



CAPITOL COURIER

May 2010

Volume 1, Issue 1

US CAPITOL PAGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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SAVE THE DATE

2012 REUNION

ALL PAGE
ALUMNI

May 23-27,
2012

Hyatt Regency
Capitol Hill
Washington DC

Our Inaugural Issue by Bill Peard '02, USCPAA President

As I write this letter to you in mid-January, Capitol Hill is abuzz with the tumultuous negotiations surrounding health care reform legislation. While I read the newspaper accounts of the delicate legislative acrobatics, I can't help but imagine our page successors carefully balancing their own priorities amid twilight work sessions and math exams.

My mind flashes back several years to when I had the privilege of serving as a page. As many of us do, I recall the contentious debates, the candid moments with lawmakers, and the late night votes that helped to define my page year. With these singularly unique experiences in mind, I can fully appreciate the sentiment, expressed to me by several mature adults who have climbed to the summit of their respective professions, that they secured their best job before they could legally drive.

While perhaps a sense of nostalgia brought us together in common cause, it with an eye to the future that I write to you today. In the following pages you will find the inaugural issue of the Capitol Courier – the alumni newsletter of the Capitol Page Alumni Association. Our aim is to publish three issues per year, filled

profiles of individual alumni, updates regarding class reunions and regional alumni gatherings, and an article highlighting an interesting moment of page history.

More than anything, the handful of us who contributed to this first issue want to ensure that this is a fully collaborative effort in the years to come. We welcome your suggestions, your ideas – and most importantly – your stories. If you have a page story that you would like to share, or simply a post-page experience that you think would be of interest to others, please email us at: Alumni@CapitolPageAlumni.org



House Pages
Circa 1900

PROFILE: Glenn Rupp, Oldest Living Page Alumni

Chris Cobey '67 and Jerry Papazian '73 contributed to this article.

Born in Archbold, Ohio, on October 30, 1912, Glenn Rupp received an invitation from Representative Frank Kniffin of Ohio, a family friend, to serve as a Page for the U.S. House of Representatives. Eager to find employment during the Great Depression, Rupp accepted the patronage position and began working at the Capitol in January 1932.

(continued p. 4)

Picture on right...House Page Glenn Rupp can be seen in this image of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Annual Message. Seated at the lower left of the House Rostrum, Rupp recalled that he had left his post at the Chamber door to witness the



FUNDRAISING

Alumni Association Dues and Scholarship Established

The board of directors of the US Capitol Page Alumni Association has set the annual dues for membership at \$25 per year for those under 30 years old, and \$50 per year for those 30 and over. The annual dues are being used to establish our alumni association, including developing the website, newsletter printing and mailing, and helping to research and identify all those men and women who have served as a page to be incorporated into both the on-line and a printed commemorative directory. And most importantly, they will be used for the planning of our all-class reunion planned for 2012.

We recognize that a successful alumni association should do more than to reconnect old friends, host reunions, and publish newsletters; it should also give back to the community. Our Alumni Association - with its members devoted to a wide range of public service endeavors locally, nationally and internationally, - is uniquely positioned to engage in public service in its own right.

The Board of Directors has determined that it will pursue this course in two phases: 1) it will provide charitable services to recently graduated pages, and 2) it will seek out ways to give back to the community at large - to those who did not have the opportunity to serve as a page. The Alumni Association will begin this charitable pursuit by establishing an alumni scholarship fund that is to be awarded to college-bound high school students who have served as pages.

Please join the many other former pages who have joined the Alumni Association by sending in now your annual dues of \$25/\$50 to help support the work we are doing to support the page program. In addition, please consider a gift above and beyond your annual dues to support our first-ever page alumni scholarship fund.

Since the US Capitol Page Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, contributions above and beyond the annual dues amount are tax deductible. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at Alumni@CapitolPageAlumni.org. Thank you.

Jerry Papazian '73 has been working tirelessly on our Alumni Database, and has tracked down every yearbook in existence in this effort. He also serves on the fundraising committee and contributed this article.

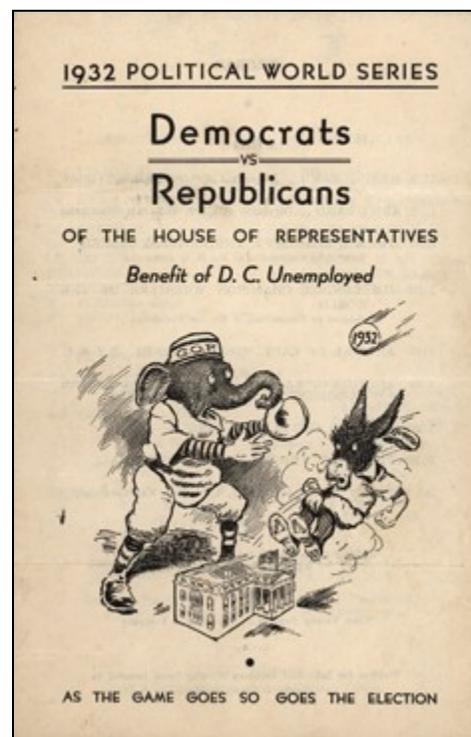
CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE... the following page alumni are running for public office.

- **Michael Allegretti, House Page '96 is a candidate for US Congress for New York's 13th. For more info, visit www.allegrettiforcongress.com**
- **Aric Nesbit, House Page '97 is running for Michigan State House, to represent Van Buren County, and Otsego and Watson in Allegan in the State House... visit www.votenesbit.com for more info**

If you know of a page alumni running for office, please email info to ALUMNI@CAPITOLPAGEALUMNI.ORG

WHY CAPITOL COURIER? By Doug McFadden '58

We have chosen the name Capitol Courier for our newsletter because it was the name of the student newspaper at Capitol Page School when the school constituted pages from the House, Senate, and Supreme Court. The paper was widely distributed on Capitol Hill and included advertising from local merchants. It began publication in 1948 and last published around 1981. In the early years, Stu Polly "58" served as business manager all four years at CPS. Ed Horgan, "59" was circulation manager and saw to the wide distribution. Ken Harding "58" was assistant editor and Curtis May "58" editor in 1958. Miss Williams was the faculty adviser.





Jack O'Connor, Michelle Billig Patron, Julie Bolkin - O'Connor and Timothy Duffy at first NYC event

First NYC CPAA Event by Ashley Hunt '02

On Tuesday, December 15th 2009 the Capitol Page Alumni Association held a holiday alumni reception, hosted by Michelle Billig Patron '91.

Around thirty former Pages from both the House and the Senate attended. The attendees represented nearly every decade of pages from the 1950s to 2008. The most represented class was the 2001-2002 House Pages with four attendees.

The reception was a great opportunity to reminisce about page life and hear about what people have been doing since then.

Former pages in New York are working in many different fields now, from real estate and finance to broadcasting to the nonprofit sector. The event also raised some funds for the Capitol Page Alumni Association.

Classes of 30's—70's attend 2008 Reunion by Joe Stewart '53

Ken Smith and a team of dedicated former pages put together the 2008 reunion for the classes of 30's, 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's which took place April 3-5 in Washington, D.C. The activities included tours of House and Senate Floors; Supreme Court; The Library of Congress; House and Senate Page Schools and the Page Dormitories. There was also a Commemorative Tree Planting on the Capitol Grounds and a reception and banquet Friday evening at the reunion hotel, The Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill. Individual classes and groups got together for socializing on Saturday which provided many poignant and unique opportunities to reconnect with class colleagues and old friends. Former pages from classes of 1940 thru 1976 attended this very successful reunion. The Board extends deepest thanks and appreciation to Ken and his team for organizing and implementing this singularly successful event, and for their efforts to further develop and refine our Page School alumna directory.

The 2012 reunion will be expanded to include participation by all page classes. Want to help to organize your class attendance? Please email alumni@capitolpagealumni.org

FACEBOOK Reunited Class of '89-'90

Page alums are using Facebook to get back in touch with their classmates. One example: The class of 89-90. Up until this year, these alums had never hosted a reunion.

Shelley Thomas, House Page '89-'90 reports:

One of the two pages I kept in touch with got me on Facebook last winter and from there we started finding a few people. Once about 10-15 of us got a group going, we started searching for the rest of our class pretty intently.

Since most of us had lost touch over the years, a reunion was perfect to reconnect pretty quickly and it also just happened to be a milestone anniversary number this year. I'd say it served its purpose better than we expected as our group that turned out was pretty well mixed between house and senate and fall and spring so there was a large combination that truly had never met even when we were pages. But within an hour or so, we were like one big happy family. Once a page always a page, but it really is more of a common binding factor than even we thought. We are so excited to start thinking about our 25th!

For more info, please contact Shelley Thomas (Representative for Alumni from 1980's) at shelley.d.thomas@comcast.net



Rupp (continued)

During his first year on the Hill, he worked on the House Floor as a Democratic Page, primarily running errands for Representatives, filing copies of the Congressional Record, and obtaining bills from the document room.

Beginning in January 1933, Rupp served as a doorkeeper for the east lobby of the House Chamber. As one of the Pages responsible for guarding entry to the House Floor, he had to memorize the names and faces of all the Members of Congress. He also paged Representatives off the floor to meet Senators, Cabinet members, congressional secretaries, and reporters.

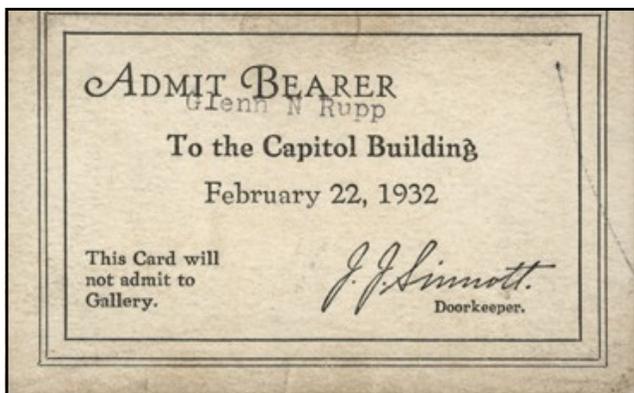
Another one of Rupp's responsibilities as a Page was to train the future Representative, Senator, and President Lyndon B. Johnson as a House doorkeeper.

During his four and one-half years as a House Page, Rupp attended presidential inaugurations, Joint Sessions, and national conventions. Due to his lengthy tenure on the Hill, he became acquainted with many Members, including the four Speakers of the House who served between 1932 and 1936: John Garner, Henry Rainey, Joseph Byrns, and William Bankhead. He also witnessed a variety of historic events, such as the World War I Veterans' Bonus March and the end of Prohibition. Upon ending his career as a Page in July 1936, Rupp worked at the Federal Housing Administration, served in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, and became a salesman and manager in the paper industry. Now retired, Rupp currently resides in Green Valley, Arizona.

Created to make the rich heritage of the U.S. House of Representatives more accessible to the general public, U.S. House of Representatives Oral History Program seeks to include interviews with a wide variety of House employees, including congressional pages.

To listen to audio of Glenn Rupp describe his page experience, visit:

<http://oralhistory.clerk.house.gov/interviewee.html?name=rupp-glenn&view=media>



Upcoming Events

- *Class of 1984–85 25th Reunion will be in Washington DC April 23–25. Any pages from that year should contact Phil Strauss (ironstrauss@yahoo.com)*
- *The Eighth Annual CPS Alumni Reunion Luncheon will be held on Friday, October 29 at the Rosslyn, VA Holiday Inn from 11:30 to 2:30. This Alumni Reunion Luncheon began as a luncheon for alumni living in or near the Washington DC metro area (originally from the decades of the '40's, and '50's, and later expanded to include alumni from the 60's and '70's, and last year expanded to include all classes from the '40's to present). Over the years, alumni well beyond the Washington area have begun to attend. If you wish to attend, contact Ken Smith at ken@csmn.org*
- **ALL ALUMNI REUNION, May 23–27 2012**

CAN YOU NAME THESE TWO PAGES? From 3/15/2010 issue of Newsweek Magazine - pictures of two pages sleeping on Senate balcony during 1954 filibuster



2010-2011

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Brendan McCann '99

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Erin Tario '97

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AB Kebede '07

Doug McFadden '58

Jerry Papazian '73

Joe Stewart '53

Emily Matlak '10

Shelley Thomas '90

GETTING INVOLVED

Want to get involved with the CPAA? We are currently compiling the names and addresses of everyone who has served as a page to be included in our on-line directory as well as a printed commemorative directory that will include a history of the program and lots of pictures. We are compiling names from all of the school yearbooks, going back to 1942. Our biggest challenge is finding current contact information for these new names. We are asking people to serve as "class captains" to help us track down those who served as pages in your class. Hopefully you may have some information we do not have already, but we will also provide tools and suggestions on how to go about tracking down your classmates. If you are interested, please email pagealum@gmail.com Thanks.



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Dues Form

Name:

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I would prefer to receive this newsletter via (circle one):

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Enclosed please find my dues to the USCPAA in the amount of:

____\$25 (under 30 years old) ____\$50

Enclosed please find my tax-deductible donation to the USCPAA in the amount of:

____\$100 ____\$250 ____\$500 ____\$1000 ____\$2500 ____ other

Make check payable to US Capitol Page Alumni Association.

PO Box 15112

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YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!