

EDGEMONT SCHOOL FOUNDATION ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

ENSURING AND ENHANCING THE VALUE OF AN EDGEMONT EDUCATION

—Volume 1— Published by the Edgemont School Foundation —Summer 2013—

EDGEMONT TRADITIONS LIVE ON!

Many of the unique characteristics and events that make Edgemont's schools so special are long-standing traditions that have been around for decades. At Greenville School, for example, one of the first things that people notice is the twin red doors. Newer than Seely Place, which opened in 1922 and functioned as the high school, Greenville School originally had eight rooms and 150 K-3 students for its inaugural academic year of 1950-51. The doors that have welcomed students, parents and faculty at the main entrance have been bright red as long as anyone can remember and at least since 1981, according to retiring Superintendent **Nancy Taddiken**. The doors were recently replaced, but of course no one even considered changing the color.

Another Edgemont tradition – for the last 57 years – is E-Day, which took place this year on May 11. E-Day gives kids from Kindergarten

through 6th grade the chance to show their athletic ability in various competitions such as relay races, high jump, soccer kick, softball throw and basketball free throws. This annual event has been around so long that some students who participated in the first-ever E-Day are 70 years old today!

Alison Press (formerly Alison Mohr), who graduated from EHS in 1993 and now lives on Evandale Road with her husband and two children, recalls vividly “senior road painting” as an Edgemont student. “I remember that I couldn’t wait to get out my spray paint because it signaled the unofficial start of my senior year,” said Alison. She added, “when I see the new graffiti each year I am brought back 20 years, and am so happy that the kids are still doing it today.”

The school newspaper, “The Edgemont Campus,” which was founded in the 1950’s, is not only an Edgemont tradition, but has also become somewhat of a tradition for

the **Klein** family. EHS senior **Eilis Klein** is the current editor-in-chief, following in the footsteps of her father **Dan**, himself an Edgemont graduate. Eilis, who is destined for Connecticut College in the fall, quipped that she only got the top spot at the paper because she is a “legacy.” Eilis explained that the current staff recently pulled several fascinating articles from the archives and re-printed them, including a particularly interesting article from the 1970’s about the Ku Klux Klan.

For his part, Dan Klein believes that one of Edgemont’s best traditions is the outdoor graduation ceremony. It “showcases the beautiful campus and is a great way to celebrate the graduating class,” said Dan, who is looking forward to participating in this year’s graduation yet again, but this time as a proud parent.

Although no one is sure when it all began, several current and former Edgemont students mentioned the game “Snap” as one of Edgemont’s
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CONTRIBUTORS

Writers: Steven Heineman P’11, P’14, P’18; Ellen Litt P’16, P’18; Eve Brooks P’14, P’16, P’21; Henie Simon P’12, P’16; Sheldon Glassman P’08, P’14; Andrew Falk P’15, P’18, P’23; Ray Pappalardi; Michaeline Curtis
Designer: Vanina Grovit

FOUNDATION HELPS BRIDGE SCHOOL BUDGET CHALLENGES *by Michaeline Curtis*

Public school districts have never depended more on the generosity of private individuals or had a greater need for outside sources of funding. Shrinking state aid, increasing healthcare and pension costs, and unfunded state mandates are coming together in a perfect storm which stymies the district's ability to maintain current levels of educational programming. Like every district in the country, Edgemont struggles to balance the deployment of diminishing resources with the need for educational innovation.

Unlike every district, Edgemont has been able to turn to its parents and alumni organizations for relief. For years, programs like 6th grade

camp or Senior Forum or the Circus have represented the heart and soul of an Edgemont education; they are the lovely, sweet moments our children remember. Because they were considered "non-essential," they found themselves on the chopping block when the District faced hard financial times. If it hadn't been for the generous support of the PTA/PTSA and Edgemont School Foundation, these would have been eliminated.

In previous years, the School Foundation has funded many upgrades to our physical plant as well as our technological systems. This year, the Foundation has provided funds for purchasing iPads which students and teachers are

enthusiastically incorporating into the curriculum.

Edgemont teachers remain among the most innovative and committed educators in NY state. Our district needs to give them the tools and resources, technologically and otherwise, in order for them to remain educational leaders. If Edgemont is to continue in its position as one of the top public school districts in the state, it needs the creativity and generosity of its community and alumni supporters to help mitigate the effects of its diminishing resources.

Michaeline Curtis is on the Edgemont Board of Education.

FAREWELL TO FACULTY!

With much gratitude, Edgemont School District said goodbye to a remarkable and most memorable group of retirees at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. The announcement of Superintendent *Nancy Taddiken*'s retirement from our district after 30 years of service was surely bittersweet. Nancy has worked tirelessly to support our schools at every level, on every front, and has helped to create and enrich the environment and the culture that Edgemont has become. Nancy



Nancy Taddiken, early years

spent considerable time on the Foundation's board as an Ex-Officio Board Member and was a great source of input on District needs. Although we will miss our daily interactions with her, we wish her the very best as she moves on to new and great adventures.

Our other retirees this year, all from Greenville School, have also left their mark in the Edgemont Public Schools. *Rick Cantatore*; music teacher, *Denise Hale*; Reading Teacher, *Ellen Greenstein*; Speech and Language teacher, *Pat McCallion*; 4th grade teacher and *Deborah Schroer*; 3rd Grade teacher. Each of these teachers has impacted decades of students who have entered the "Red Doors" of Greenville School — in the classroom, the music room, The Ancestor Luncheon, Colonial Fair, concerts, plays and endless activities that occur daily at Greenville. To all of these amazing teachers, enjoy what comes next, as your hard work and dedication will surely be missed.



Nancy Taddiken, 2013

IPAD GRANT KEEPS EDMONT ON TECHNOLOGY'S CUTTING EDGE

This year, **Edgemont School Foundation** awarded a grant of \$89,000 to fund a district-wide iPad initiative, aiming to integrate mobile computing devices into all three of the Edgemont schools. The grant provided a total of 105 iPads to the district, offering students and teachers the benefit of portable tablet computing and the multitude of available applications designed to support learning.



Foundation Co-Chair **Steven Heineman** said, "the use of iPads in all three Edgemont schools will keep Edgemont on the cutting edge of both technology and education. iPads have many advantages over traditional PCs, and with the large number of apps that have been designed specifically for educational purposes, iPads will provide a new and exciting dimension to the classroom. We are pleased to have been able to provide the necessary funding to make this initiative a reality."



In total, the district deployed four iPad carts, one in each elementary

school and two at Edgemont Jr/Sr High School. Each cart contains 25 iPads. Each school was also given 5 extra iPads to be used either as loaners or as replacements should the units in the cart need repair or maintenance. The grant also includes the infrastructure to manage and support all 105 iPads in the district: a Macbook for local management and a virtual server. Four Apple TV units enable iPad users to share their screen through ceiling mounted projectors in the classrooms around the building. The elementary carts are housed in each of the school's library. The two carts at EHS are located in the E-Building and in the D-Building.



This grant also represents a continued commitment by **Edgemont School Foundation** to fund technology initiatives within the district. In 2010-2011, the Foundation provided funds totaling \$353,000 to transform the entire school district into a wireless campus. **Michael Curtain**, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Technology for the district, thanked the **Foundation** for its support. "We are thrilled to receive this generous grant from **Edgemont School Foundation**. It will help us to continue to integrate cutting-edge technology with the curriculum in the classroom. The iPad is an excellent solution for schools for a number of reasons, including ease of use, portability, reliability and the ability to deploy apps quickly and inexpensively. The iPads will be a

great addition to Edgemont teachers' toolkits for creating and supporting rich, dynamic, and engaging learning experiences for their students. We appreciate the Foundation's ongoing support for technology and learning in Edgemont schools."



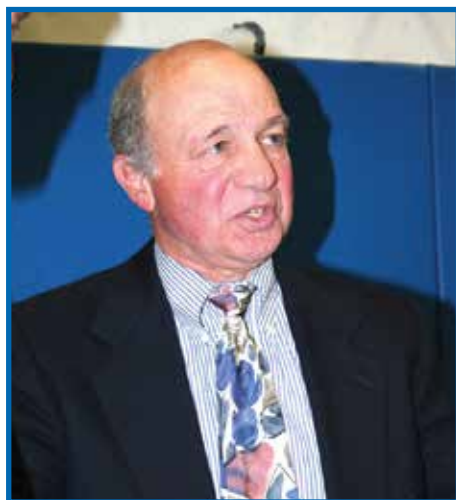
CLASS REUNIONS

We would be glad to publish details about upcoming class reunions, assist with your planning or help the class in arranging a Class gift. Our website will be a centralized location to list all reunion websites. Also, send us photos of your reunions for future Alumni Newsletters. Email details to alumni@edgemontschoolfoundation.org.

CLASS NOTES

Alumni, we would love to hear from you! Please send information on yourself (employment, promotions, marriages, life cycle events, etc) to be published in a Class Notes Section of future Alumni Newsletters. Send to: alumni@edgemontschoolfoundation.org.

EDGEMONT HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM NAMED FOR JIM SAN MARCO '63



Jim San Marco

The other day I called the athletic hotline at Edgemont High School to check on the location of the varsity lacrosse game for that day. How exciting that some of the sports events of the day were happening in what is now called the San Marco Gym! Just a few months ago, the “old” gym was named for Coach Jim San Marco, the legendary coach and former athlete.

San Marco was honored by the Edgemont School Foundation, which raised more than \$345,000 for Edgemont schools by holding the event in San Marco’s honor. Funds raised from the Jim San Marco event will go toward renovating and modernizing the team room and the gymnasium at Edgemont High School, which, among other things, needs a new floor.

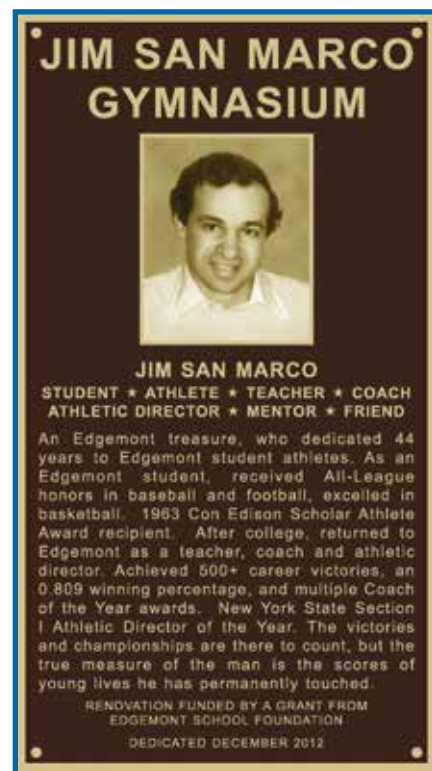
San Marco dedicated more than 44 years to the Edgemont Community. He was a 1963 graduate of Edgemont High School, where he was a standout athlete in football, basketball and baseball. He also captained several varsity teams and won numerous athletic titles and awards, including the 1963 Con Edison Scholar Athlete Award. After graduating from Ithaca College, San Marco returned to

Edgemont as a physical education teacher, eventually becoming the District’s Athletic Director. Many alumni will remember what an impact he had on the students here San Marco coached many Edgemont varsity teams over the years, with particular longevity in soccer, tennis, baseball and basketball. With more than 500 career victories and a winning percentage over .800, his teams achieved remarkable success. Under San Marco’s leadership, Edgemont soccer teams alone racked up a 211-67-24 record. The girls’ tennis teams went 67-16-1 with three trips to the State Championships. Over 19 seasons, the boys’ tennis teams finished 188-14, won league and/or section titles in each year, and had a stretch of 95 consecutive wins.

Over the years San Marco was known for his enthusiasm and the encouragement he gave to each person he touched. He became famous for his sayings known as



John Griffin, '81



“San-Marco-isms.” A few included: “If you take your eyes off your goals, all you see are obstacles.” “In every game, we win or we learn.” “If you fail to prepare, you are preparing to fail.” Hundreds of current and former athletes, school officials, family and friends crowded the gym for the event. A dedication plaque includes this inscription: “The victories and championships are there to count, but the true measure of the man is the scores of young lives he has permanently touched.”



JIM SAN MARCO GYMNASIUM DONORS LIST

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ALUMNI WALKWAY

Buy A Brick, Leave a Permanent Legacy at Edgemont!

In 1998 the Edgemont School Foundation sponsored the creation of an Alumni Walkway which has been built with the generous support of friends and families of Edgemont. The proceeds from the sale of personalized bricks help fund the Foundation's grants to the schools. It consists of clay bricks which can be personalized to honor graduating seniors, EHS alumni, faculty, administrators, and Board of Education members. Add your brick today. Get order forms at www.edgemontschoolfoundation.org.

2013 Alumni Walkway Donations were made in Honor of:

Max Freedman '13	Isaac Kirschner '13
Emily Salshutz '10	Karen Salshutz '13
Danny Borkenstein '13	Heather Ann Guercio '13
Kyle Longo '13	Ty Cooperman '13
Jackson Stone '13	Andre Sguerra '10
Carolina Sguerra '13	Kahlil D'Souza '16
Nancy Taddiken	Jacqueline Herrero '13
Jay Kothari '13	Stephanie Schneider '13
Jason Worobow '13	Jared Weiss '13
Andrew Vasquez '13	Jonathan Conway '13
Ross Kantor '13	

VOLUNTEERS

Stay Connected to Edgemont!

We are looking for alumni to volunteer with our Alumni Affairs initiatives. This can include assisting with Class Reunions, Communications, Newsletters, Homecoming, and/or Events. You do not have to live locally in 10583 to help out. To get involved, email alumni@edgemontschoolfoundation.org.

IN MEMORIAM

J. Allen Chao '79

Allen Chao was a longtime field officer of several United Nations missions in Asia and Africa. He took the UN's peacekeeping, bridge and nation-building activities into areas and nations affected by civil strife, including Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Western Sahara, Somalia, Ivory Coast and most recently, Liberia. Chao was married to Kit Yu Amanda Li. He is the son of Samuel Chao and Dr. Adelaida F. Santos-Chao. He graduated from New York University.

Spencer Dvorkin

Spencer Dvorkin was a member of the Edgemont Board of Education for fifteen years. When he resided in Edgemont, he served on the Zoning Board in the Town of Greenburgh, was a volunteer firefighter in the Greenville Fire Department, and was president of local civic associations. He worked tirelessly to ensure quality education for all students at the same time that he fought to maintain costs for taxpayers. Mr. Dvorkin was married to Nancy Taddiken.

Alden A. "Beno" Larson

Alden A. Larson was Principal of Edgemont Junior/Senior High School from 1963-66 and Superintendent of Schools from 1966 to 1982. The Seely Place all-purpose room is named in his honor. Dr. Larson, who was affectionately known as "Beno" by friends and family, died on Dec. 22. He was 86. Dr. Larson received his B.A. from Harvard College, his M.A. from Clark University and his Ph.D. from Columbia University.

Art Mann

Art Mann received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Rutgers University where he played football

and coached after serving in the Army Air Corps in WW II. He coached at Adelphi University and Caldwell High School, Caldwell, NJ. He retired in 1981 after a career of coaching, teaching and as Director of Athletics at Edgemont High School. Art passed away on December 10, 2012.

Gerald Pisano, Jr. '81

Gerald is the loving husband of Nicole (née Picciano) and the proud father of Julia. He is the dear son of Joanne and the late Gerald. He died on April 3, 2013.

Allan Pepper

Allan Pepper served on the Edgemont Board of Education for many years. At age 69, lost a long battle with cancer in February 2013. He is survived by his sister Judi, his brother Bill, his children Leslie, Joshua, Adam, and Robert, and his grandchildren Madeline, Jack, Ethan, Shannon, and Chloe.

Dru Frackman Pyne '72

Dru Frackman Pyne was the daughter of Noel Stern Frackman, '46, and Richard B. Frackman, Past President of the Greenville Community Council, Past Chairman of the School Board Nominating Committee and 1970 Silver Box Award Recipient. She was the wife of David F. Pyne, and the mother of Dylan F. Pyne, 2008. She was active in coordinating the Edgemont School Foundation Alumni Walkway and was Secretary of Gilda's Club Westchester. She graduated from Sarah Lawrence College.

"In Memoriam" gifts in memory of an alumnus, parent, or friend of the Edgemont School District are very meaningful. These remembrances contribute to the Foundation's goals and serve to perpetuate the memory of the individual. The following are remembered:

Allen Chao '79

Spencer Dvorkin

Felicia Laubich

Alden A. "Beno" Larson

Dru Frackman Pyne '72

Victims of Sandy Hook
Elementary School

"In Honor of" donations made to the Foundation:

Nancy Taddiken

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a donation by check form,
visit our website at [www.
EdgemontSchoolFoundation.
org](http://www.EdgemontSchoolFoundation.org).

EDGEMONT SPORTS BRIEF

This fall was an incredible sports season by any measure. If you use wins and losses to determine success, Edgemont teams' records were 45-42. Roughly 51% of team contests ended with an Edgemont victory. Five of eight Varsity teams qualified for the first round of Sectional play and four members of the athletic community qualified and competed at the state level; tennis doubles pairs placed 2nd in the State and 2 swimmers competed in Ithaca. Thirteen student-athletes received All-League Honorable Mention, 33 student-athletes received All-League recognition, 4 student-athletes were selected to receive All-Section Honorable Mention, 4 student-athletes were selected as All-Section and 2 student-athletes were further recognized as All-State.

In the winter season, Edgemont student-athletes displayed their athletic skill on the courts, mats, and apparatus as well as in the lanes. Respectably, they accumulated several honors. The winter athletes at Edgemont received 20 All-League selections, 19 All-League Honorable Mention recipients, 1 All-Conference honoree, 8 All-Section selections, and 1 All-State Selection. In addition, we earned two league team championships and an individual State championship in Wrestling.

Spring results were not compiled at the time of publishing. Edgemont is proud of their athletes' successes including the way in which they play the game with their hearts and their heads. Most of all, we are proud of the extraordinary resiliency and leadership that was displayed throughout the season.

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

SAT REASONING TEST	Critical Reading	Math	Writing
700-800	37	49	45
600-699	41	47	45
500-599	35	26	24
400-499	15	7	13
300-399	3	2	3
200-299	0	0	1
MEAN	620	653	636
NATIONAL MEAN	496	514	488

SAT SUBJECT TESTS	Mean	# Tested
Biology E	647	28
Biology M	683	52
Chemistry	714	29
English Literature	672	17
Japanese Listening	766	7
Latin	697	9
Mathematics Level 1	683	53
Mathematics Level 2	717	38
U.S. History	740	32

SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Test means reflect scores from the entire Class of 2012, including ESL students.

ACT - 2012	
# Tested	67
MEAN	27.2
NATIONAL MEAN	23.3

AP - MAY 2012	5	4	3	% ≥ 3
Biology	37	20	13	81
Calculus AB	26	15	4	96
Chemistry	7	5	2	88
Computer Science A	8	23	8	85
English Literature and Composition	20	10	8	100
European History	19	19	8	100
French Language	0	1	1	100
Latin: Vergil	5	3	4	86
Macroeconomics	7	9	12	82
Music Theory	0	1	0	25
Physics B	9	13	12	85
Psychology	9	14	10	72
Spanish Language	8	6	0	82
Statistics	7	16	9	94
Studio Art-2D	3	4	4	100
U.S. History	22	9	1	100
U.S. Gov't. & Politics	13	7	7	87

In May 2012, 273 Edgemont students sat for 548 AP exams.

SPECIAL HONORS - CLASS OF 2012

National Merit		AP Recognition	
Winners	1	Scholars	12
Finalists	6	with Honors	21
Semi-Finalists	6	with Distinction	26
Commended	11	National Scholars	23
High Scorers	17		

POST - SECONDARY PLANS - CLASS OF 2012

	Number	%
4-year college	137	95.8
2-year college	3	2.1
Other	3	2.1
TOTAL	143	100

EDGEMONT TRADITIONS LIVE ON!

(continue from page 1)

special events. The "snap gods" assign each student a target (another student), and the object of the game is to "snap" your target without being seen. If you are seen snapping someone or are snapped yourself, you are eliminated from the game. The last two students to survive receive free tickets to the senior prom.

Current Edgemont resident and Board of Education member **David Chao**, who graduated from EHS in 1980, highlighted the annual end-of-year Awards Assembly that has been a mainstay at Edgemont High School at least since the 1970's. "It is important to recognize and celebrate Academic excellence and extracurricular

achievement," said **David**. He also noted the School Spirit Award is now known as the Larson Award after former School Superintendent **Alden Larson**, who passed away in December 2012.

Finally, there appears to be another strong and growing Edgemont tradition that this article demonstrates—many Edgemont graduates return to the community as parents so that their own children can enjoy the same benefits and experiences that only an Edgemont education can provide. That is certainly a tradition worth continuing!

Edgemont School Foundation
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50TH REUNION CLASS

Edgemont High School Class of 1963 celebrated its 50th Reunion with an action packed

weekend of events, June 20-23, 2013. "The class was the first to attend Greenville, the first to go from

seventh to twelfth grade at Edgemont Junior/Senior High School, and over a third of the class were together from kindergarten on which made for a real cohesive group," said Susan Haerle. The celebrations kicked off with a Golf Outing, a relaxing lunch at Doreen O'Connor's farm, and an evening cocktail reception on Friday. Saturday included a cookout and tour of Edgemont High School, followed by a driving tour of "the houses we called home." Saturday was capped off by a dinner dance at Scarsdale Golf Club. If this was not enough, the group finished off the weekend with a Brunch at Jim San Marco's home on Sunday. Over 50 graduates (plus spouses/guests) from a class of only 93 attended. Nobody can say the Class of 1963 does not know how to party!!

