



The Alumni Spirit

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PEN RYN
FAMILY - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

OCTOBER 2007
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

**Save These
Dates!**

All Class Alumni Reunion

Friday, November 23rd
7 – 10 p.m.

At The Pen Ryn School
Come play basketball,
visit with teachers and
friends!

Starry Night Annual Auction

Sunday, April 13th
3 – 7 p.m.

At the beautiful Belle
Voir Manor

2nd Annual Golf Outing

Monday, May 5th
At the Torresdale
Frankford Country Club

Liz Morton ~ Head of School

Dear Pen Ryn Alumni and Alumni Parents,

I am thrilled to be back at Pen Ryn this year! I am especially happy that we have 3 former Pen Ryn students' children here with us this year. Colleen Johnson (Fields) has her daughter, Julianna, in our Kindergarten (Class of 2016). Sara Thompson, who was here as a Kindergarten student, she has her son, Ryan, in our Pre-K (Class of 2017). And last but not least, Chip Morelli has his daughter, Jordan, in our Kindergarten (Class of 2016). In addition, having a teacher on staff that went here for 6 years is such a tremendous thing for our faculty and school. Everyone brings with them many fond memories, Blue and Gold Day, Faculty/Student games, the Halloween Sleepover and even some of the teachers who are still with us.

Recently I heard from Ms. Tina Crone. I know many of you remember her Science classes; here is an update on her today. Shortly after she left Pen Ryn, she started graduate school at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. She received a Ph.D. in molecular biology in the early '90s, got married, worked in cancer research for about ten years, then had two daughters, who are now 13 and 10 years of age. She is currently writing science fiction.

I am committed to doing more for our alumni and getting all of you reacquainted with Pen Ryn (whether you were here from K to 8th or if you were only here one year.) We are hoping to get out 3 or 4 Alumni newsletters each year in addition to holding some reunions. This is our first in about 4 years and it should be fun. All of you who played basketball for the girls' or boys' teams or on Friday nights with your parents, come back to the gym and challenge some of your friends and Mr. Morton. He is ready to get on the court and have a blast.

So please consider coming on November 23rd. I'm hoping to see many of you there!

Liz Morton

Head of School

If you have any questions, comments or ideas for the future please don't hesitate to contact me. My email is Lmorton@penryn.org or my cell phone is 215-680-1352. I would love to hear from you.



Mrs. Morton greets kids with her Mickey Mouse hands!

Pen Ryn Now on Ebay

The Pen Ryn Garage is open for business!

Contribute your unwanted new/gently used items to be sold on eBay – all proceeds benefit the children of Pen Ryn.

Contact Keith Smedley at (215)378-3374 or at jtchal@comcast.net to donate.

See what's for sale at Seller ID - **penryngarage** on ebay.

We raised over \$1,000 for The Pen Ryn School in our first year.

Wendy Browder ~ Director of Development

“You are the treasures of The Pen Ryn School ...”

Wendy Browder

Dear Pen Ryn Alumni,
It is with great enthusiasm that I greet you as members of the extended Pen Ryn family! My name is Wendy Browder and I’m the Director of Development. As a relative newcomer to the community – I’ve only been here a year and a half – I want you to know that the Pen Ryn School is alive and well! I have personally observed the Pen Ryn “Family” in action – parents, teachers, grandparents, alumni, and Board members working together, committed to giving the

children in the school the best possible educational experience.

You are the treasures of The Pen Ryn School – the embodiment of a 60 year heritage of children who experienced academic excellence, a nurturing environment and opportunities to explore and develop your individual potential. We want to reconnect with you, to know you again and encourage you to be part of the Pen Ryn School community today. Check out the dates for you to put on your calendar, and I hope

that you can participate in at least one of these events/activities.

Families come together at Thanksgiving. I hope the Pen Ryn family can come together on the day after Thanksgiving! I look forward to meeting you and if you can’t come to the Reunion, I hope you will at least complete the update form, found on the website, and stay connected .

With warm regards,
Wendy Browder

Hugh Morton ~ Upper Grade Coordinator

“We want to keep everyone’s Pen Ryn Spirit alive...”

Hugh Morton

WE GOT SPIRIT, YES WE DO... WE GOT SPIRIT, HOW ‘BOUT YOU?

Does that bring back a memory from your Pen Ryn days? If you remember watching the annual Student vs. Faculty basketball game, I think you remember hearing the cheerleaders shouting it!

We want to keep everyone’s Pen Ryn Spirit alive and invite you back for a reunion at the school to share memories with former classmates and teachers.

It will be an evening with refreshments, tours of your school to see how it has changed, and an evening in the gym for those that would like to relive the “Friday Night Basketball” that was a part of our winters from the late ‘80’s until the early 2000’s. It was a time when upper grade stu-

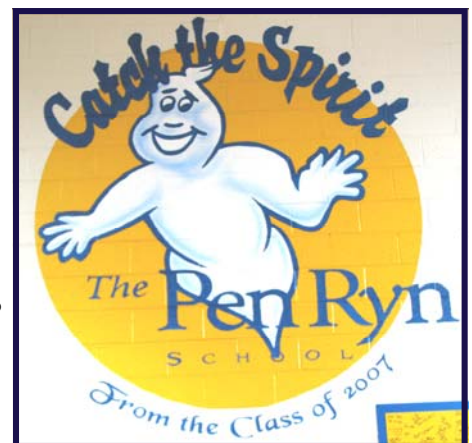
dents and many parents would come and play informally on Friday nights. Play fair, call your own fouls, and don’t block Mr. Morton’s shots were the rules we played with.

Pen Ryn celebrated its 60th anniversary last year and I’ve been privileged to have been here for half of them. I pass the graduation pictures, (dating back to 1986), in the hall everyday and often stop to look and wonder what each of you has gone on to since the pictures were taken. Emails, phone calls, contact with our Development Office, your siblings at Pen Ryn, or running into you or your parents in the mall or supermarket have always been a highlight that

brings smiles to your former teachers.

Bring your old pictures, your yearbooks, and yourselves. Whether you graduated 6 months or 60 years ago, we look forward to seeing you and hearing about your past, present, and future.

Hugh Morton



A spirited gift from the class of 2007

Colleen Johnson ~ class of 1985

Colleen Johnston (maiden name Fields), alumni from the class of 1985 and current mom of a Pen Ryn kindergartener, returns and reminisces:

So, after Pen Ryn you went to Bensalem High School and graduated in 1989. What fabulous things did you do after that? *I went to Kutztown University for two years. I left there to become a spokes model, explaining products at trade shows, for a leading European indoor entertainment company. When I was with this company I launched their new Laser Tag division and managed two retail stores. After that I managed a multi million dollar vending company before opening my own. Now, I handle the marketing needs for my company as well as my husband's.*

If we were to look in your CD player in your car what would we find? *Bon Jovi - Bon Jovi - Bon Jovi*

Rumor has it that you are a proud Pen Ryn parent now – tell me why you chose Pen Ryn again: *My memories from my days at Pen Ryn are some of my fondest from my childhood. Pen Ryn always embraced a strong family spirit along with high academic standards. I am very excited to see that that hasn't changed. We may be in a new building, but the feeling is still the same.*

Tell us something that you learned from Pen Ryn that you still use today? *How to use the resources around me, how to keep my mind and my heart open to all kinds of people and possibilities.*

You are on the Alumni Committee – what are some upcoming events? *Yea! November 23rd we are having a reunion of all Pen Ryn students and past and present faculty.*

This Interview was written by Erin (Sternberg) Decker from the class of 1991. Erin lives in Newtown, PA with her husband Jason and their 1 year old daughter, Rylee.

“My memories from my days at Pen Ryn are some of my fondest from my childhood.”

*Colleen (Fields)
Johnson
Class of 1985*

Upcoming Events

Craft Show

November 30th 6-9 p.m.

& December 1st, 9 AM – 3 PM

Holiday Concert (PK – 6)

December 6th, 7:30 PM

Upper School Musical

April 25th, 7:30 PM

Blue & Gold Day

May 30th, 9:00 AM (Rain Date – June 3rd)

Eighth Grade Graduation

June 8th, 2:00 PM

Got Kids?

We've got teachers, and books, and smart boards, and playgrounds, and guitars, and basketball, flexible Pre-K hours, lots of learning, and lots of happy children!

Schedule a personal tour!

For further information, contact Kathy Bruno, Director of Admissions, or Liz Morton, Head of School

Ryan Merrick ~ PreK—6th Grade Spanish

“I hope to make a positive impact on my students at Pen Ryn...”

Ryan Merrick

Starting this year as a teacher at Pen Ryn has been more of a homecoming than anything else. Pen Ryn was my second home for so many years to my entire family. My younger brother and two younger sisters attended school together. My Mom was at nearly every social event as a part of the PTO, where she perfected making coffee for a hundred people. We all felt a part of the Pen Ryn family - my siblings, parents, and grandparents. I attended Pen Ryn from Kindergarten until my family moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico at the end of sixth grade.

My many fond memories include kindergarten with Mrs. Bean, being pushed on the swing by Mrs. Verbich at lunch



...and Ryan Merrick 2007

“High School is a lot of fun but since I played soccer I knew a lot of people before I even walked in the door.”

**Blake Zuschnitt
Class of 2007**

High School has been going pretty well here at Holy Ghost. My classes are alright and my teachers are awesome. I'm running cross country for Holy Ghost with another PR alumnus. Alex McMullen. At a race last Saturday I placed 99 out of about 400, and I know Alex placed 62 (pretty sure). I hope everything in PR is going well. Jenna Rueter says “Hi!”



Ryan Merrick 1997...

recess, the Halloween Sleep-over, the 50th Anniversary celebration, and studying the Delaware Canal in sixth grade. It was heartbreaking to leave my home in both Pennsylvania and Pen Ryn, but I knew that I was well prepared for middle school and high school thanks to the many dedicated teachers who challenged and nurtured me under the leadership of Mr. Mundy and Mrs. Morton.

I returned to the area to attend college at Seton Hall University and study elementary education and Spanish. I reconnected with Liz Morton who was at that time principal of Saint Ignatius School in Yardley and in need of a technology person (or as she put it, a Hugh Morton for Saint Ignatius). Through the next few years at Saint Ignatius, working under Liz, this position gradually evolved to include everything from teaching Spanish to answering phones to playground duty and even working in the EDC program.

Last spring, Liz was in need of a lower grade Spanish teacher and asked if I was interested; within minutes I had accepted because, you see, Pen Ryn was where I began both my study of and love for Spanish. Learning vocabulary with Mrs. Bean in kindergarten and studying under Mrs. Pryor in fifth and sixth grade introduced me to Spanish and inspired a passion for the language. I was inspired to study it in middle school, high school, and college, and it was my experience with the truly excellent teachers at Pen Ryn which lead me to a career in elementary education. I hope to make a positive impact on my students at Pen Ryn, and I am striving to follow the example of the teachers that came before me.

Christian Lupica Class of 2007

I'm going to Bucks County Technical High School and it is an extremely fun high school. We have block scheduling, and only 4 classes a day. Technical classes are a lot of fun with all the different areas to explore, like welding, electronics occupation, culinary and a lot more. I actually got to practice welding and the seniors help you and supervise the class. They really let you try anything as long as it is safe.

E.G. Gripton Class of 2007

Nourish the Spirit

Keep an eye out for our upcoming annual fund brochure. This year The Pen Ryn Fund campaign is entitled *Nourish the Spirit*. As alumni, you all are the living testimony to the 60 year success story that is The Pen Ryn School. We are encouraging you to once again become active participants in the life of this very special school.

The Pen Ryn School is moving forward in ways that are important for the children. Under the leadership of our new Head of School, Liz Morton, we see efforts being made to continue and expand the growth of technology, with new flat screen monitors in the computer lab and the upcoming addition of 8 new Smartboards. Advances are being made in curriculum development through the purchase of new science textbooks and lab kits, as well as the addition of science and computer classes for Kindergarten through 4th grade.

The heritage of Pen Ryn is one of giving, of cooperation and working together – the culture of family that is the Pen Ryn Spirit. We hope that you will consider making a gift to our annual fund – and help the next generation of Pen Ryn alumni to have the same outstanding experience you did.

Young Alumni – for those of you who are not yet out in the working world, please consider beginning your alumni relationship to the school by joining the “Dollar Club.” That means, we encourage you to give one dollar for each year you have been out of Pen Ryn. It may not seem like much, and you may certainly give more, but we’d like to help you develop the habit of giving – to Pen Ryn.

Participation is more important than the size of your gift. Base your contribution on the level of your resources. Every donation is valued and appreciated!

“The heritage of Pen Ryn is one of giving, of cooperation and working together ...”

Wendy Browder

I just started yesterday and I'm already loving it. Yeah I really miss seeing the faces of everyone at Pen Ryn. I'm already starting to create a Notre Dame family. I see some of the Pen Ryn people in between classes sometimes. I had a *really* bad case of butterflies in my stomach but as the day went on I met someone new whose personality is almost like mine. I did get lost and I had to ask for directions to my next class. But now it feels like I've been going there for a while. Next Wednesday I'm auditioning for the fall show *Murder on the Nile* by Agatha Christie. 9th grade is going well so far and my classes are pretty cool. For the first semester I have the following subjects: Public Speaking, Integrated Computer Technology, Algebra 1 and Italian 1. Next semester I have English 1, Acting 1, World History and Religion 1. The Pen Ryn Spirit is always kept in my heart. Pen Ryn was such a great school for me. I've learned to manage my time wisely and keep myself organized. Tell everyone at Pen Ryn that I said hello and miss them a lot. I'll see what my schedule is like, but I'll try and visit some-time.

Carrie Lettiere
Class of 2007



Pen Ryn welcomes you back!

“High school is so much fun. I met a lot of new and interesting people.”

*Zack Santoro
Class of 2007*

“High school is going very well for me. I really enjoy it at Nazareth Academy...It is a very welcoming school and I hope girls from Pen Ryn’s Class of ’08 decide to go there as I did.”

*Ashley Suder
Class of 2007*

My first full day at Villa was an exciting and scared one. I had no trouble finding my classes and getting to know faculty and students. However, I am thankful to my grade school background at PR. With Mrs. Brockwell's help I was able to impress my teachers with the skills of how to write an effective summary, knowing the parts of a book from characters to theme and tone, and having good study skills to learn new vocabulary words. I was also able to impress my Geometry teacher with my mad math skills. I was able to answer what the difference was between congruent and similar shapes, how to write mathematically, and what a line, plane, and point were. And with Mrs. Keller's obsession of Etymology, I am finally using those skills to decipher words and my English teacher is actually teaching Etymology which gives me a head start. Finally, Spanish has proved to be an easy class with Mrs. Pryor's help. Now I think that the teacher is fed up with the fact that I seem to know the answer to every single question. All in all, I haven't had any trouble adjusting to Villa and finding my own voice in a mob of maroon socks, white polo's, and kilts.

P.S. I am not sure if you want to hear this... but when I was in eighth grade I never thought that I would be thanking PR. I thought that none of these skills would help me anywhere (especially etymology with Mrs. K). However, I finally realize what great teachers I had and how they helped prepare me for my future. Even now I'll be quoting Mrs. Brockwell with using transitional words and not using Jello words, which by the way I now find completely repulsive. Enjoy the brand new year at PR!

Muriam MacIntosh Class of 2007

Things are busy with me at Nazareth. It's definitely a change from Pen Ryn. I made the field hockey team and between that and school, I am soooo busy! That's pretty much it..... I'll keep in touch.

Emily O’Coonahern Class of 2007

Hi! High school at Notre Dame is going well! I'm in all honors courses and I hear that there will be a great deal of homework as the year progresses! In August I made the Freshman Soccer team and am enjoying playing and getting to know my teammates. I already scored as well which is exciting! Since I've been playing with the team since the beginning of August it was easier to start school already having 23 new friends! Block scheduling is different but the teachers are great and the schedule allows us to explore more aspects of what we are learning. Club rush is next week; that's where we choose our clubs to join for daily activity period. I get to see some of my old classmates from PR, Joe LeBender's locker is just one away from mine and I'll have gym with Joe in the second semester. I've seen Ryann, Tyler, Carrie, Nick, & AJ, as well as some upper grade former PR students! I loved Pen Ryn and it gave me a great foundation but it's nice to start in a new and bigger place and face some new challenges. I miss my friends at PR and the teachers and staff but I'll be back to visit!

Jerry Milionis Class of 2007

Alumni Update

Do you know where they are?

If you have any information about these former Pen Ryn students, please contact Wendy Browder, Director of Development at wbrowder@penryn.org or at (215) 547-1800, Ext. 17.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2004 | | Sean Collins | Robert Keyser | Robert Cymbor | Dane Sontagh |
| Brian McAuley | | Nicole Cordisco | Brian Miller | David D'Aulerio | Richard Walsh |
| Zachary Nalbone | | Nicole Johnson | Rani Pramov | Tracey Duggins | James Whalen |
| 2002 | | Michael Kearney | Allison Steinman | Craig Leonard | 1977 |
| Stuart Brunt | | Michael Patterson | Francis Weissinger | Michael Markey | Frank Nitchiem |
| Flinn Houston | | Maureen Tenney | David Wick | James Rahill | 1976 |
| Emma Naiberk | | Chad Wipplinger | 1987 | Linda Searnock | James Brophy |
| Frank Perri | | 1992 | Edward Buchheim | Premal Shah | Thomas Mitchell |
| 2001 | | Mario Caione | Jacqueline Card | 1981 | Fred Nitchie |
| Yuta Mogi | | Shari Cohen | Sharon Choplinsky | Mark Allendorf | John Ortiz |
| Makenzie Rice | | Elizabeth Harbison | Joseph Davidyock | Kathy Davis | Loriann Waryga |
| Kathryn Scullion | | Jane Lee | Collane Ladzenski | Joseph Fabiszewski | 1975 |
| 1999 | | Sara McEvilly | Donna Sephton | Dawn Heiler | Rosemarie DiPinto |
| Liam Cunningham | | Dianah Miller | 1986 | Scott MacKenzie | David Fox |
| Danielle Dyson | | William Szablewski | Jeanine Bossard | Bruce Proven | Charles Fragassi |
| Patrick Healy | | Jonathan Tafel | Diane D'Aulerio | Walter Strauss | Nancy Knauer |
| Amanda Karff | | Michael Volpe | Gina Guaglione | 1980 | Chip Madsen |
| Jonathan Rudick | | 1991 | Maureen Johnson | Carol Affatato | Michael Medeiros |
| Stephen Tuthill | | Gregory Dowling | Heidi Peditto | Kristone Allgood | John Moore |
| 1998 | | Ed Jachimowicz | 1985 | Lorraine Guth | David Rodgers |
| Christian Ogden | | Leslie Margasak | Jeremy Barron | Dominic Juliff | Leslie Steward |
| Matthew Porter | | Michael Rosst | Kimberly Bohar | Robert Markey | Gary Weber |
| Nicole Riccio | | Lori Sands | Steven Ferris | Gregory Pisciotta | 1974 |
| Corey Robinson | | Marc Weiss | Kelly Jones | Dawn Sontagh | Cheryl Crawford |
| Gregory Weller | | 1990 | Lana Leazer | Glenn Szymanski | John Fenstermaker |
| 1997 | | Nicole Borelli | Kimberly Powell | Daniel Walsh | Sherrill Johnson |
| Charles Barton | | John Cordisco | Tara Stasik | 1979 | Dean Kristiniak |
| 1996 | | Danielle Duval | 1984 | Robert Daniels | Jeffrey Lamb |
| Dina Connelly | | Jocelyn Gajeway | Christine Buckheim | William Drobins | Donna McDevitt |
| Brandon English | | Shannon Haughney | Bayan Dakuginow | Leeann Feraco | Edward Ott |
| Shawn Moriarty | | Jenna Missanelli | Christine Nass | Michelle Juliff | Geoffrey Pecan |
| William Sammartino | | Jennifer Nowicki | Vanessa Poole | Susanne Kinney | Alan Silberstein |
| Carlie Siesser | | William Peterson | Sharlene Sephton | Juliet Loglisci | 1973 |
| 1995 | | Timothy Roche | Amy Wolk | Anthony Marziani | Edward Devlin |
| Jamie Newman | | Elizabeth Zehner | 1983 | Parick McErlean | Beryn Kilroy |
| Amanda Rossetti | | 1989 | Scott Casper | Sherrie Pyatt | Michael Reas |
| Erin Rouleau | | Gerald Arena | Tracy Elash | Heidi Shearouse | 1969 |
| 1994 | | Jill Davidyock | Dominic Esposito | Michael Whalen | Blaze DiEgidio |
| Caroline Haas | | David Duncan | Christine Liberatore | Christian Widmann | Bryan Follin |
| Debbie Jerolymack | | Justine Kozier | Michael Lisicki | 1978 | Albert Murden |
| Jonathan Kayne | | Anthony Mucci | Soraia Mansour | Daniel Affatato | Robert Schneider |
| Brent Kearney | | Lisa Rosenberg | Cheryl McCollick | Dolores Burgert | 1968 |
| Robert Morrison | | Rachael Schaeffer | DeLandis McCoy | Arnold Ellis | Anne Bittan |
| Alexis Ridge | | 1988 | Jeanine Peck | Brian Fuller | William Cohen |
| 1993 | | Amy Bolno | Ricky Tang | Gregory Gleason | Mark Toth |
| Christina Borelli | | JaimeLynn Brown | Marnie Wolk | Darren Green | 1962 |
| | | Harry Callan | 1982 | Shamaine Loglisci | Christine DePalantino |
| | | Stephanie Elfman | Susanne Affatato | Richard Russo | 1955 |
| | | Christopher Jewett | | Louis Shirk | David Fleming |

Keep us posted...send in an Alumni Data Sheet today!

Go to the Pen Ryn web site, www.penryn.org. - click on the **Support** button for the **Alumni** page and the **Alumni Data Sheet**.

Office Of Development
235 S. Olds Boulevard
Fairless Hills, PA 19030

The Pen Ryn
SCHOOL



The Alumni Spirit

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