

YIS ALUMNI QUARTERLY

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The YIS Alumni Quarterly is published electronically by Yokohama International School for the enjoyment of former students, parents and staff as well as the current school community. We welcome your comments and suggestions (contact alumni@yis.ac.jp).

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Ohisashiburi

Alums from YIS's Early Years Visit Campus

In May we had the pleasure of welcoming back to the Bluff YIS alumni Dr. Ronald Watts and his sister Barbara (Watts) Sibbald. Ronald and Barbara were born in Japan to Canadian missionary parents who were then living in Niigata. They enrolled in YIS - then a boarding school - in 1936 and 1937, respectively, and except for a one-year furlough in 1938-39, attended the school until 1940. Also visiting YIS with them in May were their younger brother Hugh (who was also born in Japan) and their spouses. Alumni Quarterly spoke with Dr. Watts about his YIS memories and experiences.



Barbara (Watts) Sibbald and Ronald L. Watts

AQ: Welcome back to YIS. How long has it been since you were here last?

RW: I revisited YIS once before in 1979 when I was in Japan as part of a delegation of Canadian University Presidents (I was Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University at that time). I remember that on that occasion the Vice-Principal of YIS was a Queen's graduate and that occasioned great interest when it was learned

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From the Editor

Dear Alumni,

Another eventful school year has come to a close following a flurry of activity in May and June. Of course Food Fair was a great success, with fine weather, excellent food and entertainment, and a "spirited" crowd at the alumni booth. Thanks again to Tina Miki and all the alums who worked at the booth.

It was also great to see many of you who stopped by the school to visit with former teachers and classmates and to attend the graduation ceremonies. Among the alumni making a trip back to the Bluff recently were Ronald Watts and his sister Barbara (Watts) Sibbald, who had both attended YIS in the 1930s. For Barbara, the visit was her first time back in Japan since 1940. You can read more about them in the cover article above.

Also in this issue, we've caught up with some former faculty Ray and Nancye Sullivan and alums Mara Kristula-Green and Teddy Lee, and feature interviews with current faculty members Dennis Stanworth and Eddie Levisman. The Class Notes section includes updates from a number of you and once again we offer the Quarterly Quiz (see back page).

So we hope you enjoy this second issue of the YIS Alumni Quarterly. Please remember that we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Best regards,

Bob Pomeroy
Editor

Featured Alumni & Former Staff

Mara Kristula-Green, Class of 2007



AQ: How long were you at YIS?

MK: From 6th grade through graduation, 2000-2007.

AQ: What have you been doing since you graduated?

MK: Well, I went straight to Parsons the New School for Design in New York City, entering with a direct major in photography. I'm going to be a junior starting in September of 2009. My family are moving back to the States (Chicago specifically) and my brother Noah will be graduating! So things have changed quite a bit I guess. I've also landed an internship at LIFE.com. It's basically an online re-incarnation of LIFE magazine. I also interned in Nepal last summer, which was one of the best experiences of my life, and this summer I'll be in China doing a collaboration art course with students from Tsinghua University. I don't think I can be away from Asia for more than a few months at a time.

AQ: What does YIS mean to you?

MK: YIS is the kind of place that means more to you the more you experience outside of it. The more I meet people in university the more I realize how unique my upbringing was. Going from being one of the few Americans (definitely a minority in my grade) to being in the majority has made me realize that being surrounded by such an international environment is something I miss incredibly. YIS's international community is something I think I took for granted when I was there; but maybe that's how it's meant to be, maybe you're meant to feel its effects after you leave. It's just that kind of a place.

AQ: What are some of your memories of your time at YIS?

MK: So many, where to start? Izu was a great trip; was it 9th grade? Definitely one of the most relaxing field studies. I also seem to remember Hiroshima as an important trip. We went twice, in 6th grade and again in 10th grade. Then there are the teachers...so many who have made such an impact on my life. I am still in contact with many of them, because they are people I respect, look up to, ask for advice and just generally trust. I know that without them there is no way I would end up where I am – and I'm more than happy to be where I am.

I'm also still in contact with a lot of people from my graduating year, those below and above me as well. I guess Facebook has made things easier but they're really people with whom I don't think I could see myself falling out of contact. It's weird, sometimes you won't contact someone for a few months just because you're both busy but when you talk again it's like no time has passed.

Editor's note: Check out Mara's website at www.marakristulagreen.com

Upcoming Events at YIS

Hogaku Benefit concert

On Friday, September 25, 2009, we will host a gala event at the International House of Japan in Tokyo to benefit the YIS Japanese Music (Hogaku) Program. The evening's festivities begin at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) with drinks and bidding for a silent auction. A special performance by the YIS High School Advanced Japanese Music Ensemble follows at 7:30 pm. This event is made possible through a generous grant from the International House of Japan, Tokyo.

When: Friday, September 25, 2009 from 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)

Where: International House of Japan
Iwasaki Koyata Memorial Hall
5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032

Tickets: 10,000 yen

There is a limited number of seats available, so please purchase tickets well in advance. To order your ticket(s) for the benefit concert, please call 045-622-0084 or email kotobenefit@yis.ac.jp with your name, address and phone number.



Teddy Lee, Class of 1977 and Member of the YIS Board of Trustees



Teddy (second from left) celebrating his 50th Birthday with YIS friends

AQ: How long were you at YIS?

TL: I attended YIS for a total of nine years, from October 1968 to June 1977.

AQ: What have you been doing since then?

TL: After graduating from YIS I attended National Taiwan University, where I received a Bachelor of Science in Naval Architecture. During my undergraduate studies in Taiwan I was also able to learn Chinese, which has become very helpful in my businesses.

After graduating from university I came back to Yokohama to work at a ship building company for one year and then moved to Holiday Inn Yokohama, located in Yokohama Chinatown, as Director of Marketing. I became General Manager of the hotel after completing the General Managers Program at the Holiday Inn University in 1983. I also attended the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration's Advanced Management Program in 2001, and in that same year I became the President of Holiday Inn Yokohama Co., Ltd. Holiday Inn Yokohama changed its name to Rose Hotel

Yokohama in 2003 and since then I have been serving as the President and General Manager of the hotel. On the personal side, I'm married and have three children, now ages 23, 22 and 18.

AQ: Who are some of your most memorable friends and teachers?

TL: Mr. Scrase, the Math teacher when I was in Elementary School. He would throw anything during class to wake us up! Our Music teacher, Frank Becker and his avant-garde music and also the Sesame Street theme music that was played in our class. Stelarc and his Art classes were always unforgettable. Stelarc now is so famous worldwide!! Mr. Bernard and the Social Studies classes taught us how to utilize time well and to plan out our projects without delaying our deadline. The field trips were unforgettable. Especially the Eiheiji Trip with the High School students.

AQ: What does YIS mean to you now?

TL: I am proud to be a graduate of YIS and to continue my ties with the school as a member of the Board of Trustees. YIS is not only an international educational institution for students from many countries of the world, it is a strong asset for the City of Yokohama, attracting many foreign companies to invest in this city and enabling businesses to grow.



Teddy in 1977

Alumni Enjoy Food Fair 2009



L to R: Hans-Peter Spiess, Leslie (Harrington) Lorimer



L to R: Mary Corbett, Leslie (Harrington) Lorimer, Yachi Altinbay



Kent Riley (left), Eric Inge (top right) and friends

Ray and Nancye Sullivan - Former Faculty



Ray and Nancye Sullivan in the desert North of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Australians Ray and Nancye Sullivan were prominent members of the YIS faculty for nine years. Ray served as Elementary Principal from 1997-2006, with the concurrent title of Deputy Headmaster from 2001-2006. Nancye taught in early elementary grades and also served as a member of the SELF (Social Emotional Learning Focus) team. Alumni Quarterly reached them in Australia, where they have been since returning there in 2006, and Ray kindly offered to share the following report with YIS alums.

Nancye and I arrived in Japan and Yokohama in August 1997, a few weeks before I was to take up the newly created elementary principal's position at YIS. We arrived prepared to spend the next two or maybe three years in Japan before looking for another placement or heading back to Australia. After sampling the international teaching scene in Malaysia and Vietnam we were very keen to extend our international teaching experiences in another country. We had turned down job offers in Africa and Kuwait and had initially rejected the opportunity to apply for the YIS job when the ECIS representative in Australia called me to let me know it was available. At that time Japan didn't rate highly on our list of places we wanted to visit. It wasn't until she called back two weeks later to tell me YIS was a great school and Japan was a great place to live and I would be crazy if I didn't at least check out the position that I did show any interest. Of course she turned out to be right on all counts. We enjoyed a wonderful nine years at YIS before retiring and returning home to Australia in June 2006.

Those nine years in Japan gave us the opportunity to be part of an exciting period in YIS's long history. Changes in curriculum direction, increasing enrolments, building projects, great colleagues, a supportive community and a headmaster with a vision for the future created an exciting work environment. As the elementary principal I had the opportunity to be involved with many wonderful students across all age ranges. The international nature of the enrolment meant that students were always coming and going. There were always wonderful and of course sometimes challenging personalities passing through the elementary section of YIS. Nancye joined me at YIS in 1998 after teaching at neighbouring St Joseph International School for her first year in Japan. I know she also enjoyed all the classes she taught and still has connections with some of her former students and their parents.

Since we arrived home in Australia in July 2006 life has taken on a quite different focus. There was a lot of family catching up to do after being away for thirteen years. Our first granddaughter, Annie was born just before we left YIS. Since then we have added three more granddaughters, Emma, Mabel and Millie, and we now have a grandson, Ed, who at the time of writing is 4 weeks old. Our daughter Rachael is expecting her first child in July. Rachael lives in Nassau in the Bahamas so of course we have a trip planned. It has been great being grandparents and being part of their lives.

As well as being besotted grandparents we are both finding retired life amazingly busy. Nancye is still doing part time consultancy work for the IB and has been in and out of the country with visits to India, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Korea and Japan. I am also doing the odd IB visit, spending an interesting week with Nancye in India last year and recently I was able to join her on a trip to Saudi Arabia where we spent two weeks as consultants for the IB Access Projects at King Faisal School



Ray and his new grandson Ed

in Riyadh. A fascinating and rewarding experience for us. We are also building our dream house on the side of a hill on the edge of the picturesque Buninyong Golf Course. We are about four weeks away from moving in. I am looking forward to working on the garden and landscaping. I have also joined the golf club and finding time to work on lowering my golf handicap will be a challenge that I will be looking forward to and I hope to get Nancye using the golf clubs she bought on the day we signed for the block of land.

We often think of our years at YIS and will always look on our association with the YIS community as a highlight of our teaching career and a fitting lead-up to our retirement. We have many wonderful memories from our nine years in Yokohama. Things we will remember most: friendships, food fairs, earthquakes, skiing trips, YCAC, cherry blossoms, elementary sports days on the playground, Korean barbecue in Kannai....

For me personally the opportunity to work with Headmaster Neil Richards was a high point in my teaching career. Neil's ideas about learning and teaching and the environment we should be creating in our classrooms were ahead of his time. I am honoured and proud to be part of the 'Richards' era at YIS.

Class of 2009 at a Glance



*The 36th YIS High School graduation ceremony took place on June 11, with 54 red-gowned graduates receiving their diplomas in front of family and friends in the gym. Board of Directors chairman Bill Werlin delivered the commencement address and the ceremony featured several spirited musical interludes by talented musicians from the graduating class. **So who are the class of 2009?***

Graduates: 54 students

Nationalities: 18 countries

University destinations: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, UK, USA

Planned university studies: Astrophysics & Space Science, Psychology, Creative Writing, Business, Biological Science, Behavioral Neuroscience, International Business, Computer Science, Pre-medicine, Biology, Engineering, Chemistry, Pharmacology, Biomedical Research, History, Public Relations, Civil Engineering, Sports Science, Development Studies, Physiotherapy, Spanish, Advertising & Marketing, Aeronautics, Development Economics & Education, Language & Communications, Anthropology, French, Sports Physiotherapy, Biophysics, Occupational Therapy, Pre-law

Gap Year plans: Malay language study, film study, humanitarian volunteer project, travel, soccer club, improve musical skills, prepare for Japanese proficiency test, study martial arts in Thailand, work part-time

Career aspirations: Image data analysis, medicine, pharmaceutical science, business management, film editing, scientific research, fashion business, music business, chemical engineering, biomedical engineering, international law, fashion and graphic design, brain surgery, pilot, translation, teaching

Dennis Stanworth - High School Principal



member of the British Experiment in International Living, enjoying home stays in Africa, Hong Kong and Canada.

AQ: With nearly three decades at YIS you must have a lot of memorable experiences. What are some of the highlights?

DS: Oh, there have been so many. I suppose some highlights would be...

- Almost reaching the summit of Annapurna with three YIS students and two Sherpa;
- Winning the Math Contest in 1998;
- Bringing the Teacher's Splash over from Hong Kong and

AQ: How long have you been at YIS and what subjects have you taught?

DS: The next school year will be my 30th at YIS. I arrived in August 1980 when the total enrolment was around 400 students, a little more than half of what it is today. There was still a Bluff Hospital nearby, the Bund Hotel, St Joseph's boarding facility; Sakuragicho was mostly disused railway yards surrounded by much more water (now all reclaimed land).

I've taught Middle and High School Mathematics, from Pre-Algebra to IB Mathematics. I've also taught Theory of Knowledge (TOK) from a mathematical 'angel.' I say 'angel' since, as some of my former students will remember, a picture painted by an elementary student always hung in my classroom. The student was asked to paint what mathematics meant to her and she artistically illustrated a beautiful 'angel'.

AQ: What other positions have you held at YIS?

DS: I've been Head of the Mathematics Department, GCE Coordinator, IBDP Coordinator, IGCSE Coordinator, Dean of Students, Summer School Director 1990-93, and since 2000 High School Principal. I've also enjoyed coaching sports, including basketball (I coached YIS's first basketball team), tennis and soccer, as well as leading student trips and community service projects, including three trips to Negros Island, Philippines under Habitat for Humanity.

AQ: How about your activities outside YIS?

DS: I enjoy water skiing, soccer, tennis and squash. And seeing the world, of course. In the past I've spent time in Tanzania and Kenya, at a base camp for the climbers attempting Mt. Kilimanjaro and living with Masai tribes. I've also been a Duke of Edinburgh Award leader and a

introducing it for the first time at the YIS Food Fair in the spring 1981 – a huge hit;

- Handing over the keys to the family for whom the Class of 1998 had built a house in Dumagate, Philippines as part of a Habitat for Humanity project;
- Coordinating the YIS 75th Anniversary commemoration in 1999, a week of celebrations culminating with a dinner at the Pan Pacific Hotel attended by several ambassadors, former YIS headmasters and two of the oldest YIS alumni, both of whom started at YIS in the 1920s;
- Meeting Matsubara-san, an atom bomb survivor, in Hiroshima in the late 80s and staying in the Hiroshima Youth Hostel for the first time;
- Taking the whole of Grade 8 camping in Tanzawa accompanied by my wife;
- Preparing for the visit to YIS by former US President Bill Clinton, only to have it cancelled at the last minute;
- Graduations.

“...at the heart of YIS is still that ‘family’ feeling, something I hope we shall never lose.”

AQ: What does YIS mean to you?

DS: Quite simply: something very special in my life.

AQ: Is there anything else you'd like to share with alumni?

DS: It is wonderful to see so many alumni returning to YIS to visit and take a walk down memory lane. The Main Building will still be recognizable to some, but other areas are either completely new or refurbished. Despite the enormous change in many areas not only in structure but also in curriculum programs and assessment, at the heart of YIS is still that 'family' feeling, something I hope we shall never lose. Best wishes to you all and please keep in touch.

Eddie Levisman- College Counselor/Academic Advisor

AQ: You have an interesting international background. Where are you from and what other countries have you lived in prior to coming to Yokohama?

EL: I was born in Argentina. My parents immigrated to Israel when I was 7 years old and I grew up on a kibbutz, having had the opportunity to experience one of the most amazing and unique social experiments of our time. I completed my formal education in Israel and I was then required to serve in the military. Upon completion of my service I traveled to the United States and began my college education, majoring in psychology. I went on to graduate school and obtained a masters degree in psychology, specializing in family therapy. After completing my university studies I returned to Israel, by then married and with one child, Sean, and began working as a school psychologist and therapist.

Two years later a unique opportunity presented itself and we moved to Colombia, where my wife Julie is from, to take a position as counselor in the American School of Bogota. I continued also working in a private practice, offering therapy to families, and taught several graduate courses in local universities. My second child, Adrian, was born soon after our arrival in Colombia. After six years in Bogota I accepted a position in an international school in Buenos Aires and the family, again, relocated. We stayed there for ten years, until Sean graduated and went on to college in Boston. My wife, Adrian and I then moved to Lima, Peru, where I took the position of College Counselor in the American school. Three years later it was time for Adrian to go to college, so we relocated to Miami, where he was attending university, to assume the position of Director of College Counseling in a private school in North Miami Beach.



AQ: How did you end up in Yokohama?

EL: Four years later an opportunity to work in Japan presented itself and I arrived in Yokohama and YIS in August of 2008. This is the first time anywhere in Asia for me and so I took the job with great excitement. The idea of working in Japan was always there, but had never materialized. I am very happy to finally have the opportunity to experience life in Asia and in Japan in particular.

AQ: What are you doing at YIS and how have you enjoyed your first year at the school?

EL: My position is College Counselor/Academic Advisor. This is a position very much like the ones I have held in other schools and which I enjoy very much. There's nothing for me like having constant contact with young people, being part of their world and being able to help them as they negotiate the transitions in their lives. Working at YIS has been very rewarding so far. The international environment is stimulating and enriching. The teachers are friendly and welcoming and the kids are just fantastic, each and all with incredible life stories.

This year, as in every typical year, students from YIS will attend universities around the world, in countries such as: US, UK, Canada, Japan, Australia, The Netherlands, Brazil, Denmark, India, Sweden. A significant number of the graduates will also opt to take a gap year before going on to college. Each of them will pursue a passion or an interest and, no doubt, will become a better person for it.

AQ: What do you like doing when not at school?

EL: In my free time I am exploring Tokyo and I would like, of course, to be able to see other parts of Japan and Asia as well. I enjoy reading; I am a true film buff, a news junkie and a football fan who follows the leagues in Argentina, England, Spain and Italy. I spend too much time on Facebook and Skype, but mostly to keep in touch with Sean (Miami) and Adrian (Buenos Aires) as well as friends around the world. I also enjoy eating out and experiment with new types of food. I like writing and I do so regularly.

Reunion News

YIS Reunion in Amsterdam: September 11-13, 2009
Reunion for classes 1980-1986

For those who attended YIS around 1980 – give or take a few years – we are getting together for a weekend in Amsterdam. Program upon request.

Contact:

Harriet Dil: harriet@dilbonazzi.nl

Elena Dil: elenahuckin@yahoo.com

Recent Campus Visitors



Peter Hansen '60 (second from right) and family with Bob Pomeroy and Simon Taylor



Ronald Watts '46 and Barbara (Watts) Sibbald '48 with Dennis Stanworth



Class of 2007 Alums Kimberly Soong, Shenal Cooray and Lily Ito



Thomas Richards '07



Salman Rafique '08



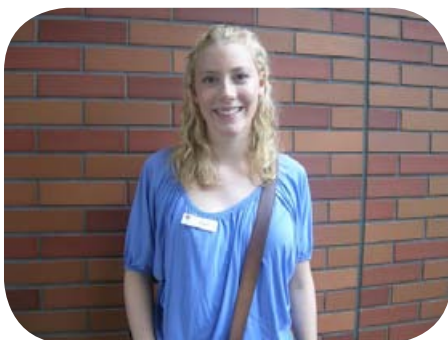
Class of 2007 Alums Yu Nishikawa, Hiroki Takase and Monica Ostergren



Mark Goodhew '10



Former Headmaster Neil Richards



Stephanie Hooppell '09



Gina Gerber '07

that the Principal of Queen's had been at YIS as a student. However, this is the first time since 1940 that Barbara and Hugh have been back to Japan. I myself was also back in Japan for six months in 1994-5 as a Visiting Professor at Kwansei Gakuin University but did not get a chance to visit YIS during that period.

AQ: *YIS was obviously a much different school all those years ago. What are some of your memories of the school from that time?*

RW: Yes, YIS was very different then. For one thing, the school was much smaller with only about 75 pupils of whom a significant portion were boarders. Since our home was in Niigata, Barbara and I were both boarders. During the whole period of my time at YIS, 1936-8 and 1939-40 (we were back in Canada on furlough in 1938-9), the dominant personality in the school who made a strong impression on both of us was Roger Pott, the Headmaster. The school must have had an impact on my academic development since I remember winning my very first academic prize there. It was for an essay I wrote on the Battle of Jutland for which I was awarded a British book entitled "Our Empire Story". I still have that book in my possession! Barbara and I also remember a number of our fellow students although we long ago lost all touch with them.

AQ: *Is there anything still recognizable or familiar about Yokohama and the Bluff area?*

RW: I remember Yokohama and the Bluff area, but that was before the war and it is now all so changed. I remember exploring the docks with fellow students and being fascinated by the many ships from all over the world, but that area is also very changed now. I remember also drenching rain during a typhoon, and being taught the precautions to take during earthquakes. But I also remember being able to see Mount Fuji in the distance on a clear day.

AQ: *Could you tell us a little about your lives and careers since leaving Japan?*

RW: After returning to Canada, I attended Trinity College School and then Trinity College at the University of Toronto before going on to Oriel College, Oxford as a Canadian Rhodes Scholar. I obtained several degrees at Oxford culminating in a D.Phil. at Nuffield College there. Returning to Canada I took an appointment in 1955 on the academic staff at Queen's University, where I have been ever since. Over the years there until my formal retirement in 1994, at various points I served as full Professor of Political Studies, Dean of Arts and Science, Principal and Vice-Chancellor and Director of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations. As a political scientist I have focused on the comparative study of federalism and have written, edited or co-edited some 29 books and over one hundred articles and book chapters. I have also served on several Canadian government commissions and have been a consultant not only to Canadian governments on various occasions but also to governments in Uganda, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, South Africa, Yugoslavia,



Ronald L. Watts, Barbara (Watts) Sibbald and family tour the school

Switzerland, Kenya, India, Pakistan, and Ethiopia. This work has been recognized by five honorary degrees (including one from Kwansei Gakuin University in Japan) and by my appointment as a Companion of the Order of Canada, our highest civilian award. The roots of all this go back to YIS!

Barbara also graduated from Trinity College at the University of Toronto. She and her husband John Sibbald have run the Sibbald family resort, the Briars Lodge at Jackson's Point on Lake Simcoe north of Toronto, and have made it one of Canada's leading resort hotels.

AQ: *What do you think of YIS today?*

RW: YIS seems much larger and a bustling hive of activity, but I was surprised to find that it no longer has boarders. Families like ours who live as far away as Niigata would not be able to send children there. I like the international focus of the school however. My wife, Donna, who was with us visiting the school, and who for 35 years was a high school teacher in Canada was particularly interested to see the range of programs. It was also interesting to learn of the plans the Headmaster has for developing the school.

AQ: *These days there are hundreds of international schools all around the world but when you were at YIS an international education was quite a rarity. How did your YIS experience affect your outlook?*

RW: Yes, in the 1930s international schools were a rarity. For my parents the choice of the school was less for that orientation than simply wishing that Barbara and I would be educated in English since in Niigata at that time we were the only non-Japanese family. That meant that, prior to going to YIS we had attended Japanese kindergartens and schools with our mother teaching us English at home. English was therefore very much our second language. Nevertheless, the international character of YIS must have had an impact since so much of my subsequent career has been devoted to studying comparative federalism throughout the world and to advising governments in many different countries including those in the third world.

Class Notes

● 1960s

1969

Leonard Couzijn (1956 -1960)

It was about 50 years ago that I attended YIS from kindergarten through 3rd grade. Mr De Haan was the principal of the school. At that time, there were only two single story buildings. The large building in the back was a vacant lot and then a playground. I left Yokohama in 1966 and went to Hawaii, where I still live. I am a real estate broker. I would like to hear from classmates. Aloha.

● 1970s

1973

Leslie Helm (1959 -1973)

I was recently appointed editor of Seattle Business Magazine, a monthly publication that covers business and economics in Washington State.

Jim Benedict (1970-1973)

I recently traveled to the country of Moldova in Eastern Europe, a former Soviet state, as part of a medical clinic team from our local church in Alabama. It made me appreciate America and what it offers everyone who lives here.

1975

Kathryn (Nelson) Scourby (1964 -1969)

I am the Business Continuity Manager (responsible for Emergency Preparedness/Business Continuity for 2500 lawyers/staff) for Hunton & Williams, LLP, an international law firm. I live and work in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA, but travel all over the US, Europe and Asia to all our offices. I have two children, Erin and Conor and one grandchild (Ryleigh - who is 1). I spend my spare time

This section offers a chance to update fellow alums on what you've been doing since school days at YIS, share recent news, noteworthy accomplishments, or send a message to classmates. Entries are listed by class year, that is, the year of graduation from High School, whether at YIS or elsewhere.

To submit a Class Notes entry for the next issue of the YIS Alumni Quarterly, please go to <http://alumni.yis.ac.jp/?page=CN>. Don't forget to include your name, class year (i.e., the year you graduated from high school at YIS or elsewhere), and the years that you attended YIS. Please feel free to send a recent photo too.

training for and competing in triathlons, playing with my grandchild and traveling. I have reconnected with several old classmates through Facebook. Great to hear from old YIS friends!!

Felice Miller (1968-1972)

Aloha from Maui! I have been a realtor here for the past 7 years. Three years ago, I joined a home-based business sharing unique, science-based anti aging products. A family member had tremendous results and I felt it was a moral obligation to share this information. I translated a letter into Japanese by a doctor who found out about this product and I was one of the first to take this to Japan. I now have thousands of people having wonderful results. I travel to Japan every few months supporting my team as well as traveling to several cities with the bio-chemist and doctors so they can educate people there. Last October, our company, Waiora opened an office in Akasaka so now there is customer support. I believe that we have products that are saving lives and I feel incredibly blessed that I have a business that is helping so many. Best Regards!

1979

Karen Duffield (1977-1979)

I am now working from home with my tea business. Sadly had to close the doors of the teahouse due to the

economic times. Working on an active tea website for selling teas. Looking forward to upcoming conferences coming to Vancouver and enjoying the moment. Hi to all of the YIS classmates who remember me.

● 1990s

1997

Joel Frye (1993-1995)

Kate and I celebrated our one-year anniversary April 26th. June 1st marked my first six months at a new workplace. I'm now working for Vanderbilt University Medical Center as a Network Support Specialist. To fulfill a certification requirement for my position, I studied for and took the exam to become a Cisco Certified Network Associate.

● 2000s

2001

Andre Furlan (2000-2001)

Hey people! Where is everybody? Haven't received e-mails from our e-groups... jya ne.

2004

Shaw Kamio (1995-2004)

Working at Nissan's public relations office. Hopefully, I will donate a car for the next raffle prize.

Ashley Park (1989-2004)

I participated in a "Cheese Rolling race" in May, which took place about 3hrs from where I live (Manchester, UK). We waited around 3hrs on the top of the hill in a line of about 100 people but unfortunately couldn't participate in the 4 official races with prizes. We still battled against a bunch of guys in an unofficial race though. None of us got injured although there were about 5 people getting carried off by mountain rescue & ambulance that day!

Taro Hasegawa (1989-2004)

I practice guitar, watch movies, read books, play tennis, just like the good old YIS days. Last Saturday, I caught a 8kg Suzuki (Lateolabrax japonicus) when I went fishing with my brother at Yokosuka. Life is Good!

2007

Lily Ito (1996 - 2007)

I graduated in 2007 with 54 other students and then flew to Houston, Texas, where I'm studying Spanish and



Jim Benedict '73 (Left) in Moldova on medical mission

Psychology. It's currently summer 2009 and I am visiting the precious YIS Bio teacher Mr. Hooker. He's not the only one we're visiting (I'm here with Kimberly Soong and Shenal Cooray). Even though it's only been 2 years since I graduated, school has changed a lot; new teachers, new buildings, new water fountains, etc. I guess I witnessed lots of change while I was here too – 11 years of YIS. Change is good. Growing up is good. I'll be back to visit.

Kimberly Soong (2004 – 2007)

I am currently sitting in the YIS Biology Lab writing about my visit to this very campus where I spent three of my teenage years. It is quite sad that most of the teachers who taught me are no longer here, but I have definitely missed those who are still here. I am currently attending Purdue University, majoring in technical engineering with an intended minor in Japanese. I just completed my second year – just two more to go! Still hanging in there. To all future alumni, make sure you come back to visit. Your teachers love hearing about our "exploits."

Shenal Cooray (1996 – 2007)

I am writing this as I harass my best friend Mr. Steven Hooker, here in YIS, and it feels refreshing to be back and meeting teachers. So much seems to have changed here yet I feel so at home. No wonder this school is so



popular! College (I go to UBC Canada) is really really fun. But an occasional visit to YIS completes this whole year. I hope the best for students, teachers and alumni. I love you YIS!

L to R: Kosuke Nomura '05, Hiroshi Uemura '05 and Ashley Park '04 at the "Cheese Rolling race" in Manchester, England



In Memorium

Eleanor Swanson

YIS Teacher from 1965 to 1983

Eleanor was born on February 1, 1926 in North Dakota. After finishing High School she attended Wheaton College, Minot State Teacher's College and Sioux Falls College graduating with a teaching degree. She had decided as a small child that she wanted to someday be a missionary to Japan so after several years of teaching she attended Columbia Bible College for a year to prepare for missionary service in Japan with the Far Eastern Gospel Crusade.

She arrived in Yokohama, in 1952 as a single missionary and met her husband, Clarence Swanson, who was in the same mission in Yokohama. They were married in 1955 and built a house in Yokohama where they started a church and raised their 3 daughters, Ronaele (Swanson) Hamilton who graduated

from YIS in 1973 as part of the first graduating class, Rebecca (Swanson) Benedict who graduated from YIS in 1975 and Rachel (Swanson) Eby who graduated from YIS in 1977.

Eleanor taught as an elementary teacher at YIS for about 20 years beginning in 1965. Many YIS students passed through her classes during those years. After retiring, she and Clarence sold their house in Yokohama and moved to Lake Nojiri in Nagano-ken. She passed away on June 4, 2009. She is survived by her husband Clarence, 3 daughters, 18 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held in Nagano on June 11th and in Yokohama on June 16th.

The Quarterly Quiz

Look familiar? The first three people to correctly identify the three people below and the year in which the photos were taken will win a YIS Dragons baseball cap. Send responses to alumni@yis.ac.jp with the words "Quarterly Quiz" in the subject line.

1



2



3



The correct answer from the previous Quarterly Quiz was "YIS Sports Day in 1976." The winners were Conny (Olivier) Jamieson '79, Michael Ackers '82 and Sophie Capito '85. Congratulations!