



the CAPITOL COURIER

US CAPITOL PAGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FEATURE

2012 COMMEMORATIVE DIRECTORY

THE USCPAA HAS CONTRACTED WITH HARRIS CONNECT TO PUBLISH A FIRST-EVER COMMEMORATIVE DIRECTORY THAT WILL INCLUDE THE NAMES AND CONTACT

information for all of the men and women who have had the honor to serve as a page in the US House of Representatives, US Senate and US Supreme Court. The directory will include a history of the page program and a list of those who have served including their years of service. In addition, all former pages will be allowed to

submit a 400 word biographical profile and picture in the directory. When you are contacted by Harris, please respond with your most current information to ensure you are included in this important publication. You may also update your contact information through our own website: www.capitolpagealumni.org.

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SAVE THE DATE - MAY 24-27, 2012

2012 HOMECOMING REUNION

SAVE THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND OF MAY 24-27, 2012 FOR THE FIRST-EVER ALL-CLASS HOMECOMING REUNION OF ALL FORMER PAGES OF THE US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, US SENATE AND US SUPREME COURT.

This all-class Homecoming follows the very successful reunions held in 2004 and 2008 for classes of the 1940s, 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

The Liaison Capitol Hill, An Affinia Hotel (located on New Jersey Avenue between the Capitol and Union Station) will be the Homecoming headquarters, and we have reserved rooms at a very special Homecoming weekend rate.

Reunion activities will include special tours of the US Capitol and Supreme Court, the House and Senate Page schools, and panel discussions including former pages, as well as a welcoming reception on Thursday evening and closing dinner on Saturday night. Friday night is left open for the various classes to hold their own reunion activities.

Please contact your former page colleagues now and plan on attending a weekend of fun and memories

in our nation's capitol with your friends and family. Watch your mail and email for more information soon.



PAGE CLASSES OF 40's-70s ATTEND 2008 REUNION

FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FELLOW FORMER CAPITOL PAGES:

It is with great honor that I accept the responsibility for serving as president of the US Capitol Page Alumni Association for the next two years. As I am sure it was for you, being appointed and serving as a page in Washington, D.C. was an unforgettable experience, being able to witness first-hand the workings of our Nation's capitol.

I remember like yesterday reading an article in the Los Angeles Times in May of 1971 about how the US Senate had voted unanimously to permit the first female pages on the Senate floor. That article prompted me to write to my congressman to apply to become a page and by August of that year, I was off to Washington, D.C. to find my own housing before classes started at the Capitol Page School in the Library of Congress and before the resumption of the 93rd Congress. Little did I know I would soon be attending school with all three of those first female Senate pages: Paulette Desell, Ellen McConnell and Julie Price.

I REMEMBER LIKE YESTERDAY READING AN ARTICLE IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES IN MAY OF 1971 ABOUT HOW THE US SENATE HAD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PERMIT THE FIRST FEMALE PAGES ON THE SENATE FLOOR.

My service in the House Republican Cloakroom during the 1971-72 school year was one I will never forget, especially the friendships I made then and still maintain with my fellow pages and page supervisors. I was thrilled to attend a reunion of my early 1970s classmates in 2004 and then attend the reunion of the 1950s, 1960s and early 1970s in 2008, organized by Ken Smith (Class of 1958), in which over 200 people attended. Whether you served for one month as a summer page, or for all four years of high school, we all share a common experience of service to our country.

Our primary goal for the USCPAA in the next two years is to develop and publish a commemorative directory and history of the page program, which will include the names and contact information for all of the men and women who have had the honor to serve as a page. We expect to have this directory available by March 2012 in time for our all-class Homecoming/Reunion planned for Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-27, 2012 in Washington, D.C. Please mark your calendars now and plan on bringing your families for a very special weekend of re-connecting with your former classmates. Chris Cobey (Class of 1967) and Shelley Thomas (Class of 1990) are chairing the reunion committee and promises an exciting and memory-filled weekend for all those who attend.

In the meantime, you will be hearing more about the US Capitol Page Alumni Association as we reach out to help find contact information for many of the former House, Senate and Supreme Court Pages. Watch for our newsletters and email blasts and please attend any one of the regional reunions we plan to hold in 2011-2012 in major cities like Washington, New York, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, San Francisco and Los Angeles. If you have contact information on your former classmates, or would like to help with these endeavors, please contact us anytime.

Finally, and most sincerely, I want to take this opportunity to thank Bill Peard (Class of 2002) who is the founder of this association and has served as its president for the previous two years. Without Bill's hard work, this alumni association most surely would have gone the way of other attempts to create a permanent association for former pages. His perseverance and vision has made the USCPAA a reality and I am very happy that Bill will continue to play an integral part with the association as treasurer and in charge of the website and database.

Please watch for our future communications and we look forward to hearing from you in anticipation of publication of the commemorative directory and our reunion in 2012. Thank you.

Jerry Papazian
1971-72 House Page
President, US Capitol Page Alumni Association



JERRY PAPANZIAN AND
REP. BARRY GOLDWATER, JR CIRCA 1971

GETTING INVOLVED

Want to get involved with the US Capitol Page Alumni Association? 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 former pages. 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.

BOARD NEWS

WITH THANKS TO BILL PEARD...

In Jan 2011, Officers of the Board of Directors changed, and Bill Peard '01 finished his tenure as President and founding member of the USCPAA. Bill is responsible for uniting classes across the decades, and for developing and maintaining the most extensive alum database ever to exist. This organization would not exist without Bill's tireless efforts. We offer him a round of applause.

LETTER FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT BILL PEARD

Dear Fellow Alumni:

Last year, I wrote a brief introduction to the inaugural issue of the Capitol Courier Newsletter, and I expressed my belief that we as page alumni share more than mere nostalgia for our unique high school experiences on Capitol Hill. I believe that there is a common thread that pulls each of us along in our respective lives, perhaps woven into us during those hectic days in the Capitol when we were too busy to notice.

As never before, I feel that is true. It seems there is a shared consciousness – a subtle acknowledgement that our early experiences in Washington somehow colored our ambitions and goals in later life.

For those reasons, I'm proud of what this Association has accomplished in the past two years. In that time, we've built an alumni association where none existed before. We've compiled an alumni directory that includes over 9,500 names – spanning eight decades of page service.

I'm proud that a small group of committed alumni accomplished all this for roughly \$15,000 – doubtless a fraction of what the government would have spent undertaking the same task. Many of my colleagues on the Board inform me that \$15,000 is only a fraction of what some organizations invest in designing their letterhead. This minimal expense demonstrates how generous so many individuals have been with their time.

Several years ago, I was surprised to learn that no alumni association existed for former pages. Shortly after taking on the task of pulling one together, I learned why. It's not easy. The organization we've built in these two years is thanks in large part to those who laid the groundwork in years past, particularly those who thanklessly worked to compile a comprehensive list of former pages when there was no Facebook, email, and websites. The Capitol Page Alumni Association is a product of all those efforts – past and present.

Thank you, Bill Peard

2011–2012
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JERRY PAPA ZIAN '72- President
BETH AMBROSE '91 - 1st Vice President
BOB BORSARI '58
CHRIS COBEY '67 - 2nd Vice President
BRENDAN MCCANN '99 - Secretary
VANCE MORRISON '56
BILL PEARD '01 - Treasurer
JOE STEWART '53
SHELLEY THOMAS '90

The U.S. Capitol Page Alumni Association is a non-partisan, tax-exempt 501(c)3 nonprofit organization recognized by the IRS and chartered in the District of Columbia. The association is a network of former pages who served in the Senate, House, or Supreme Court during their high school years. Founded in 2008 by a group of former pages, the association currently serves approximately 9,500 alumni and has no affiliation with the U.S. Congress or either of the two current page programs.

HISTORY

FIRST FEMALE HOUSE PAGE

IN THE MIDST OF THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT, FELDA LOOPER BECAME THE FIRST FEMALE PAGE IN THE U.S. HOUSE

of Representatives. Her noteworthy achievement came after a vigorous and lengthy letter-writing campaign in which she pleaded with then-Speaker of the House Carl Albert for an opportunity to serve as a House Page. During her short tenure as a

MORE THAN A SYMBOL OF THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT, LOOPER SUCCESSFULLY CHANGED THE FACE OF THE PAGE PROGRAM

House employee, Looper recalled receiving a warm welcome from House Leaders, Members, and Pages. Her interview revealed many details about the Page program of the period, such as the daily assignments and typical living arrangements for Pages, as well as their access to lawmakers and the Capitol complex. Moreover, Looper's descriptions of the politically-charged



FELDA LOOPER AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CARL ALBERT

atmosphere in Washington, D.C.—fueled by the Watergate scandal and the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)—provide a firsthand look at the behind-the-scenes role Pages played in the congressional institution. More than a symbol of the women's rights movement, Looper successfully changed the face of the Page program by making it possible for countless young women to serve as House Pages.

This article was provided thanks to the great work of the Oral History Project at the House Historian's Office. Created to make the rich heritage of the U.S. House of Representatives more accessible to the general public, The U.S. House of Representatives Oral History Program seeks to include interviews with a wide variety of House employees, including congressional pages.

For more info go to <http://oralhistory.clerk.house.gov>

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1960 CELEBRATES 50TH REUNION

BY DAVE LOGE '60

FOURTEEN OUT OF SEVENTEEN MEMBERS OF THE
CPS CLASS OF 1960, ALONG WITH SPOUSES AND

partners, held their 50th anniversary reunion in Washington, D.C. on Sep 10th-12th, 2010. This was the 7th reunion of the class which has gathered together every 5 years since 1980.



SEP 11TH, 2010 - CLASS OF 1960 ATTENDEES AT THEIR DINNER HELD AT THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND BUILDING

As in the past, the weekend was kicked off with a Friday night reception at the home of our classmate, former representative Jim Kolbe. The following day, our group of 28 was treated to a private tour of the new Capitol Visitors Center, where we saw the highly secure underground chambers constructed to allow Congress to meet in the event of a terrorist attack. Through the efforts of another classmate, Donn Anderson, former Clerk of the House, we toured the page school in the Library of Congress and learned more about the Page Alumni Association.

During our school visit, we agreed to design and present a plaque to the school in honor of our CPS teachers and the positive impact they had on our lives.

Later that evening we viewed a wonderful DVD containing photos of our former page life - what memories!! During dinner we regaled each other with sentiments, toasts, memories, singing and tributes to our 6 lost brothers. On Sunday during brunch, we had a final chance to share the company of our treasured family before we see one another again in 2015.



IN HONOR OF THE FACULTY OF CAPITOL PAGE SCHOOL CLASS 1960, CURRENT HOUSE PAGE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL THOMAS SAVANNAH ACCEPTS PLAQUE FROM DONN ANDERSON '60.

NINTH ANNUAL CAPITOL PAGE SCHOOL ALUMNI REUNION LUNCHEON

BY KEN SMITH '58

THE NINTH ANNUAL CPS ALUMNI REUNION
LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

at the Rosslyn, VA Holiday Inn from 11:30 to 2:30. Please mark your calendar now. 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, later expanded to include alumni from the 60's and '70's, and finally expanded to include all classes from the '40's to present). Over the years, alumni well beyond the Washington area have begun to attend.

Please contact Ken Smith at ken@csmi.org or 10523 Main Street, Suite 2, Fairfax, VA 22030 to RSVP.



DORA MCCANN '95 AND STAN ARMSTRONG '57 SHARE PAGE STORIES AT 8TH ANNUAL CPS ALUMNI LUNCHEON, 2010

CLASS OF 1985-86 TO HOLD REUNION

THE CLASS OF 85-86 WILL HOLD ITS 25TH
REUNION ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4 - SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2011.

For more information, visit our Facebook page (Congressional Pages '86 Reunion) or contact Terri Teleen at terri_teleen@comcast.net

RECOLLECTIONS

REMEMBERING RICHARD NIXON

BY REV. DENNIS TROUT, CLASS OF 1960

ONE AFTERNOON, I WAS IN THE CLOAKROOM BEHIND THE HOUSE CHAMBERS HAVING LUNCH, A BALONEY SANDWICH AND TOMATO SOUP. I HAD SENT ALL MY PAGES OUT AND AS AN OVERSEER ON THE REPUBLICAN BENCH; THIS WAS MY LONG AWAITED BREAK. SOMEONE SAT BESIDE ME

in one of those overstuffed leather chairs. To my astonishment, that someone turned out to be Vice President Richard Nixon. "Hi son" the Vice President said. Shortly into the conversation, came this question –

WITHOUT THINKING, I BLURTED OUT "AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP MR. VICE PRESIDENT? NIXON GRINNED AND REPLIED "I THINK I'D LIKE TO BE PRESIDENT."

"what would you like to be when you grow up?" I told him that I may be getting an appointment to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, but was not sure that I would accept it because I wanted to be a minister and they don't teach Theology at the Academy. Nixon congratulated me on my choice. Without thinking, I blurted out "and What do you want to be when you grow up Mr. Vice President? Nixon grinned and replied "I think I'd like to be President."

Nixon autographed my doorkeeper pad: "Best wishes to Dennis Trout from Richard Nixon". I framed the autograph and it remained one of my most prized possessions. It occupied a prominent place



PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON POSES WITH PAGES IN LATER YEARS

on the wall of my parish office. Fifty years after he signed it, his autograph was consumed by a fire when my office and church burned to the ground. Nevertheless, I am left with a heck of a memory.

PEOPLE

MAURA CONNELLY, CLASS OF 1975-1977, NAMED AMBASSADOR BY PRESIDENT OBAMA

Ambassador Maura Connelly officially presented her diplomatic credentials to Lebanese President Michel Sleiman as the 25th U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon on September 15, 2010. President Obama nominated Ambassador Connelly, a 25-year veteran of the Foreign Service, as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon in June 2010. Ambassador Connelly was confirmed by the Senate in August 2010 and sworn in by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in September 2010. Ambassador Connelly first went to Washington, DC to serve as a Page in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1975-1977.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR NEWSWORTHY ITEMS AND RECOLLECTIONS TO SHARE WITH YOUR FORMER PAGE COLLEAGUES. SEND THE INFORMATION TO US AT ALUMNI@CAPITOLPAGEALUMNI.ORG.

SETH ANDREW, CLASS 1995, LEADS NYC CHARTER SCHOOLS TO SUCCESS

Seth Andrew is founder of Democracy Prep Public Charter Schools. In 2006, at the age of 27, he oversaw the opening of Democracy Prep's first location in Harlem. Today, there are five schools in total and they are considered among the highest performing in Harlem. In 2009, Andrew opened a new school in Rhode Island. The school's unique educational model, perhaps influenced in part by Andrew's experience as a page, places civic engagement at the core of student learning. Students are encouraged to debate important issues, there are frequent field trips to City Hall, and the school's first dance was an Inaugural Ball. With the arrival in NYC of a new school chancellor, Andrew has received a lot of news coverage for his school's unique approach.

GUY RAZ, CLASS 1991, IS NAMED NEW HOST OF NPR ALL THINGS CONSIDERED WEEKEND EDITION

Raz's voice is now heard nationwide each Saturday and Sunday by millions of listeners on the All Things Considered Weekend Edition. Raz was promoted

to his new position in July 2009, after reporting several years abroad from Berlin, London, and Iraq, among others. Under his leadership, the Weekend Edition has taken on a new charm, providing listeners with a wide range of stories from the world of business, politics, music, literature, and much more.

SEAN BIELAT, CLASS 1992, RUNS A CLOSE RACE AGAINST BARNEY FRANK

Bielat served as a House page from 1991-1992. After high school, he served active duty in the U.S. Marines, where he still serves as a reservist. In 2010, Bielat ran for Congress against longtime Congressman and Chair of the House Finance Committee Barney Frank. Despite long odds against him, Bielat managed to raise in excess of one million dollars and in the November election he garnered 43% of the vote. Bielat drew national attention from the Republican party and many commentators believe that the 2010 campaign was the most formidable challenge to Barney Frank in over a decade.



US CAPITOL PAGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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MAILING ADDRESS

HISTORY

THE CHILDREN WHO RAN FOR CONGRESS: A HISTORY OF CONGRESSIONAL PAGES

THIS LATEST BOOK BY DARRYL GONZALEZ IS BASED ON AN INVESTIGATION OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND PERSONAL INTERVIEWS OF FORMER PAGES SERVING AS EARLY AS 1923, AND IS A SERIOUS EXAMINATION OF THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE PAGE PROGRAM.

Very few books have been written about the congressional page program – the only other attempt was Bill Severn's *Democracy's Messengers: The Capitol Pages* written in 1975, though there are chapters on congressional page service in a number of

THIS LATEST BOOK BY DARRYL GONZALEZ [...] IS BASED ON AN INVESTIGATION OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND PERSONAL INTERVIEWS OF FORMER PAGES SERVING AS EARLY AS 1923.

autobiographies written as early as 1917. This latest book by Darryl Gonzalez, currently a teacher at the House Page School (former Capitol Page School location in the Library of Congress), is based on an investigation of historical documents and personal interviews of former pages serving as early as 1923, and is a serious examination

of the true history of the page program. While we have received one email noting some inaccuracies in the book, and have noticed a few minor ones ourselves, nonetheless this is a great book for a former page to have in his or her library.

Gonzalez does a good job documenting the origins of the page system in 1774 to the period in the 1940s when Congress demonstrated an indifference towards the needs of providing the pages with supervised living arrangements and when the pages simply treated the Capitol as their private playground to subject adults to their mischief.

The *Children Who Ran for Congress* was published by Praeger, an imprint of ABC-CLIO, LLC, and can be purchased on-line at www.abc-clio.com or through Amazon.com.

