

Monday, June 6, 2011

Cape Ann Waldorf School, 701 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-927-8811 www.capeannwaldorf.org

Congratulations Class of 2011

Madison, Morgan, Jack, Quenton, Jennie and Michaela

“I am what I am because of who we all are.” This was the theme of Susan White’s address to those gathered on Friday for the graduating ceremony of the class of 2011. Mrs. White was speaking of the importance of the whole community – the students, parents, teachers, Board members, Advisory Council – in educating this class. She was also describing one aspect of Rudolph Steiner’s philosophy of education. The strength, spirit, and intellect of the graduating class have been nurtured by the whole interconnecting web of persons and relationships in the CAWS community, with the teachers at the core of this web, working together, learning from each other, striving to bring their best to each student. Not “I think therefore I am,” but “I am what I am because of who we all are” – this is a guiding impulse behind Waldorf education.



So if this graduating class is exceptional, then it is because we, all the members of the CAWS family, are ourselves exceptional, in our dedication to each other and our worthiness as role models. We should take that in for a moment, savor it, and live up to it.

The Graduation Ceremony showed that the class of 2011 is, without a doubt, an exceptional group of young adults. John Schuchardt, a long-time friend and supporter of the school, observed that the class is small in number, but big in heart, calling them “the biggest class you’ve ever graduated.” Poised, articulate, and passionate, they shared their memories of the years they have spent together: Morgan’s astonishment as her name was called as



the winner of a laurel wreath in the javelin at the fifth grade Olympics; Quenton’s discovery that he didn’t need to impress other people on the “social chain,” but just to be “completely me” to be accepted; Michaela’s moving description of the CAWS community where “everyone knows everyone and they all connect to make this community a full circle (creating) a wonderful atmosphere of laughter, knowledge, and respect.” Jack’s touching memory of how Mrs. Sheehan helped him work through his embarrassment and bring true emotion into a love scene in the fifth grade play “Cupid and Psyche;” Jennie’s humorous story about how the class “disappeared” in an April Fool’s joke played on Mrs. Sheehan, leaving only Aly in the classroom, dressed up in a wig, explaining that she was “Mrs. Eraser” and had erased the rest of the class; Madison’s account of her brave and creative attempt to explain Eurythmy to a group of public school students, finally enlisting all 15 of them to participate in “red caps, green caps” to demonstrate this little-understood art. These are only a few of the stories told by the six students who entranced us with tales of their journey through Waldorf: their mishaps, victories, challenges, and losses; their growing concern for and closeness to each other; their increasingly sophisticated insights into themselves and the world around them.

The students punctuated their narrative with three masterfully delivered musical offerings: the traditional “Pachelbel Canon,” played as an ensemble, and two verses, set to music by Julia Elliott and sung in beautiful three-part harmony. They closed their presentation, appropriately, by singing their usual End-of-Day verse by Rudolph Steiner, “At the Ringing of the Bells:”

To wonder at beauty, stand guard over truth,
Revere what is noble, resolve on the good.
This leadeth us truly to purpose in living
To Justice in dealing
To Peace in our feeling
To Light in our thinking
And teaches us Trust in the wonder of all
In all that exists in the widths of the world
In the depths of the soul.

The Graduation concluded in the traditional Rose Ceremony with the first grade, honoring the end of one journey and the beginning of the next. We wish a fond farewell to the graduating Class of 2011, who will go out into the world and create their own community based on what they have learned at CAWS. We will miss you: **Michaela Tamara Wernaa Butin** **Quenton William Hurst**
Morgan Adare Cusak **Madison Adams Poore** **Jack Albert Fantini** **Jennie Marie Yoors**

-Pam Fantini

Photos: Jen Benoit

Where Did All Those Great Rocks Come From?

In the last Newsletter, the Site Committee committed to answering questions and concerns about the new building and grounds. We have more questions to address from the “Yellow Book” and other sources. For the first response, we intentionally picked a question whose answer enables a glimpse into some of the dedicated and generous gifts and work that have been poured into this project. “Who donated the lovely rocks along our pathways?”

During the campus planning process there was a need to retain the earth around the Great Hall windows near the entry. The easiest, most natural looking, and least expensive way to do this was with natural boulder retaining. Jonathan Poore, from the Design Committee, suggested Araneo Landworks as a suitable contractor to do this work. Jonathan had worked with Dave Araneo, the



owner, for over 20 years. Together, Poore & Co. and Araneo Landworks had created many different landscape designs full of sculptural, natural stone features through a collaborative design and construction process. Incidentally, both of Dave’s sons are CAWS alumni.

Dave embraced the project enthusiastically and arranged to have Jonathan go “stone shopping” at one of the largest and most recently active granite quarries on Cape Ann, Johnson’s Quarry. Jonathan spent a rainy afternoon at the quarry hand picking the stones from mountainous grout piles (discarded granite). The hunt yielded many treasures which, with Jonathan’s imagination and trained eye, were identified as pillars, benches, bird baths, feature stones, etc., which would serve both as structural retaining and also create the “bones” for the future entry garden. (*Pictured: ‘lantern pillar’ at the quarry*). All of the stones were used in exactly the form they were found within the grout piles. No cutting or shaping was done. Normally Dave charges a premium for all these special type stones. In this case, as a gift to the school, they were just charged by the ton, the same as ordinary boulders.



Jonathan and Dave then worked together (through more rainy days) to create the structural and decorative boulderscape that now graces the future entry garden. This included benches that both retain the slope and form the beginnings of stadium seating in the natural earth bowl surrounding the Great Hall. The thought was to provide a location for informal outdoor performances. Some of the other garden features were conceived as simple forms with elemental themes. These include **water** (bird bath), **fire** (pyramidal pedestal [*pictured above*] for a lantern or electric light), and **earth** (mother and child stones).



'Mother' on the grout pile



'Mother and Child' in their place

Once the stonework was completed, Kate Wiggin of KW Landscapes generously donated a planting plan. Now as the community gathers the plant materials we will be able to gradually complete the vision of a green, welcoming entry to our new home.



*At The Quarry:
Left, bench stone now
by the Kindergarten
play area (to retain the
hill down to the Great
Hall and for stadium
seating); right-- the
"bird bath" stone.*

Thanks to Dave Araneo and his crew for going above and beyond their contract work to help create our new campus. Thanks to Kate Wiggin for donating a planting plan. Special thanks to Jonathan Poore for donating his design vision and labor to create the beginnings of a comprehensive and integrated campus plan.

-Site Committee

WE NEED BOOKS!

The annual WCA Book Sale is this Friday and Saturday, June 10 & 11. **But we need more books for this important school-wide fundraiser!**

Friday, June 10, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. (following our closing assembly)

Saturday, June 11, 9:00 – 1:00 p.m.

We are collecting all category of books except text books and encyclopedia's. Books on CD also welcome! Items can be dropped off at school in the drop-off box at the main entrance. Also, if you are willing to help please contact Laura Freysinger at artnsew@comcast.net. And bring in those books! Thank you very much.

Final Assembly Friday at Our Neighbor's Church, 10:45

The year's final assembly will begin at 10:45 a.m. Friday, at our next door neighbor's house – the Second Congregational Church (UCC), 35 Conant St., Beverly. All are invited!

Shhhh!

Honoring a Dedicated Teacher

Believe it or not, we're keeping the following announcement a secret!

How? Spouses and colleagues have their ways. So please don't mention this to Mrs. M!!!

Dear families, as you already know, our dear Mrs. Mercier will be leaving teaching after more than 15 years at our school. Many families have had the privilege of her calm, loving, and thoughtful care in the Red Rose Kindergarten; teachers have valued her wisdom, hard work, and commitment to the school. In honor of her years of dedication and as a symbol of her strength, beauty and giving nature, we would like to plant a white Kousa Dogwood on our school property. This tree will fit in beautifully with our Design Committee's landscaping plans and offers four seasons of visual interest. If you would like to contribute money to help pay for this tree, please give it to Mrs. Deveau in the office by June 8. (Hurry!) Any questions, please contact Gretchen at gsmackilligan@comcast.net or (978) 921-1653.

We will present the gift during Friday's end-of-year assembly, 10:45 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. As always, Early Childhood families should feel free to join us at this assembly!

Please Order Your 2011 CAWS Yearbook Today!

This year's yearbook will include photos of all classes and festivities throughout the year -- wonderful memories to hold onto forever! Sign up sheet is available in the office; \$20.00 cash or check payable to the "Waldorf Class of 2011."

Summer Story Hour Begins July 5

Helpers wanted for CAWS' popular weekly playgroup

CAWS' annual Summer Story Hour will run for six Tuesday mornings starting July 5. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet for play dates and experience the benefits of Waldorf early education first-hand. (We will be having a contest over the summer based on your observations -

stay tuned!) In addition, we are looking for 2-3 parents each week to be on hand to help us set up this event and share your love for our school with parents who come. If you are interested in supporting a story hour, please contact Kelly Hiselman.

Open House and Tour for Our Neighbors, June 18

We're opening our doors for families in the local area on Saturday, June 18! Do you think that you could help support our teachers and staff by volunteering for this event? Please contact Kelly Hiselman.

Dads to Meet Again, June 17

This is it, our final Waldorf Dads' night at the Black Cow in Hamilton. Please join us on Friday, June 17, at 5:30 p.m.

CAWS Family Looking to Rent - Family of a new kindergarten student looking to rent a 2-bedroom apartment on the North Shore, near a commuter rail stop. Move in date will be Aug. 1. Any help appreciated. Please contact Jocelyn at jschaeff@mit.edu.

Essex

Art in the Barn, June 9 - 10

One of our Moraine Farm partners, Essex County Greenbelt Association, is throwing their big "Art in the Barn" event next weekend in Essex. It's an exhibit and sale to benefit ECGA -- fine art, pottery, sculpture (indoor and outdoor), fine crafts, jewelry and more. June 9 – 10 in Essex. More information at: <http://www.ecga.org/Events/aib.html>

Moraine Farm Summer Camp Discount: Interested in Project Adventure's summer adventure camp for 10 – 14 year olds? CAWS families receive a 10 percent discount. More info on the camp at: www.wpa.org.

Key Dates from the 2011-2012 School Year Calendar

September 7	Opening Day for Grades
September 8	Opening Day for Kindergartens and 2-day Sunflower Nursery
September 9	Opening day for 3-day Sunflower Nursery
December 19 – January 1	Holiday Break
February 20 – 24	Winter Break
April 16 – 20	Spring Break
June 14	Last day for Early Childhood
June 15	Last day for grades

Can Waldorf Meet Today's Children, Help Today's World?

This Summer, Jennifer Helmick and other CAWS faculty members will lead the conversation, "Waldorf Education: Can it Meet Today's Children—and Help Today's World?" Monday, August 1, from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the Ipswich House of Peace in Ipswich. This is one of several

events planned this summer by the Anthroposophical Society of Cape Ann. See the attached flier for additional happenings.

Jenny Helmick came to CAWS in 1992 as a parent, and has volunteered and taught there ever since. She teaches English and math in the middle school and has also been a class teacher. In addition, she has worked in environmental consulting for 25 years. Jenny studied the Waldorf approach to science as part of the first high school teacher-training group at the Center for Anthroposophy in Wilton, New Hampshire. She holds an A.B. from Harvard University in Social Studies and an M.S. from Tufts University in Environmental Health/Urban and Environmental Policy. She is starting work on a nature study curriculum based on the treasures of Moraine Farm.

Saint John's Tide Festival to be Held at Moraine Farm

The Anthroposophical Society of Cape Ann will be hosting this year's Saint John's Tide festival at the beautiful campus of Cape Ann Waldorf School at Moraine Farm. The festivities will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 25 with a potluck picnic followed by songs, games, and a small fire. St. John's Tide is the fourth of the major annual festivals that Rudolf Steiner identified as touch points to deepen our connection with the rhythms of the world. The Festivals, while named for events and characters in the Christian tradition, all coincide with the annual solstices and equinoxes and thereby link us to the ancient wisdom of pre-Christian times. This festival comes at that time of year when the length of the days begins to shrink as we move toward the winter solstice and Christmas. It is for children and adults and is open to the entire community. Bring songs, stories or activities you may have that deepen our connection with this festival of the summer mood. For more information, or to join the ASoCA e-mail list, please contact Dave Mansur at [978-356-5657](tel:978-356-5657) or dave.mansur@gmail.com.

CAWS Marketplace

Plum Island Summer Home Available for Rent Come enjoy an easy, beautiful, affordable summer vacation on Plum Island north of Boston with 9 miles of a national wildlife refuge and sandy beaches. Newly built beach house with an open kitchen, living dining room with water views. \$2000/ week, but 10% off for Waldorf people. Please see [web listing](#).

Learn (More) About the Enneagram In June I will teach a class for 7 weeks (on the telephone) which will delve into the Enneagram, a map of consciousness that helps us learn about our Essential Nature and distinguish that from our Ego/Personality. I have found it endlessly valuable in my own personal and spiritual development as well as in understanding my son and other close relationships. It has brought me much clarity, compassion, and a depth of understanding about the nature of being human that nothing else has to date. If you're interested in joining me, please email me directly at Elizabeth@DolphinLeadership.com or call 978-468-4568. Some members of the community have asked me about doing a typing session to better understand their type. I'd be happy to do that as well. Call me and we'll chat!

Babysitting Available Responsible 17-year-old girl from Rockport, big sister to a CAWS Kindergartener, is looking for nanny/ babysitting work this summer. Lots of experience as a camp counselor and babysitter! She has a car! Contact: Charlene Patey at 978-479-6183.



Anthroposophical Society of Cape Ann Calendar of Events for 2011 Summer Lecture Series

In celebration of Rudolf Steiner's 150th birthday we will gather for seven presentations that focus on the on-going contributions of Anthroposophical work in the world. We warmly welcome you to one or many of these offerings which will deepen our awareness of the vital importance of Rudolf Steiner's work--past, present and future.

Monday Evenings from 7:30 to 9:30: July 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, 15, 22

Held at: The House of Peace, 1 High Street Ipswich, MA

More information: Carrie Schuchardt at 978-356-9395

July 11 **Rudolf Steiner: A Life of Genius and Giving**

Ronald Milito was trained as an anatomist while earning a doctorate in Biophysics. His connection to Rudolf Steiner was made through Steiner's epistemological works. Through his career he has taught at the university, college, high school, and middle school levels. His focus has been rendering science and mathematics in a phenomenological form and Steiner's social thinking. He has written articles for the Threefold Review Magazine on AZT aids therapy, the Goals 2000 Educate America Act, homework, grades, and testing. He is currently retired and working on two books (threefold anatomy and basic physics). His website is mathphysicshelp.com.

July 18 **A Look At What Is Currently Happening In Anthroposophic Medicine Worldwide**

Dr. Basil Williams is board certified in Anthroposophic Medicine, Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease and Osteopathic Medicine. For the past four years he has given workshops at the Medical conferences in Dornach, Switzerland on topics ranging from Lyme disease in the Light of Anthroposophy to working with Elemental beings and healing substances. He is currently researching Autistic Spectrum Disorder. He lives in Harlemville, New York.

July 25 **Exploring Community: Rudolf Steiner and Intentional Living**

Joyce Reilly was trained as a psychotherapist and a Waldorf and Curative teacher. After living in Camphill and other intentional therapeutic communities, she founded Gheel House, a therapeutic community including individuals with mental illness, and is currently on the board of the House of Peace and Adesha Village. Involved currently in the work of refugee resettlement, she considers inclusive, conscious and intentional community building essential for creating a world where peace is possible.

August 1 **Waldorf Education: Can It Meet Today's Children—and Help Today's World?**

Jennifer Helmick and colleagues. (See *Newsletter* for more information)

August 8 **Rudolf Steiner and the Arts**

A Summer Evening's Celebration of Music, Eurythmy, Painting, Speech, and More!

August 15 **An Evening on Biodynamic Agriculture**

Kieran Riley and Christianna Abel will host an evening with friends from the Harlemville, NY area involved with biodynamic agriculture. We will be discussing the Agriculture Lectures by Rudolf Steiner, with an emphasis on the preparations and how these substances can address the many issues agriculture faces in the future, particularly those involving toxins, radiation, soil degradation, and drought. We will also discuss other topics that are on the forefront of biodynamic work, including honeybees, cows and raw milk, the social and political implications of biodynamic agriculture, and working with cosmic rhythms and the elements. Kieran and Christianna live in Harlemville, NY, and intend to have their own biodynamic farm soon. They have hosted a biodynamic study group for almost two years, and have explored ways to share the benefits of the biodynamic approach with many others. Kieran grew up on and has worked on several biodynamic farms, and now has a radio show in Hudson, NY which focuses on CSAs and biodynamic farms in Columbia and Greene Counties. Christianna, a recent recipient of a Waldorf Teacher's Certification through the Alkion program, has worked for three years in the Hawthorne Valley Waldorf School Kindergarten.

August 22 **Rudolf Steiner's Core Teaching: Reincarnation and Karma (And How They Can Make Us Happy)**

Julia Polter was born 1966 in Hamburg, Germany. She holds a MA in Literature and Philosophy. In 1999 she was ordained as a priest for the Christian Community (a movement for religious renewal founded with the help of Rudolf Steiner). She worked for congregations in Germany, and in the US in Boston, MA since 2004.

CAWS Calendar June 6 – 18, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	6 8:20 – 2:30 3rd Gr. to Higashibaba's home 4th Gr. at Plimouth Plantation 8th Grade trip	7 Closing Day for Bluebell 4th Gr. returning from Plimouth Plantation 12:20 – 2:30 3rd Grade to Day by Day Adult Care in Gloucester 9:15 – 2:40 7th Gr. to Isabella Stuart Garden 8th Grade Trip	8 Closing Day for Sweet Pea 8th Grade Trip	9 Closing day for Sunflower & Kindergartens 8th Grade Trip	10 8th Grade Returning From Trip 10:45 Assembly at the Second Congregational Church 12:10 Dismissal from CAWS 1:00 – 3:00 Book Sale	11 9:00 – 1:00 Book Sale
12	13 Professional Day 8 - 4	14 Professional Day 8 - 4 7:00 – 10:00 Board Meeting	15 Professional Day 8 - 4	16 Professional Day 8 - 4	17 Professional Day 8 - 4	18