

GEIBEL

The Geibel Family Newsletter • Fall 2014

WHERE TRADITION MEETS TOMORROW



PHOTOGRAPHER GERALD SOLAN OF GERARD PHOTOGRAPHY
ARRANGED THIS PHOTO OF STUDENTS AS ONE OF MANY
50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS FOR GEIBEL'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY.

GEIBEL ... A School of Excellence • A School of Faith • A School of Tradition •
A School of Service • A School of Joy • A School of Character • A School of Spirit
GEIBELCATHOLIC.ORG

Geibel Celebrates 50 Years

J a n u a r y 6 , 2 0 1 4



In the above photo are Geibel students who are Second Generation Gators. In the photo at the right are members of the Class of 1964 - Carmie (Carbonara) Porter, Paul Whipkey and Joyce (Mundorf) Cavanaugh - who were on hand for the 50th Anniversary Mass. In the bottom photo, Fr. Bob Lubic '84 reveals the contents of the Time Capsule Locker that was sealed thirty years ago and opened on January 6, 2014.



**The Class of 1971 gathered last summer
to celebrate 60 years of life!**



**Celebration Weekend!
Fr. Tony Ditto '71 celebrated Mass for the
deceased members of the class of '71.**



Message from Kathleen Waller

**PLANS UNDERWAY FOR
THE
CLASS OF '65 REUNION**

Dear Members of the Class of 1965,
2015 will mark the 50th year since our class
graduated. There are a few of us planning
to have a reunion. We are trying to contact
all members of our class so that we can get
your input. Please send your email address
to waller.kathleen@gmail.com so that we
can update the list that we have. If you have
contact with any of our fellow graduates,
please pass this message on. Hope to hear
from you soon.

Kathleen Waller



In Memoriam

We offer our heartfelt
prayers and sympathy to the
families of these deceased alumni:

Ann Brady Riley
Immaculate Conception HS
Class of 1944
October 23, 2013

Elizabeth Hvizdos Wisilosky
Immaculate Conception HS
Class of 1947
July 22, 2014

James W. Sperry
Immaculate Conception HS
Class of 1949
Oct. 12, 2013

James R. Haggerty Sr.
Immaculate Conception HS
Class of 1953
May 7, 2014

Paul G. Grimm
Class of 1966
May 3, 2014

Susan Akers Shoenberger
Class of 1969
February 8, 2014

Ralph Osler Jr.
Class of 1970
March 27, 2014

Paul J. Cunningham
Class of 1971
March 17, 2014

AnnaMarie Kiliany Rosky
Class of 1979
July 7, 2014

Timothy Small
Class of 1984
March 20, 2014

A Night for Nancy

**Benefit Event for
Nancy (Balena
'81) Heinbaugh**



A Night for Nancy was held on June 7th at Geibel Catholic to benefit Nancy (Balena) Heinbaugh who sustained severe physical and neurological injuries in a vehicle accident earlier this year.

More than 500 people attended the event, which featured a spaghetti dinner prepared by the Christian Mothers of the Connellsville Catholic Churches. Musical entertainment was provided by Sammy Brooks, '03 with The Sammy Brooks Band.

Following the dinner, a video titled The Nancy Heinbaugh Story was shown. It was produced by Paul Ruggieri '83, an Emmy award-winning video-photojournalist, and it can be viewed on YouTube.com.

Proceeds from A Night for Nancy benefited the Nancy Heinbaugh Fund at the Scottdale Bank and Trust in Connellsville to help offset the mounting costs associated with her care. A GoFundMe.com page has also been established in her name.

Submitted by Mary (Ruggieri '79) Dreliszak, one of the event organizers.

Wedding Bells

*Congratulations
and many blessings
to these newly-married couples:*

James Nickman '95
and Heather Brunner,
July 26, 2014

Anthony Brooks '01
and Melissa Hawker,
May 3, 2014

Alexis Stock '01
and Patrick O'Connor,
July 19, 2014

Eva Rose '02
and Francis Ciuffo,
August 30, 2014

Kira Henry '03
and Ronald Cobert,
July 21, 2013

Nicole Rypczyk '03
and Jeremy Scott Bryson,
June 29, 2013

Julie Wisilosky '03
and John McGough,
September 21, 2013

Megan McKlveen '05
and Justin Revak,
September 28, 2013

Erica Speeney '06
and Jeffrey Ardabell '05
April 26, 2014

Anne Wachtel '06
and Brandon Shea,
May 3, 2014

Mary Beth Saluga '09
and John Paget III,
June 21, 2013.

Commencement Highlights 2014



OUR NEWEST ALUMNI: THE CLASS OF 2014

The 2014 Geibel Catholic High School graduates are: Julia Marie Alvarez, Christopher Edward Barnhart, Tucker Dane Bocan, Joshua Charles Buckel, Zachary T. Chester, Jonah Samuel Delmar, Angela Renee Ehrhardt, Rachel Anne Elias, Haley Devin Hutchinson, Chayse L. King, Kyle Michael Kozura, Brandon David Kushnar, Young Rim Lee, Joanna Grace Medofer, Patrick Daniel Nahhas, Gabrielle Marie Omatick, Muhammad Ibraheem Shaikh, Neil Gerard Solan, Patrick George Teich, Xiaoxuan Kiko Zhong and John Paul Zimcosky.



2014 Geibel Alumni Award Recipients

Angela Ehrhardt (left) and Gabrielle Omatick (right) were recipients of the 2014 Geibel Alumni Award. This award, presented annually since 1981, is given to the senior student who demonstrates “total dedication to the development of personality, of talents, of aptitudes, of social skills, of service to the school, of example to the student body, and of a distinct and genuine Catholic attitude and spirit.” Gabrielle and Angela received the award at the senior awards assembly held in May. Angela will be continuing her education at Seton Hill University and Gabi will be attending Penn State University.

Jerri A. Ryan, Esq. '90 Honored at 2014 Commencement as Distinguished Alumni Commencement Speaker



Class of 1990 alumna Jerri A. Ryan was welcomed back to Geibel in May as the Distinguished Alumni commencement speaker. Jerri, a graduate of Notre Dame Law School in 1997, is an attorney with the Clark Hill firm in downtown Pittsburgh. She earned her bachelor's degree in English and Computer Applications from Notre Dame in 1994 and graduated Phi Beta Kappa Summa Cum Laude. Jerri began her legal career with Clark Hill Thorp Reed in 1997 and was with the firm through 1998. After several years of practicing law in San Diego, she rejoined the firm in 2005. She was selected for inclusion in Pennsylvania Super Lawyers-Rising Stars Edition in 2010, 2011, and 2012. Jerri has represented clients in a wide variety of litigation and appellate matters in federal and state courts in Pennsylvania and California, including matters involving contractual and commercial disputes, partnership and corporate officer and director disputes, mineral and gas right disputes, liquor license law, breaches of non-competition agreements and injunctive relief. She practices in the area of corporate and commercial litigation and is admitted to practice before the courts of Pennsylvania, California and the United States District Courts for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the Southern District of California and the Central District of California, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Jerri is a member of the firm's E-Discovery and Records Management Committee and has advised clients and given numerous presentations on issues surrounding electronically-stored information, as well as written and spoken on the subject. Jerri is a member of the Executive Committee of Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.

Here are excerpts from her commencement address:

I am sure you all have heard the saying that everything you ever needed to know, you learned in kindergarten. I submit to you, that everything you ever needed to know, you learned at Geibel, now it is up to you to refine those tools.

**“... everything you
ever needed to know,
you learned
at Geibel”**

And what are those tools? Simple things like, be nice and treat people how you want to be treated. This will apply to everyone you meet in life, from supervisors to co-workers and perhaps, most especially, freshman year roommates.

Another tool everyone should have in their arsenal is a strong work ethic. Hard work and perseverance beats the competition every day. In school, in your work life, in your family life, there simply is no substitution for hard work. And the good news is that the flip side of working hard is that you earn the right to relax in grand style. All of you are entering new territory, whether it is your first full-time job or your first class at college. You may initially feel overwhelmed or even intimidated, but if you put in the time and effort, I promise you, you will achieve all of your goals.

The next tool I believe you will need in life is the ability to plan for the future, but also be able to live in the moment. When we are lucky, sometimes some things just fall into our lap. We likely have all had the experience of just happening to be in the right place at the right time, but we remember those occurrences because they are not the norm. Most of the time in life, you have to set a goal and work towards it. That takes some thoughtfulness, planning and implementation of the plan. Since I left Geibel, I have lived in South Bend, Indiana; London; San Diego; and Okinawa, Japan. When I was in Okinawa, I was a civilian living on a Marine Corps base and the Marines have a saying that is posted everywhere, “When you fail to plan, you plan to fail...” There is a lot of wisdom in that saying and I want you to keep that saying in mind.

Now, as for “being able to live in the moment,” I think that is easier said than done, especially in this age of social media, texting and twitter. I think it is so tempting to ignore what is going on around us in the real world and opt instead to “connect” with our digital world. I urge you to be sensitive to the urge to be a reporter of events rather than an active participant, and to jump in the fray when you have the opportunity.

Now let's talk about family and friends, which are probably among the persons that we take most for granted in our lives, but who mean the most to us and are our biggest supporters.... When you take the next step in your life, I urge you to continue to cultivate your existing relationships while you make new friends in the next stage of your life. No one will ever share with you the experiences that you share with your family and current classmates.

Finally, and most importantly, I want to speak with you about your faith. It can be a guiding force in your life, but you have to let it be that. Your parents, your parish, and your teachers have given you the foundation to lead a productive, spiritually-healthy life, but you have to continue to build on that foundation.

I urge you to embrace all that you are today and continue to grow into a better person every day. The sky is the limit for each and every one of you Geibel Gators. And from one Geibel Gator to another, “God bless you!”

2014 Grads and Their Alumni Parents



Pictured left to right in the front row are Patrick Teich, Gabrielle Omatick, Jonah Delmar;
Pictured left to right, back row are Mary Ellen (Koza '72) Teich, Dr. Bruce Teich '72,
David Omatick '81, Lori (Staines '80) Omatick and Rebecca (Brooks '78) Delmar.



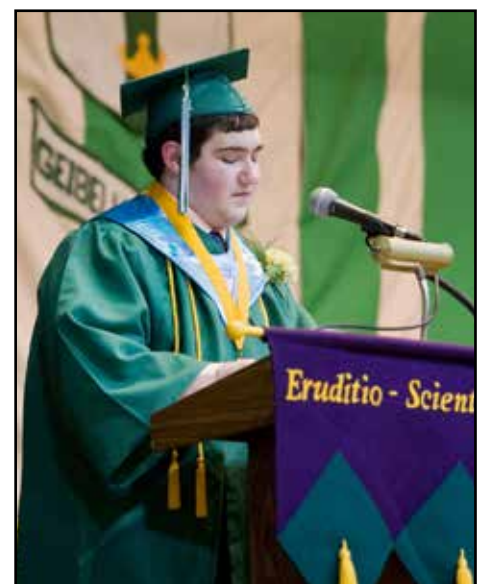
Gabrielle Omatick
Valedictorian

“The Geibel Gator curtains are about to close, and we’re taking our final bows ... just waiting for a new dance to begin.”



Patrick Nahhas
Valedictorian

“While high school may be over ... the hard work is far from over.”



Jonah Delmar
Salutatorian

“It is time for us to embark on the greatest journey we will ever take.”



People Who Inspire:

Dan Petrowski '71 on living and serving abroad

Posted by Mary (Ruggieri '79) Dreliszak on her blog [MaryMotivates \(www.marymotivates.com\)](http://www.marymotivates.com)

In the 1960's, Dan Petrowski was a young boy growing up in a small Pennsylvania town. From the pages of his grandmother's National Geographic magazines, he could see a world filled with people and cultures far removed from the life he knew.

More than anything, he wanted to go to the places he saw.

That yearning continued through high school and college as he read every book he could find on world cultures. When he was a civil engineering major at Penn State University, Dan became friends with someone who had served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Brazil. He became interested in doing the same and applied to use his engineering skills in a teaching capacity overseas.

Dan graduated in June, 1975 and had just accepted a job when he learned his application to become to volunteer with the Peace Corps was approved. The decision to take the job or to take the plane to Fiji to teach for two years wasn't a difficult one.

"I left for Fiji one month after graduation. It was the first time I flew on a plane. After a three week orientation in San Francisco, our group of volunteers continued on to Fiji and stayed in the capital city of Suva," he said.

Learning a New Culture

The twenty-one year old arrived more than 6,000 miles from home to discover a culture far different than he had known. The kind he had only read about.

"I studied the language and was sent to a remote village where I was the only White person and only Fijian was spoken. The purpose was for me to be immersed in the culture; to walk and talk with the people and to learn their customs," he commented. It was a lesson in what to do and what not to do.

"For example, when visiting with Fijians in a bures (villa), if you're sitting on the floor, you are to sit with your legs crossed. And if you stand up, you are to walk behind them and to do so in a stooped position to show humility. And you would also say, 'tulo', which means excuse me," he said.

Dan was assigned to be a teacher at the Derrick Technical Institute.

"I worked with the UNESCO (United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) representatives to localize the curriculum. I wrote the syllabi for classes to teach what engineering materials to use; how to build a hurricane-proof house; and how to be an instructor.

There were several schools within the college and I taught math, calculus, surveying, and hydraulics in the School of Building and Construction," he said.

The two and a half year commitment turned into to three and a half years. And during that time, communication home to his parents was no small challenge.

Dan remarked, "These were the days without email and internet. I could only call home once a year and I wrote a letter to my mom every week. I would go to the Post Office and write my letter on an Aerogram where the paper and the envelope are one and the same."

One day, Dan discovered more of Fiji than he bargained for when his friend Larry Hogan, an expatriate working for UNESCO, caught up with him.

He explained, "Larry was Scottish and he climbed the European and Southern New Zealand Alps. He had heart issues and had to exercise. He snookered me in to taking a walk and we cut through a rainforest. We landed on the backside of Joske's Thumb, a steep and narrow volcanic outcrop that resembles a thumb. The last 400 vertical feet consisted of bare limestone.

When we returned home, he asked me if I wanted to climb it the next week and I reluctantly agreed.

The limestone rocks were slippery from the rain. We climbed in wool socks for more traction. Larry had pitons, a metal eye-hook that he drove into the rocks. It was used, along with ropes, to break a fall and to aid in the climb."

The two made their way up the backside on a ledge that was so narrow, that Dan said he had to "shimmy" on his own backside. "I froze in place a couple of times, but Larry talked with me, guided me and pulled me through. He wasn't impatient. He was calm."

It was a climb that that not only challenged Dan, but proved his own ability to take risks, to trust others, and to remain calm in stressful situations.

When his assignment was finished, Dan returned to the United States richer for the experience and with a family in tow. He had married and the couple had a son in Fiji whom they named Derek in honor of the school where he taught.

Fiji may have been his first experience of living overseas, but it wouldn't be his last.

Later, his desire to see the world also took Dan and his wife and four children, ages 2-10, to Egypt where they lived for three and a half years. He held a project management position there with USAID (US Agency for International Development) and worked on infrastructure projects that were part of the Camp David Peace Accord.

Dan remarked, "Every American should live overseas. You get a world view and you appreciate all that you have in the US. When I was in Fiji, I had no TV. I listened to radio like my grandparents did. I couldn't drive and I lived on \$200 a month. In Egypt, we couldn't find the simple foods we enjoyed like peanut butter or breakfast cereal.

The kids adapted while learning a new culture in Egypt. They also had the opportunity to live in Hawaii for three years when I worked there. They matured quickly and benefited from both of the experiences." he said.

Still Making a Difference

Today, Dan is remarried to his high school sweetheart, Debbie Vecchio '72 and they reside in Virginia. He's a project manager for an international engineering firm. And while his job doesn't require travel overseas, it's still a commute as he works all week in Akron, Ohio.

Currently, he's managing a portion of a \$1.3 billion Combined Sewer Overflow construction project. The project is administered by the Environmental Protection Agency and is vital to eliminating domestic wastewater runoff into the Cuyahoga River and other waterways caused by combined storm water runoff.

As he continues to use his managerial and engineering skills to improve infrastructure in communities, Dan takes along with him a global perspective. It's a view that has enabled him to make a difference in all of the places he has called home.



Joanne and Mary Dreliszak share a moment at Joanne's book signing event at Cafe Carnegie in Connellsville.

People who Inspire:

Joanne (Orlando '71) Lizza on impacting others from her wheelchair

Posted by Mary (Ruggieri '79) Dreliszak on her blog "MaryMotivates" (www.marymotivates.com)

For the past 28 years, Joanne Orlando Lizza has lived her life from a wheelchair, perhaps living more fully than she could without it. In her own words, she shares her story...

"To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world."

I am not the winner of the lottery. I am not the recipient of a large inheritance. I am not the CEO of my own company. I am not on the payroll of a large conglomerate. I am a volunteer, and my success cannot be measured in dollars and cents. I receive my millions through the hearts of others.

My journey began in 1986 when I was diagnosed with an inoperable tumor of the brain stem. At this time my prognosis was unknown, my future bleak. I was a teacher, and could not accept the fact that my body was deteriorating each day. I pursued any small glimpse of hope that was put before me. Finally, after reading an article in Readers Digest, I found a doctor willing to operate. "Your life will get worse before it gets better," my doctor said, but I was ready for the risk. I felt unusually at peace with the decision. Friends and family were supportive, and in a very short period of time, I was on my way to New York for the surgery. The life that I knew was about to end, and my journey continued.

Life was hard for the next year. For months I could not walk, talk, eat, or breathe on my own. Tubes, drips, and machines kept me alive. I never lost faith, and was determined to continue my life somehow. Members of my family noted that I was "inappropriately happy," but what other choice did I have?

After a year of rehabilitation for my body, a neighbor thought it time for some rehabilitation for my soul. She encouraged me to become a volunteer tutor at a local elementary school, and I was able to volunteer a couple of hours each week. The teacher in me was reborn, and a new chapter of my life began. My position has evolved into being a volunteer Tutor Coordinator at Centerville Elementary School. In this position, I train and supervise community members interested in becoming tutors. I currently have tutors servicing approximately one hundred at-risk students each week.

I have not regained my ability to walk independently—I use a wheelchair to get around. This disability has become an asset and an inspiration at school. The children do not see me as disabled, but as a teacher with special needs. They have a new appreciation for anyone with a disability, and often come to me with questions and concerns. Children who find themselves in a wheelchair due to a broken limb or physical problem have challenged me to races down the hall, or long "walks" around the school track. Challenges are more easily met when shared with others.

I am inspired by this quote of inspirational author, Gary Zukav: "When the deepest part of you becomes engaged in what you are doing, when what you do serves both yourself and others, when you do not tire from within, but seek the sweet satisfaction of your life and your work, you are doing what you are meant to be doing."

I am certain that I am doing exactly what was planned for me to do, and I became even more certain of it when I began working with Stephanie, a first grader who would not talk. I worked with Stephanie daily, and used the "silent" time in my life to communicate with her as no one else could. We developed a code that only she and I would use. My brother and I used this same code during his daily phone calls to me while in the hospital. With one tap for "yes" and two for "no," I discovered her likes and dislikes, her family background, and certain frustrations in her life. After lots of patience and endless hours, Stephanie crept up behind me one morning and I heard a beautiful voice say, "Good morning, Ms. Lizza." The silence was broken, and a wave of excitement traveled through my body. I was flooded with emotion, and once again, found myself speechless. My heart, however, was shouting for joy!

I am often asked why I volunteer. The answer is simple, "why not?"

Mary's Note: When Joanne became a grandmother, she was inspired to write a book about the things that she can do from her wheelchair that others can't do. *Nonna Mia's Magic Chair* was recently published and is now available on Amazon. For more information or to connect with Joanne, email her at tutormom1@gmail.com



Joanne sharing her book with students at Conn-Area Catholic.

Class Notes



Mark Mongell

1978 Mark Mongell, (at left) is the PGA director of golf at the Cherokee Town & Country Club in Atlanta, GA. He was elected in March as the 23rd president in the history of the Georgia Section, PGA of America. *(Story on next page.)*

1983 Mark J. Hudak, O.F.M. has been teaching religion for 14 years at Roger Bacon High School in Cincinnati, OH.

The Franciscans of St. John the Baptist Province founded Roger Bacon HS in 1928. Friar Mark joined the SJB Province in 2000, when the entire Vice Province of the Holy Savior, originally founded by friars from Slovakia, merged with SJB Province due to dwindling numbers of new vocations. It was quite an emotional challenge to move from familiar life in Pittsburgh, PA, to a new life with new brothers and a new teaching career. With God's constant merciful blessings, plenty of sleepless nights and hard work, and many new wonderful brothers, sisters, and friends, joy returned to life and has remained. Praise the Lord!

1989 Sean Bufano is a management and technology advisory consultant for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and is currently staffed in the St. Petersburg, FL area. His focus is enterprise data center migrations. He has worked for Comcast, Amtrak, and Home Shopping Network, among others, assisting them with data center and other IT strategies. Sean is also a member of the PA Army National Guard. He deployed to the Al Anbar Province in Iraq between Ramadi and Fallujah as an Infantry Platoon Leader in 2005 - 2006. Sean is currently assigned to the 1/110th Infantry in Mt. Pleasant, PA.

1992 Justin Frantz, PhD, assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, was recently featured in an article in the university's Spring/Summer 2014 *Perspectives*. Justin helps lead a team of 500 individuals to carry out experiments designed to unravel the mysteries of the "strong force" – one of the four fundamental interactions in nature which holds together all the protons and neutrons of the universe. "Our experiments typically run for six months. We collect data on billions of events, i.e. the collision of relativistic heavy ions such as gold atoms stripped of their electrons." Justin and his team use a facility called RHIC, a relativistic heavy ion collider that is more than two miles long and located at Brookhaven lab in New York. The goal is to break up the ions' protons and neutrons into their component quarks and gluons. With the help of the PHENIX detector at RHIC, they can "look" inside the quark-gluon plasma, a substance which was likely present for a few microseconds just after the Big Bang explosion. Justin is collecting data on about 10 billion collisions because the quark-gluon plasma that is created in the lab exists for less than a billionth of a trillionth of a second. Justin's contributions in the form of management, calculations, and computer programming are designed to collect, store, and analyze this data. Justin has become well acquainted with his team of 500 physi-

cists and he appreciates the large-scale teamwork that goes into these experiments. He hopes that his work will keep improving our understanding of nature's most fundamental interactions. Justin is married to **Jennifer Bobincheck '91** and they have two children, Ava, age 5, and Anna, age 3.



Justin Frantz '92 helps lead team of physicists.

1999 Jason Broadwater is the assistant dean of Duquesne University's McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts. He leads the college's student recruitment and marketing efforts, as well as its print and web communication and social media practices.

2007 Natalie Hozak was named Assistant Director of Athletic Administration at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. A stand-out volleyball player at Geibel, Natalie was also a four-year starter, all-conference School in Uniontown, PA. outside hitter and team captain at St. Vincent College in Latrobe. In her new position, Natalie will provide support and administrative oversight to essential department areas and will assist with daily operations of the athletic department. She will be responsible for contract and records management, coordination and oversight of special events and comparative benchmarking analysis, and policy management, among other duties. Natalie previously worked as Sports Administration Championships Assistant for the Eastern College Athletic Conference in Centerville, Mass.

2008 Alex Tufano graduated from Saint Vincent College in May 2013 with a bachelor of science degree in finance and immediately went to work full time at Tufano Trucking, the quickly-growing business he started during his junior year. He now has a fleet of five tri-axle dump trucks that are busy daily providing service to stone quarries, highway construction firms and drillers in the Marcellus shale industry. Alex is in the process of purchasing two additional trucks that will be tractor trailers to start diversifying the business. Eventually he wants to purchase equipment to do demolition and excavation projects and hopes to get into the development of housing plans and apartments.

2009 Mick Betler was recently hired as a Mathematics instructor and football coach at Serra Catholic High School in McKeesport. Mick received his Master of Arts degree in Teaching/Secondary Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh and did his undergraduate work at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania.

More Class Notes

2011 Brandon Seehoffer, an international studies major at American University in Washington, D.C., spent the spring semester studying in Brussels, Belgium. His studies focused on the security, government, and economics of the European Union and NATO. During his stay, Brandon had the opportunity to visit The Hague, tour the European Parliament, observe a hearing at the European Union Court of Justice, and travel to Italy and the Balkan Peninsula. He also worked as an intern for Covington & Burling, an international law firm, focusing on EU Privacy and Intellectual Property Law.



Brandon Seehoffer on the Island of Lemurs

In June, Brandon left for Antananarivo (Tana) Madagascar where he interned all summer at the U.S. Embassy in the Political/Economic section. He experienced the day to day work of a Foreign Service Office

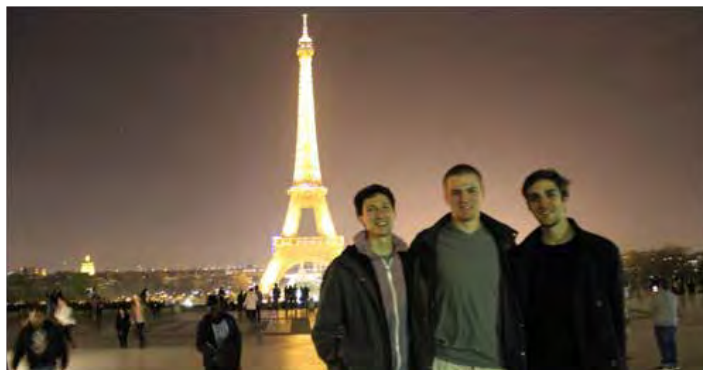
in that he wrote reports, attended meetings and events, and did research for those he worked for - specifically on human rights, economic, and political issues. One of his assignments included the first tourism report about Madagascar produced by the Embassy in two years.

This was Brandon's second summer in Madagascar. Two

years ago, Brandon joined the Madagascar Field School in which he studied lemurs, botany, and traditional healing practices while living in Ranomafana, Madagascar at the Centre Val Bio reserve.

2012 Dan Dix is a student at Point Park University where he is pursuing a degree in Entertainment Management with a minor in Photography. During the second semester of this past academic year, Dan studied abroad in Rome and took classes in Management, Marketing, Italian, and Economics at the American University of Rome. During his spring break, Dan spent time in Paris, Prague, Berlin, and Amsterdam. One of the highlights of Dan's trip was skiing in the Austrian Alps. He also had the opportunity to visit Venice, Florence, London, and some small towns outside of Rome.

Dan (far right) in Paris at the iconic Eiffel Tower.



Ken Misiak Inducted Into Fayette County Sports Hall of Fame



Congratulations to long-time coach, teacher, and athletic director Ken Misiak who was inducted into the Fayette County Sports Hall of Fame during a banquet held June 21 at Penn State Fayette. Mr. Misiak, considered one of the most successful high school basketball coaches in Pennsylvania, coached for 49 years at Immaculate Conception High School and Geibel Catholic and has over 700 wins and a 1978 state championship to his name. In *The Daily Courier*, Mr. Misiak is quoted as saying, "One of the things that was always in the back of my mind was to take a small school and get it some recognition. I think we did that."

Thank you, Mr. Misiak, for all you did – this is a well-deserved honor!

Mark Mongell '78 Elected President of Georgia Section PGA of America

Mark Mongell, PGA director of golf at the Cherokee Town & Country Club was elected the 23rd president in the history of the Georgia Section, PGA of America at the Georgia PGA Annual Meeting held in March.

Mongell was elected to PGA membership in 1985 and is a quarter century member of the PGA of America. Following graduation from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, he served apprenticeships at South Hills Country Club and the Pittsburgh Field Club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania along with The Olympic Club in San Francisco, California. Mark obtained his first head golf professional position at Wilmington Country Club in Delaware and led that operation for ten years.

In August of 1998, he joined the staff at Cherokee Town and Country Club as the director of golf. His wife Lisa and their three children, P.J., Gia, and Mark Jr. reside in John's Creek, GA. Mongell was recognized in 1997, 2005 and 2009 as the PGA Merchandiser of the Year at the section level and in 2010 he was awarded the National Merchandiser of the Year honor.

Mark received the Horton Smith award in 2001 for his leadership and contributions to the Section's education program. In 2013, he was recognized by his peers as the recipient of the Bill Strasbaugh award for his contributions in mentoring younger PGA professionals. Mark has served on both the Philadelphia PGA and Georgia PGA boards of directors, and had been on the Georgia PGA executive board for the last four years and served as the president of the Georgia PGA Foundation for the last two years.

Geibel Spring Musical 2014
The Broadway Blockbuster

42nd Street

Directed by Mr. Nick Bell





Stay in Touch.

Please use this form to update us about yourself so we may add your information to the upcoming issue of the Geibel Alumni Newsletter, or just email your updates, births, weddings and news to newsletter@GeibelCatholic.org.

Name (include maiden name) _____

Class Year _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Is your Spouse a Geibel Alum? yes no Class Year _____

News for the Class Notes section of the next newsletter (attach separate sheet if needed).

I would like to receive the Geibel Alumni Newsletter electronically. Please send me an e-mail reminder when the latest issue is available on the Geibel Catholic website.

Print and mail to:
 Development Office
 Geibel Catholic High School
 611 East Crawford Avenue
 Connellsville, PA 15425

The Bridge Builder

An old man, going a lone highway,
came at the evening, cold and gray,
to a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
through which was flowing a sullen tide,
the old man crossed in the twilight dim –
that sullen stream had no fears for him;
but he turned, when he reached
the other side,
and built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength in building here,
Your journey will end with the ending day;
you never again must pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
why build you the bridge at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head.
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today
a youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been naught to me
to that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Will Allen Dromgoole



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