for me. I'm happy to see Hoosac has rebounded from that period and is meeting its potential.

I just wanted you all to know that I really appreciate what I learned at Hoosac -- how to be a leader and the value of being true to your word."

**Nader Kameli** wrote to Sherri Klein in September, "I have not heard much from my classmates from my Hoosac years. **Shahin** is the only one I am in contact with as he is my cousin. I would be curious to hear from others and see how they are doing. Our graduating class was very small, so I am not surprised that some have disappeared. Some were Hoosick Falls and Bennington natives and I always thought they would stay close to home and therefore close to school." **Nader** lives in Lombard, IL. He is CEO at Cardiac Revival Machines.

## '80

**Class Agent, Fred Wright**, 659 Ridgehill Dr., Orange Park, FL 32065

## '81

**Class Agent, Michael Rider**, 3 Nob Way, Lowell, MA 01852

## '82

**Class Agent, Dr. J. Toby Mordkoff**, 11 Wildberry Ct. NE, Iowa City, IO 52240. Email: [jeremy.mordkoff@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.mordkoff@gmail.com)

## '83

**Class Agent, Lizzette Hayes Winters**, 2044 Alycia Way, Pleasant View, TN 37146. Email: [LHlights@aol.com](mailto:LHlights@aol.com)

## '84

**Class Agent, Wanda Wrzenski Williams**, 613 Cardella Dr., Greensboro, NC. [wandawka@gmail.com](mailto:wandawka@gmail.com)

## '85

**Class Agent, Austin P. McGrath III**, 25B Harvest Way, Waterford, NY 12199. Email: [grandgablesiding@nycap.rr.com](mailto:grandgablesiding@nycap.rr.com)

## '86

**Class Agent, Bryan T. Green**, 7909 Whitebridge Glen, University Park, FL 34201. Email: [bgreen@hhmin.org](mailto:bgreen@hhmin.org)

## '87

**Class Agent, Needed.**

## '88

**Class Agent, Marbie Parshall Tarburton**, 4493 Cedarwood Dr., York, PA 17402. 717-751-6861. Email: [marbis@aol.com](mailto:marbis@aol.com)

## '89

**Class Agent, Janet Stiegman**, 2360 Brace Rd., Canandaigua, NY 14424. 716-394-7211. Email: [janetjfellows@yahoo.com](mailto:janetjfellows@yahoo.com)

## '90

**Class Agent, Kevin A. Backus**, 23323 Liberty St., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080. Email: [captkevin@mrmuskiecharters.com](mailto:captkevin@mrmuskiecharters.com)

## '91

**Class Agent, Karl A. Sessler, Jr.**, 4517 Foxcroft Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32309

## '92

**Class Agent, Kendell Klein Munzer**, 2204 Dewees Creek Dr. Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466. Email: [kkmunzer@yahoo.com](mailto:kkmunzer@yahoo.com)

## '93

**Class Agent, Kristin Norton Anderson**, 172 Todt Hill Rd., Staten Island, NY 10314. Email: [kristinanderson720@gmail.com](mailto:kristinanderson720@gmail.com)

**Justin Lovett** and his wife, Koheun Lee, are living in Seoul, Korea. They are now expecting their first child.



Justin Lovett '93 and wife, Koheun

## '94

**Class Agent, Jaime Campbell Hudak**, 358 Broadway, Ste. 201, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Email - [jchudak@criteriuminc.com](mailto:jchudak@criteriuminc.com)

## '95

**Class Agent, Crystal Allen**, 4068 South Washington, Englewood, CO 80113. Email: [all4cailin2000@gmail.com](mailto:all4cailin2000@gmail.com)

## '96

**Class Agent, Nick Johnson**, 115 Signal Hill Rd., Wilton, CT 06897

Hoosac found that **Frank DiPillo** passed away in 2015. **Frank** had lived in New Jersey.

## '97

**Class Agent, Carlos "Cheech" Quiñones**, 1269 Bonheur Dr., St. Louis, MO 63146. Email: [cdq1269@gmail.com](mailto:cdq1269@gmail.com)

## '98

**Class Agent, Jeff Urquhart**, P.O. Box 926, Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896. Email: [yugecin79@gmail.com](mailto:yugecin79@gmail.com)

## '99

**Class Agent, Kelly Price-Bayliffe**, 4092 Ashton Club Dr., Lake Wales, FL 33859. Email: [kellysrevival@gmail.com](mailto:kellysrevival@gmail.com)

**Rich Modecki** and his wife welcomed their first child in September. They live in Arlington, VA.



Keily Yonce '03 and Chris Albright '03 met for a mini reunion!



**Above left:** The children of Melanie Zylinski Lonergan '06 and her husband, Craig: Nicholas and Shelby.

**Above right:** Damien Saunders '99 was DJ at the wedding of Jeff Urquhart '98 and his wife, Toni in Nov. 2018.

**Left:** The children of Yannick Potvin-DesRochers '06 girls: Zoe, Juliette, and Charlie

## '00

**Class Agent, Christine Donovan Dobson.**

## '01

**Class Agent, Jontia Jones, P.O. Box 319, Selkirk, NY 12158. Email: jon\_egirl10@yahoo.com**

**Andy Rozanski** and his wife, Bethany Shore, welcomed a daughter named Elise in August. They live in Volo, IL.

## '02

**Class Agent, Lea Taubinger, 416 Ocean Ave. #3 Melbourne Beach, FL 32901. Email: lea\_taubinger@hotmail.com**

## '03

**Class Agent, Needed.**

Classmates **Chris Albright**, of San Mateo, CA and **Kiely Yonce**, of Pullman, WA, recently took a summer road trip through California and Colorado. Maybe their next road trip will include Hoosac!

**Richard Jarvis** got engaged to Erin Montrello in September. **Rich** is a firefighter in Albany, NY.

**Bryce Robare** passed away October 7, 2019, overcome by his long-term struggle with substance abuse. He had resided in North Adams, MA.

## '04

**Class Agent, Whitney Kelly, 404 Robin Hill St., Marlborough, MA 01752. Email: whitneyvkv5985@aol.com**

## '05

**Class Agent, Laurel Del Rosario, 193 Church St., Hoosick Falls, NY 12090. Email: laureldelro2@hotmail.com**

## '06

**Class Agent, Amanda Fleming, 2514 London St., Los Angeles, CA 90026. Email: amandamary.fleming@gmail.com**

**Melanie Zylinski Lonergan**, her husband, Craig, and son, Nicholas, welcomed a daughter, Shelby, to their family in June.

**Yannick Potvin-Desrochers** lives in Quebec, Canada with his wife and three girls. They visited campus in 2014 for a reunion.

## '07

**Class Agent, Blake Boyer**, 13 Bassett St., Taunton, MA 02780. Email: hoosachockey1@yahoo.com

**Julia Johnson** married Noah Fallon in August. Noah is the son of Becky and **Arnie Fallon**. **Arnie** is Hoosac's class of '73, and he and Becky lived on campus while he taught here for many years. **Julia** and Noah live in Chestertown, NY.

**Katie Harrington** is engaged to Nicholas Silverio. She lives in Cropseyville, NY

## '08-'09

**Class Agents, Needed.**

**Mike McCaslin '09** wrote in June, "I am currently working at Caring Partners in New Jersey as a Care Manager. I assist youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities and mental health needs by connecting families to resources in the community. I also oversee the youth's care when Intensive in-home services are authorized such as in-home clinicians or behavior technicians. I work with persons in the home/schools/community to assure that the needs of the youth are being met in all settings.

**Teruki Watanabe '09** is engaged to Jacqueline Caron. **Teruki** lives in Burlington, VT and is a teaching assistant at UVM in the Chemistry Dept. He is originally from Shibuya, Tokyo, Japan.

**Palmer Johnson '08** married Sara Urbaz on September 9. Their honeymoon was in Greece. Hoosac family attending their wedding included **Elliot Wilson '08**, **Chris Cimarusti '09**, and **Seton Ijams '75**.

## '10

**Class Agent, Jed Jones**, 428 Schenkar Rd., Pownal, VT 05261 Ph: 802-823-5074

**Ian Richter** and his wife, Natalie, honeymooned with a cruise to the Bahamas.

**David-Jacob Brassard** married Chelsea Wroblewski June 29, 2019. They live in Pointe-Claire, Quebec.

## '11

**Class Agent, Needed.**

**Charles Cote** lives in Quebec, Canada with his wife, Gabriella, and their two children. He owns Quartz Construction.

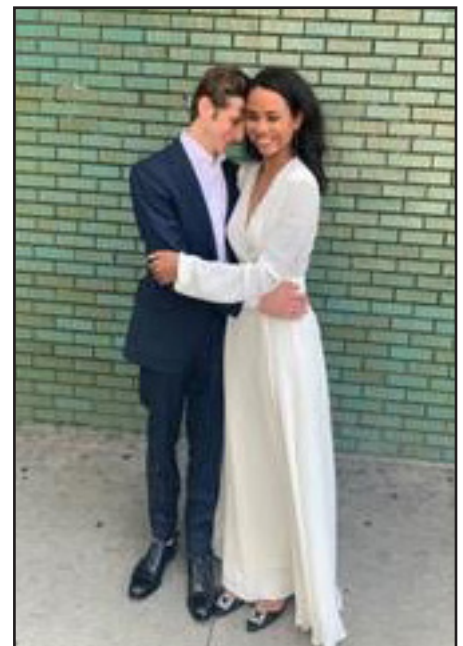
**Soo Jung Seo** is working in Korea as a visual merchandiser in the fashion industry. She creates visual displays. Her email is [tjtnejd@hotmail.com](mailto:tjtnejd@hotmail.com).



Top: Julia Johnson '07 and husband, Noah Fallon.

Middle: Teruki Tatanabe '09 and fiancée, Jacqueline Caron.

Right: Palmer Johnson '08 and wife, Sara Urbaz.





*Ian Richter '10 and his wife, Natalie*



*David-Jacob Brassard '10 and his wife, Chelsea*

## '12

**Class Agent, Patrick (PJ) Lepage, 214 Grassy Lake Rd., Whitefish Ontario, Canada P0M 3E0. Email: pj\_ryde@hotmail.com**

**Adesewa Egunsola** began a position as a certified legal intern at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. **Sewa** graduated from Villanova University Law School and passed the bar in July.

## '13-'14

**Class Agents, Needed.**

**Haylee Manktelow '14** graduated in May from The University of Vermont. She just welcomed her second daughter.

**Shen "Rocher" Guo '13** enjoys her work as a tax consultant at Deloitte in New York City

## '15

**Class Agent, Anthony Kelly, 18-15 215th St., Apt. 15N, Bayside, NY 11360**

**Katie Jones** graduated from New England College in May. She is now a Corrections Officer with the Cheshire County Department of Corrections, and has been promoted to Corporal.

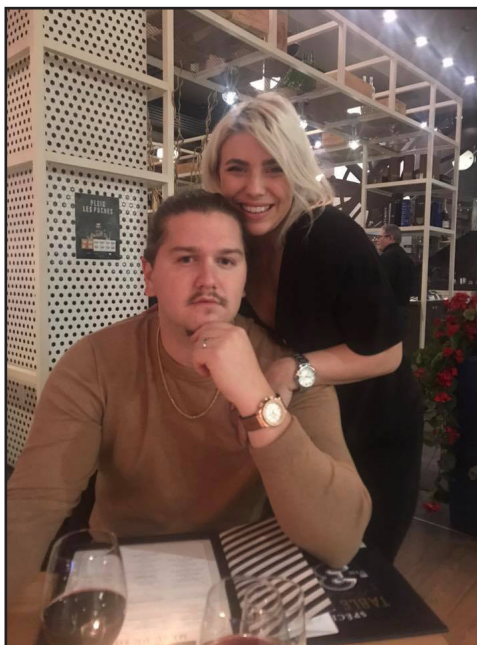
## '16

**Class Agent, Julia Kopala, 131 Putnam St., Bennington, VT 05201, Email: jko-pala@fandm.edu**

**Unique McLean**, a super-athletic 6'2" guard, recently graduated from UMass Amherst, will return to his Brooklyn (NY) hometown to play his two remaining years of NCAA eligibility at St. Francis. The Funsport Junior Pros alum ran with Team Scan and the PSA Cardinals during his AAU summers while attending Hoosac and The MacDuffie School.

**Lazar Dobrosavljevic** has been working for two years and is studying security in Serbia. He hopes in the future to be a soccer coach.

**Mengjia Qi** was named as a Union College 2019 Dean's List honoree. **Mengjia** is a member of the Class of 2020. She was honored with the Hedda Hainebach Memorial Prize in Music or Theatre.



Charles Cote '11 and his wife, Gabriella

Soo Jung Seo '11



Sewa Egunsola '12 passed the bar exam!





Haylee Manktelow '14  
graduating from UVM

## '17

**Class Agents, Emily Levin**, 332 Rayelene Dr., Vestal, NY 13850, Email: [eml227@cornell.edu](mailto:eml227@cornell.edu)

**Maria Coleman**, 100 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI 02840, Email: [maria.coleman@salve.edu](mailto:maria.coleman@salve.edu)

Bangor, ME resident **Nikoloz Bulashvili** was named to Husson University's Honors List for the Fall 2018 semester. **Nikoloz** is a sophomore who is currently enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies with a concentration in Pre-Law program.

## '18

**Class Agents, Needed.**

**Jayde Dukette** was recognized by SUNY Canton for earning Dean's List honors during the spring 2019 semester. **Jayde** is from Tupper Lake, NY, and is enrolled in the college's Health Care Management program.

**Noah Hentley** is pursuing a degree in Business Administration at SUNY Delhi.

**Austan Bellefeuille** is attending Nichols College, majoring in Criminal Justice, and is a member of the men's ice hockey team (NCAA Division 3).

## '19

**Class Agent, Selin Oncul**, Email: [selin.oncul19@hoosac.org](mailto:selin.oncul19@hoosac.org)

**Class Agent, David Savic**, Email: [dsavic@hoosac.org](mailto:dsavic@hoosac.org)

**David** wrote to Headmaster Foster. "I'm here at Missouri Valley College with **Luka, Petar, Sergej, Emre, and Caio**. We are all together, making friends and having a lot of fun. We are all doing well in classes and playing NAIA Division 1 basketball. That's a serious job and even better program that we are following. Our campus is diversified, beautiful and not that big, just like the one at Hoosac! I excel in all the classes and I love being here! I'm majoring in Business Management and my minor is in Business Administration. I already have some job offers but I have to organize my schedule and try to fit that besides basketball. I got some recommendations for Resident Assistant as well. I also look forward to coming to Hoosac soon and see you all. I wish you good luck and happy beginning of the school year!"

Catherine Jones '15  
graduating from New  
England College, here with  
her mother, Donna Jones



David Savic '19 at Missouri  
Valley College



# RETURNING TO YOUR HOOSAC FAMILY!

We love to see members of our Hoosac family when they visit campus. This fall we had several people stop by.



Above: Athletic Director, Mike Ryan and Darren Calica '93 on the athletic fields when he visited with his fiancée, Nancy Saccone, in October. Mike gave Darren a copy of his '93 yearbook where he checked out a photo of himself playing hockey.

Top right: Dean Foster and Sam Mahar '04 and his wife, Christy. They live in Santa Barbara, CA.

Right: Philip "Nip" Smith '74 with student Fernando Barros '21.

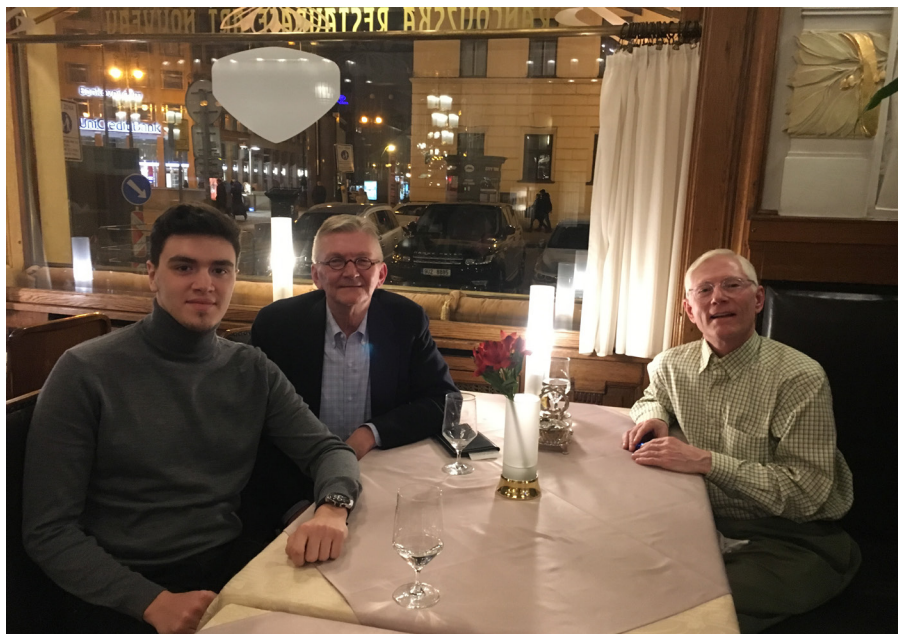


Checking things out from nearby Hudson Falls, NY, Rob Stout, class of '72 pauses for a photo. Rob is an active alumnus and we look forward to future visits!

Christopher Cooley, son of former Headmaster Roger Cooley, visited campus all the way from Napa, CA. He checked out photo displays in the library.

Don Coletti '71 from Troy, NY, visited campus with classmate David Huffman '71 and his wife, Lucinda, in September. It was great to see the Huffman's, in from Oklahoma!

# HOOSAC IS EVERYWHERE!



Top left: Deniz Demiryol '17 met with faculty member Chris Uhl and Seton Ijams '75 in Prague on his 21st birthday. Deniz is studying sports medicine at Prague's Charles University  
Top right: Martin Tilley '76 of Vienna, Austria, with Chris and Seton.



Neal Irwin '96 (middle) visited with some classmates in Japan during a recent trip.



Headmaster Dean Foster watched alumnus Kyle Shearer-Hardy '07 play hockey in Chamonix-Mont Blanc, France.



Sherri Klein visited with Jon Schmer '14 in Denver this past summer.



Seton Ijams '75, Chris Cimarusti '09, Elliot Wilson '08, Palmer Johnson '08 and his wife, Sara, with Allison Spitz at Palmer and Sara's wedding.

# A Hoosac Ambassador

by William Marvin

While on a swing through Los Angeles recently, I had the pleasure of meeting with Seth Dowling (class of 1999) at CBS Studios in Hollywood where Seth works. Our visit started with a short tour of CBS, where we saw different stage sets such as "The Young and the Restless" and "The Bold and the Beautiful." "The Price is Right" was being taped next to us behind a big blue curtain. I have seldom heard a crowd so loud and excited as this group! After our tour, we went to lunch, where we enjoyed trading stories on the joys of working in and experiencing the Los Angeles area! It was interesting hearing about Seth's new avocation of rock climbing, including the many types of climbing there actually are!



Editor's Note: Bill Marvin is a wonderful and faithful friend to Hoosac. His father, Keith Marvin, was Class of '43, and his brother, Dwight, was Class of '74. Bill was immersed in all things Hoosac growing up, and while he and his wife, Inna, live in Las Vegas, he visits campus often.

Bill and Seth, ready to visit CBS.

Of course, we had a great time reflecting on Hoosac - the improvements in the classroom and on the athletic fields, as well as the exciting happenings with the Yule Log. We agreed that as Hoosac changes, its core mission and traditions thankfully remain the same over time.

Thank you, Seth, for making my visit so wonderful!



Seth, his wife, Danielle, and son Levi, live in Kagel Canyon, CA.



Climbing the east Buttress of El Capitan was a serious introduction to Grade 4 Walls for Seth. It's a rock that varies between slippery glass and slick polished grease with a smattering of hollow rotten flakes!

# The Lord of Misrule

by John R. Pattison '48

I didn't know it at the time; but, seventy-two years later, (yes, that was me in 1947) I am shocked to find that I had no notion of the power I held in my hands.

Now, to be sure, I've had my share of missed opportunities and failed ventures in the years that followed that event, but to miss my once in a lifetime chance of turning the status quo upside down when I had it in my hands is, well, frankly unprintable.

You see, The Court Jester/Fool/Lord of Misrule was the only person who could publicly tell the king, "how wonderful was his esteem in the eyes of all...no matter what they said about him down in the laundry room," and get away with it.

The Jester, he or she, in full costume could sneak up behind the King/Rector/Headmaster while delivering an edict and do the BlahBlahBlah hand signal to the delight of listeners. Or, do a smartly executed cartwheel in front of the speakers during an important message.

See what I mean about missed opportunities?

I leave you with Edward Lear:

*There was an old man in a boat  
Who said, "I'm afloat, I'm afloat"  
When they said, "No you ain't"  
He was ready to faint.  
That unfortunate old man in a boat.*

Best wishes to this year's Jester.

- JR Pattison, aka:  
The Lord of Misrule 1947



**John R. Pattison, class of '48, played the Jester in The Boar's Head  
& Yule Log pageant in 1947.**

# THE MEREDITH B. WOOD FOUNDATION

*and Tyler Drummond '20*

Tyler Drummond '20 was chosen as the 14th recipient of The Meredith B. Wood Merit Scholarship because in the opinion of the faculty he embodied those qualities of honesty, loyalty, commitment to hard work, and service to community, God and country that Fr. Wood instilled in his students so many years ago. When Tyler learned why he received this award, about the man for whom it is named, and the alumni and friends of Hoosac who gave of themselves to make this scholarship possible, he had this to say, ***"I am completely honored and cannot express my gratitude enough for being chosen to receive such a prestigious award. I want to thank all the alumni and the friends of Hoosac who have made this a long-lasting possibility for students like me. I also***

***thank the faculty who believe that I hold these characteristics."***

When you ponder ways to make a difference in this world, think upon the giving that makes this scholarship possible and about the remarkable person for whom it is named. The Reverend Meredith B. Wood served Hoosac as Headmaster from 1941 through 1957. Every student who had any interaction with this man respected him, even those who otherwise did not fondly recall their boarding school experience! Fr. Wood was unceasingly motivated to help every young person in his charge gain an excellent academic education, while building excellence in character.



## REUNION 2020!

**Gather your  
classmates!**

**June 12 - 14,  
2020**

As Reunion rolls around again it's time to mark your calendar and book your travel back to the Valley of the Owl!

Don't miss out! Join your fellow alumni, former faculty, Trustees, and friends for a weekend of celebration. Remember your time at Hoosac.

We look forward to seeing your name on our list of attendees. Call, email, or text your classmates and make sure everyone gets in on the fun.

# JOIN OUR FAMILY OF OWLS

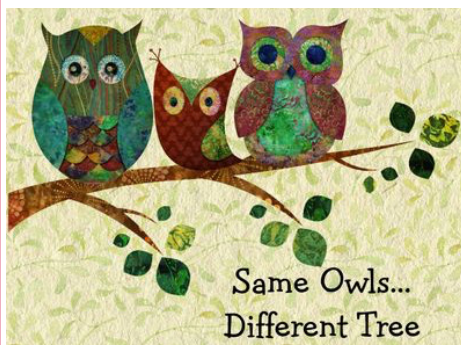
## Give a Hoot!

The idea of a leadership gift club has become universal among schools and colleges. Donors who give annually at the \$1,000 level and up become Hoosac's Owl Society members who not only generate important sums of money for our school, but also valuable advice and counsel.

The Hoosac School Owl Society recognizes the generosity of each of these givers each year on the wall of honor in Tibbits Hall.

With fundraising well underway for a new girls dorm, to be named "Towne Hall" after Hoosac legend, Margaret Towne, we look to step-up giving to accomplish this important task.

## DEUS REGIT



## ARE YOU MOVING?

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