

# Class Notes

## 1967

**Madeline (McCarthy) David** reports that each year since the SGS 50th Anniversary in 2005 (except 2014), “the Class of ‘67 (sometimes joined by members of the Classes of ‘66 and ‘68) have gotten together once a year to celebrate our friendship. We are looking forward to another get together in 2015.”

## 1981

**Stephanie Nelson** is an Educational Assistant at Wilkes Elementary in Portland, OR. “I am now helping to teach Title 1 reading classes and I love it!”

## 1993

**Beverly Jones** works in New York City as Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. “I have been with the ASPCA for about 5 1/2 years. As Chief Legal Officer, I oversee a team of six attorneys whose job is to protect and defend the organization, manage risk and provide strategic guidance to new and emerging programs.”

## 2002

**Sarah Hulse** signed copies of her debut novel, “Black River” at Auntie’s Bookstore in Spokane in January. She also was profiled in the Spokesman-Review and featured at EWU’s Get Lit festival in April.

## 2005

**Jonathan Steenblik** and wife Julee welcomed baby Ruth, “our little candy bar,” into their home in April 2014 in between Julee’s BYU-Idaho final exams and Jonathan’s at the University of Utah. He graduated in Music (with a minor in Applied Mathematics) in May 2014, and Julee completed her degree in Marriage and Family Studies in December. Jonathan plans to pursue graduate study leading to a teaching career in math.

**Tammany Ogden ‘10** with her dad **Rob ‘75** after graduating from **WVU** with a degree in communications. This spring she worked as an intern with a large event planner.



**Steenblik Family from left: Julee and Ruth, Jonathan, Mary, Russell and Allison Wagstaff, Paul, and Erin.**

## 2006

**Luca Valle**, at Dartmouth College’s Geisel School of Medicine, is one of 55 medical students nationwide chosen for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Medical Research Scholars Program. Luca will begin the program in early July after completing a family medicine rotation in the small fishing village of Ninilchik in rural Alaska.

## 2007

**Erin Steenblik** has a part-time job as an editor of the BYU Independent Study Program curriculum while completing an English degree and a minor in Editing.

## 2009/2010

**Allison Steenblik** ‘10 finished her last few classes in Choral Education at BYU just prior to her marriage in July 2014 to **Russell Wagstaff** ‘09. They have spent the past year in Durham, North Carolina where Russell had his senior year at Duke University and Allison became “Mrs. Wagstaff” to the choral classes of Riverside High School. Completing her semester of student teaching in December, she had a long-term substitute teaching job this spring.

## 2011

**Joe LeDuc** has been named as one of three 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. “Building the Dream” award winners by Wake Forest University. The award is traditionally presented to a professor, administrator and/or student from Wake Forest who exemplify King’s qualities and promote diversity within the community.



**Joe LeDuc ‘11**

## 2012

**Emily Worrall** raised \$1,800 for the American Cancer Society at the University of Washington’s Relay For Life on May 30. This was her “fourth year participating in this event, third year being a team captain, and second year serving on the UW Relay For Life Executive Committee that organizes the event.” Overall 1,445 participants raised over \$116,000 for cancer research and services. “I relay for three of my grandparents as well as two of my coworkers who have battled cancer,” says Emily. “Various parents of SGS alumni and current students have donated on my behalf, and I would like to thank them for their generosity and support.”

## 2013

**Liz Alexianu**, who is studying at the University of York in England, says “I’ve joined a team of like-minded students to raise money and awareness for Worldwide Cancer Research, one of the biggest foundational research funds in the world. We have already begun training for the Amsterdam Marathon in October as part of our fundraising effort. I have also been accepted onto a small self-funded research team that will compete in an international genetics competition ~ think First Robotics, but for undergraduate students who choose their own project and present it at MIT in the autumn. The competition is called iGEM (international Genetically Engineered Mechanisms) and the project we’ve chosen is to design a bacterium that can purify phosphates and heavy metals out of the local waste water.”



**Liz Alexianu ‘13**

# Class Reunion 1965

This year marked the 50th anniversary for the members of Saint George’s Class of 1965. Four of them returned to campus on June 12 for a Davenport House lunch, a tour of the school, and a chance to march in the 2015 Graduation parade holding their banner.

**Left to right: Albert (Bart) Poston, Linda Marshall, John (Andy) Hoye, and Cathy Mathers Stephens.**



## In Memoriam

**Frederick “Rick” Utter III ‘76** died Feb. 28, 2015 from lung cancer. In his teen years, Rick created and sold metal art work, and then in 1980 worked and



**Rick Utter ‘76**

backpacked around Europe and Israel. He attended the University of Arizona, spent a winter working and skiing in Vail, then attended college in Leysin, Switzerland, UW, Whitworth and then attained a second B.A. from EWU at age 49. Rick began working at his father’s business, Utter Motor Company, at age 11 as a lot boy, working his way up the ranks to President of the Company until it closed in 1995. He sold insurance for many years in order to be available for his daughters and worked as an auditor for NCUA until his passing.

### Where Are You Now?

If you haven’t updated your contact information recently, please go to [www.sgs.org/alumni/update](http://www.sgs.org/alumni/update) to let us know where you are now. Saint George’s is planning alumni gatherings in cities across the country as part of the school’s 60th Anniversary Celebration in 2015-16, and we want to make sure you get invited!

## Fred Gilbert: A Founding Father Passes

Fred W. Gilbert, the first President of the Board of Trustees of Saint George’s School, passed away on March 22, 2015 at the age of 100. He had lived in Carmel, California since 1980.

It was 1954 when 16 parents met in the South Hill home of Fred and Claire Gilbert to talk about creating a new school. “We felt there was a need for better secondary education in Spokane, particularly in preparation for college,” he said in a 1987 interview. “I often wonder how we were foolish enough to undertake it! We made a lot of mistakes, but it turned out all right.”

From the beginning, the Trustees were closely involved in raising funds for the school. “At one board meeting, we found that we didn’t have enough money to pay the teachers’ salaries due that week. So we passed a hat around among the trustees. Each was to put in a slip of paper stating what he was willing to pledge. After it had gone around once, the treasurer said, ‘It’s not enough, pass it around again.’ That was done and the salaries were paid.”

In his role as Board President for 1955-56, Gilbert presided over the tumultuous first year of the school’s life. “Rev. Canon Douglas Smith was the first Headmaster; he was an experienced private school master.” He persuaded

Ellen Bungay to donate the downpayment for Flowerfield ~ Louis Davenport’s former estate where the school is still located.

“As soon as the school opened [in the fall of 1955], it became clear that he intended to run the school entirely on his own without any direction from the Board. The Board had decided the school would not have boarding students, but Smith took in several boarding students and announced that more would be accepted. This brought on a confrontation between Smith and the Board. The Board stood firm and Smith resigned.”

“Since then the Board has held ultimate power over the development and operation of the school, while delegating a great deal of responsibility to the Headmaster. A school that is supported by the community must be run by representatives of the community.”

Three of Fred and Claire’s children graduated from Saint George’s ~ Linda (Gilbert) Katzenbach ‘60, Molly (Gilbert) Bayley ‘63, and Ann (Gilbert) Stier ‘66. “Two went to Wellesley and one to Mt. Holyoke,” said Gilbert. “They have all told me in later years that their experiences at SGS meant more to them than their college years. That pleased and surprised me very much.”



**Fred Gilbert in 1955**