



Spotlight

February 2012

For Alumni And Friends Of East High

East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation
P.O. Box 201404
Denver, CO 80220

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Angelus yearbooks (dating back to 1898) and yellowed and frayed Spotlight newspapers (dating back to 1925) beg to be scanned and digitized before they crumble away forever.

Display of artifacts from "Old East High" in the Tower Museum.

East High's Tower Museum Hires Consultant

A museum is a place where history is kept alive for future generations. This was the overriding purpose behind the opening of the Tower History Museum at East by the Alumni and Friends of East in 1989. The space had been off-limits to students and filled with cobwebs and dusty theater props until alumni donations and volunteers brought the museum into fruition. Principal James Tracy and teacher Beth Gower opened up hidden closets, storage rooms, and filing cabinets around the school to gather up

precious artifacts, photos, and documents dating back as far as the 1870s that had long waited to see the light of day. Historic trophies, dance programs, door-knobs, and yearbooks have filled the new cabinets, shelves, and display cases ever since. A framed photograph of the original "Old East High" building downtown, designed by noted architect Robert Roeschlaub, has provided the focal point. Thousands of alumni, students, parents, and community members have climbed the steep staircase to enjoy a

trip into East's history and the best view in Denver for more than two decades.

For students, the Tower Museum instills a sense of pride in their school and an interest in history in general. For alumni, the museum brings back life-changing memories and a lasting sense of connection with the school. For the community, East's Tower History Museum provides a unique snapshot into the people, events, and places that helped define Denver through the generations.

After 23 years and thousands of alumni and student visitors, the museum is due for a facelift. The fragile artifacts and archival collections have outgrown their original space, and displays need more informative labels and interpretive tools. Irreplaceable documents and photos need sorting and preservation. Yellowed and frayed Spotlight newspapers (dating back to 1925) and Angelus yearbooks (dating back to 1898) beg to be scanned and digitized

before they crumble away forever. Our history must be preserved!

As the curator of the Tower Museum, the Historic Preservation Committee of EAFAF has pledged to provide the resources to maintain and improve the Tower Museum systematically. The enormity of the task requires that we do this project in phases. The first step is to develop a master plan with the help of professional museum consultant. Anne Bond, who is the former curator of artifacts at History Colorado and recently oversaw the refurbishment of the Sterling Historical Museum, is the perfect match for our project. With the help of the committee, she is meeting with focus groups of alumni, students, teachers, and community members to better define and assess the museum's mission, audience, and greatest needs.

Anne Bond's recommendations for improving the carpentry, lighting, storage, and framing will allow us to implement the best prac-

tics and latest technology for the museum collections. For example, we could mount digital frames to display hundreds of images and documents that currently hide in cabinets. Artfully designed interpretive panels can tell the stories of former students, and connect East's history and people with the historical development of Denver and Colorado. Even basics like better lighting in the display cases will do wonders for viewing our precious artifacts. Our museum plan will also recommend priorities and phases of the project, provide guidance on engaging alumni and student volunteers, propose a budget, and identify funding sources. Enhancing the museum's educational role and student engagement will also be a top priority in the master plan.

For museum questions, please contact Marcia Goldstein, Chair of the Historic Preservation Committee, at 303-377-6315 or marcia_gold@msn.com, or visit www.eastangelfriends.org.

East In Good Hands With Andy Mendelsberg, Interim Principal



Andy Mendelsberg

Over the long 135 year history of East High School, many principals directed the fortunes of East High School. Some were average, but most were effective. However, the one thing that is true of all of them, they didn't stay forever.

John Youngquist, current principal at East, announced that he is leaving East to become the new Director of Principal Development for the district. It will be his task to recruit, hire, mentor, evaluate and support new principals who will eventually fill slots in the 160-school district. While John expressed sadness in leaving what he calls the "best of all possible jobs in education in Denver," he also stressed that the district is way behind in providing the support to ensure that all schools have a chance to be led by highly effective principals.

"I truly want more schools to be a lot like East. I think a part of that is getting the right principals in the schools." He went on to suggest that leaving was no easy decision. "I have left many jobs over my time as an educator but this is by far the most difficult. I am not looking forward to walking out the door on my last day past the beautiful E on the plaza."

John's last day was December 16, 2011, as East broke for the holidays. When staff and students returned in January, they found an interim principal in charge. Andy Mendelsberg, current AP and athletic director at East took over the reins through the end of the 2011-2012 school year. The process to search for a permanent principal will begin almost immediately with the hopes of having someone selected by Spring break or at least by graduation day in June.

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John Youngquist and East

Sullivan Gateway On Endangered List

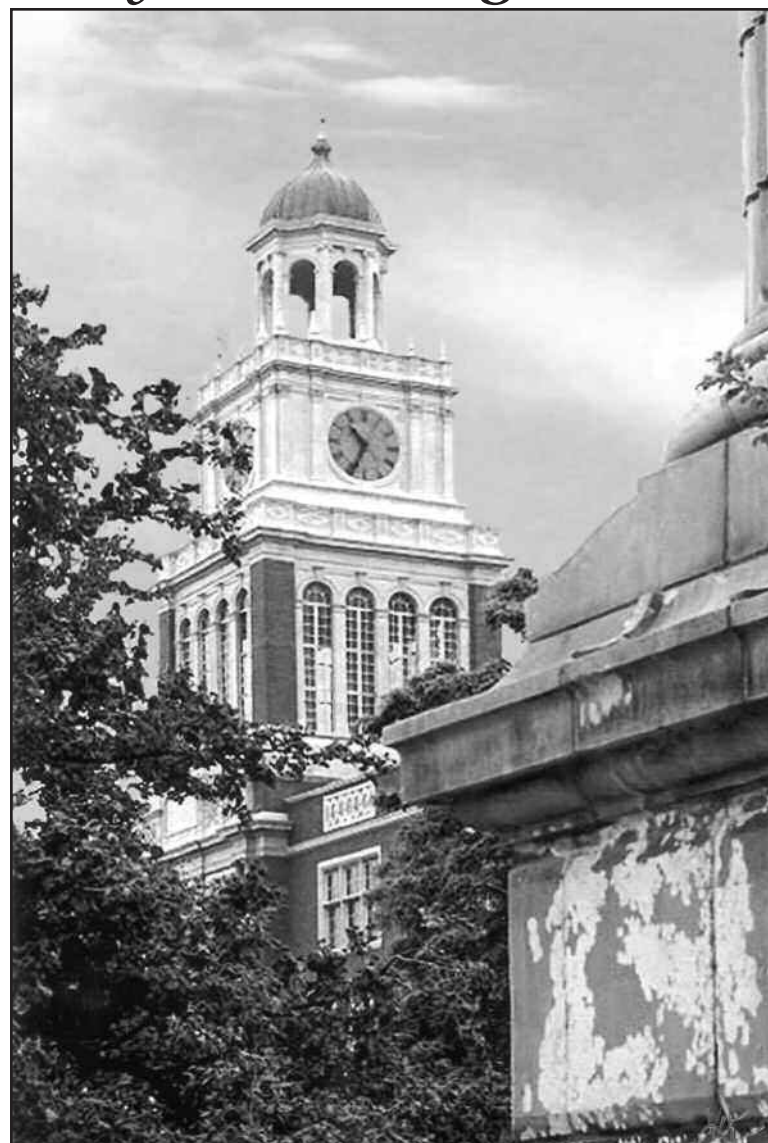
One of the most neglected areas of the East High School campus is the Dennis Sullivan Gateway. But, help may be forthcoming. The Colorado Preservation Inc. has announced that the Gateway has been placed on the Colorado's Most Endangered Places List for 2012. Steps are now under way to gather the necessary funds for restoring this historic memorial.

Funds will be raised through the joint efforts of the Colorado Preservation Inc., the Denver City Council, Denver Parks and Recreation, the Denver Public Schools and individual and corporate donors. The purpose of the Colorado Preservation Inc. is to determine what sites in Colorado meet the definition of an endangered place. The primary criteria for determination are historic significance and the threat of being lost. Both the Gateway and East High School currently enjoy Denver Landmark and National Registry status.

It is an Enterprise Zone project, which will allow donors to receive tax credits for their contributions.

The Gateway has been in sad need of repair and restoration for more than 40 years. The large statues, which represent pioneer industries of agriculture and mining, have been replaced, but the walls which enclose the Gateway are slowly crumbling away and have been an eyesore for some time.

The Gateway was completed in (Continued on Page 2)



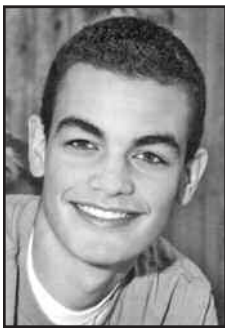
Alumni Scholarship Program Awards 2011

The Alumni Scholarship fund, started in 1926, has continued in a variety of forms for 85 years. In 1995, at the encouragement of alum James E. Tracy, the fund was reactivated and reorganized into a specific scholarship program distributing Alumni Scholarships on a yearly basis to outstanding graduating East seniors. Awards are based on specific qualifications, recommendations, written application and an interview. Since the scholarship fund never grew to any significant amount, we are always looking for scholarship dollars! **All donations are tax-deductible!**

To give a scholarship in your name, your family's name, or in honor of your graduating class, contact Beth Gower: jsmbgower@earthlink.net or 303-877-3563.

This year marks the 17th consecutive year Alumni scholarships have been awarded. With the help and generosity of the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation, Thomas W. Bean Foundation, the Epstein-Smith Family, the David Rivera Fund, James Reece, the class of 1950 and 1955, 24 students received a total of \$48,000.

Connor Soicher received the two-year renewable **Alumni and Friends Scholarship for 2011**, the only renewable award distributed. Connor is truly a remarkable and



Connor Soicher

exceptional young man who will always represent himself and East High well. Teachers describe him as mature beyond his years, as remarkable as he is modest, always making careful decisions, sensitive, caring, confident, sociable, and all with the natural grace of someone who will make a difference in the world. Teachers repeatedly commented on his ability to balance school, baseball, and his larger vision of the world — Ghana, Africa, in particular. One of his faculty recommendations concluded with, "I was privileged to know and teach Connor. I learned more from him than he did from me."

Alumni and Friends Renewable Scholarship Recipients:

- 1995 – Ned Augenblick
- 1996 – Julie Hoebel
- 1997 – Nicole Pugh
- 1998 – Matt Valone
- 1999 – Josh Walker
- 2000 – Dan Murphy
- 2001 – Elizabeth B. Daily
- 2002 – Shannon Murphy
- 2003 – Demetri Blanas
- 2004 – Alyssa Teves
- 2005 – Michael J. Wilkerson
- 2006 – Paula Davis
- 2007 – William Van Treuren
- 2008 – Matthew Velata
- 2009 – Jessica Hoy
- 2010 – William Toaspern
- 2011 – Connor Soicher

East In Good Hands With Andy Mendelsberg, Interim Principal

(Continued from Page 1)

John came to East in the fall of 2002, and in that time he has left a large footprint on East's history. He brought with him strong skills in leadership and staff development. He focused on "at-risk" kids, implementing programs that made sure that all students attended school, succeeded in the classroom, stayed on track to graduate, and thought seriously about attending college after high school. He was successful in convincing more African-American and Latino students to take challenging AP classes.

He was widely respected by teachers for his trust in their abilities and his support of their efforts. Mrs. Anderson, a history teacher said of John, "He was great at seeing the big picture and keeping the small relationships strong. He set the bar high for all of us."

John is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School and the University of Colorado. Before coming to East he was principal at Newlon and Smedley elementary schools and was also area superintendent for the district.

His successor, Andy Mendelsberg, brings to the job several years of learning the ropes of administration. Andy is a graduate of Colorado State University with a BA in speech communication and a MA from the University of Colorado at Denver in school administration. He spent four years teaching English at Martin Luther King and Place middle schools before coming to East 14 years ago.

His career at East to date includes six years as Dean of Stu-

dents, six years as the AP in charge of curriculum and the last two years as the Athletic Director. While on the staff as a teacher, Andy was also a coach for the boys' baseball and girls' softball teams.

He realizes that he will be asked to fill large shoes, but is looking forward to the challenge. He also knows that there may be several candidates after the permanent position next year, but is going to work hard to make a serious run for the job. "East has always stood for excellence and it is this philosophy of high expectations for teachers, students and parents that makes this a great career for anyone who is principal."

He is aware of all of the recent successes in student achievement at East but he is also aware that not all is perfect. "My job for the next five months will be to seek out where we are not quite meeting our goals. "We have moved our attendance rate from 83 percent five years ago to 91 percent today, but that means there is still work to be done for many of our students."

"There is no doubt that the East community is a strong force for stability and change at East." Andy says that he will "seek ways to engage voices from our entire community so that everyone feels connected and respected in the 'Land of the Angels.'"

The East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation (EAFAF) thanks John Youngquist for his outstanding leadership and devotion to the families of East. The foundation also pledges its support for Andy Mendelsberg as he leads East for the rest of the year.

ALUMNI WINGS

NED ELLSBERG: Class of 1909

— Ned graduated number one from the Naval Academy in 1914. His first job was director of the Brooklyn Navy yard during WWI. Gen. Eisenhower promoted him to underwater operations director in WWII. His mission was to salvage and rescue downed ships. He was responsible for constructing the pontoons used on D-Day on Normandy Beach. The author of 29 books on the subject, his most popular was *On the Bottom*, published in 1929. It was later made into a movie: "Hell Below." Congress promoted Ellsberg to Commander and awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal.



JANE SILVERSTEIN REIS: Class of 1927

— Jane was a pioneer in every way. After attending the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, Jane returned to Denver and became the city's first female landscape architect. In her lifetime, she designed over 1,500 landscapes for private residences and public projects. She became the first president of the American Society of Landscape Architecture and was named Woman of the Year by *Colorado Home and Garden* in 1982. In 1990 she was inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame. Jane died in 2005.



KENNETH KENDELL KING: Class of 1918

— Kenneth King's motto would come to be: "To Do the Common Thing in an Uncommon Way." He would live out this motto in his service work to the citizens of Denver and Colorado. After graduating from Northwestern University, he started Columbia Savings and Loan in 1929 and became one of Denver's most successful businessmen. He turned his good fortune and hard work into service by establishing the Kenneth King Foundation in 1990. He gave generously to programs to assist students who needed help in achieving their dreams, as well as assisting charities to help the needy. One of his philanthropic endeavors carries his name on the auditorium on the Auraria campus. He passed away in 1992.



Sullivan Gateway On Endangered List

(Continued from Page 1)

1917 and named after Dennis Sullivan, a Water Department founder and was financed by John Mitchell, president of Denver National Bank. The 40 foot pylons with the pioneer statues were designed by artist Leo Lentelli and were installed in 1919, six years before the birth of the modern East High School. All of this was part of Denver Mayor Robert Speer and his "city beautiful program." May-

RALPH PECK: Class of 1930

— Ralph graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and then began a career that would eventually find him to be one of America's leading engineers. His first job was as an engineer on the Chicago Subway Project. He would also work on the subway systems in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco. He developed the stabilization system for the Dead Seas Dike System and was the leading engineer on the Alaskan Pipeline. His book, *Mechanics of Engineering* became the Bible of the trade. He was awarded the National Medal of Science.



OBALANGA PUGH: Class of 1970

— Donna Pugh was known for her social activism during her high school days at East. She was a leader in the Black Students Alliance club. During her way too short time on the earth, Obalanga became known for her use of story to educate and develop young people. Her story telling skills were learned at the knee of her grandmother who taught her the oral traditions of African-American stories. After studying at the University of Lagos in Nigeria, Obalanga returned to Denver and became a leading educator of children. CBS named her one of the top 10 African-American leaders.



ROBERT SMITH: Class of 1981

— In high school Robert Smith demonstrated traits of intellect and leadership. He graduated from Cornell with a degree in chemistry and later earned an MBA in finance from Columbia. He was keenly aware that many young people needed help in finding their way in the world. In 2000, he founded and became the CEO of Vista Equity Partners Inc. He has funded many programs to assist disadvantaged students. In 2010, he was awarded the Ripple of Hope Award at a ceremony at the Kennedy Center. He was recognized for his programs for the promotion of justice and for his humanitarian efforts.



FRANCES MELROSE: CLASS OF 1939 — Frances Melrose, journalist and historian, died December 20, 2011. She was born in 1921



and attended Ebert Elementary School where she started her life-long career in journalism by being named the editor of the school newspaper at Ebert. When she came to East, she quite naturally found herself writing on the East High Spotlight. Even in college she could not give up the journalism bug and was editor of the University of Denver Clarion.

After graduating from DU she became a reporter for the *Rocky Mountain News* in 1943 and retired in 1986. She continued to write columns about the most colorful characters in Colorado history and wrote a popular book *Rocky Mountain Memories*. She officially retired in 2001. She was inducted into the Denver Press Club's Hall of Fame in 1998 and the East High Heritage Hall of Fame in 2010.

MOREY ENGLE: Class of 1941 — Freelance photographer for the *Rocky Mountain News* died July 6, 2011, two weeks after attending his 70th reunion.

WILLIAM KEMPER (Class of 1953) — Businessman and All City and All State football player at East, died December 5, 2011.

KAY SHADWELL — former instrumental music director at East High School died in December 2011. He came to East High School in the fall of 1960, after long-time director Roland Roberts left to open the new school at George Washington. Mr. Shadwell was at East from 1960-1966 when he left to open the new school at John F. Kennedy.



East Alumni/ Faculty Breakfast

On January 3, 2012, the East High lobby was the scene of a gathering of teachers, staff, alumni and friends of East. The **Alumni Committee** of the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation organized the "welcome back breakfast," intended to "treat" the teachers as they begin the second semester of the year, and provide an opportunity to mingle with alumni.

Beth Gower, representing the Alumni Committee told the 190 in attendance the second semester breakfast tradition started in 2006 as a thank you to the outstanding East faculty and staff, and as a reminder of the long and significant heritage of East. "We wanted the current keepers of the East legacy to share conversation with alums that have shared the traditions of East, benefited from them, and continue to enrich East," said Beth. Principal Andy Mendelsberg was the gracious master of ceremonies.

Along with a catered breakfast, a total of \$675 in various gift cards to restaurants, coffee shops and bookstores were given out. Alum Barry Hirschfeld said he left the breakfast with a "real good feeling — a feeling that East High School is in good hands! That the old Angel Spirit is apparent from stem to stern!"

Alums in attendance: Joan Birkland (1946), John Dikeou (1953), Owen Hahn (1958), Allegra Haynes (1971), Barry Hirschfeld (1960), Mark Leonard (1961), George Mansfield (1945), Caroline Schomp (1967). Former principals in attendance: John Astuno, Rick Arthur and Kathy Callum (1968) Also present was former assistant principal Marsha Chavez along with Elisa Moran and Carol McDermott from the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation and longtime East friend and former parent, Sheryl Overton.

East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation (EAFAF) supports East High School.

Find out more at:

www.eastangelfriends.org

Look for us on Facebook too!

Alum Principal James E. Tracy Preserves Historic Traditions

The motto of the 1950 edition of the *Angelus* was "East High is the Guardian of traditions." The motto implies that all Angels are part of the East family, and it is incumbent on them to remember, revere and preserve the traditions that have made East High School one of the truly great schools in Colorado.

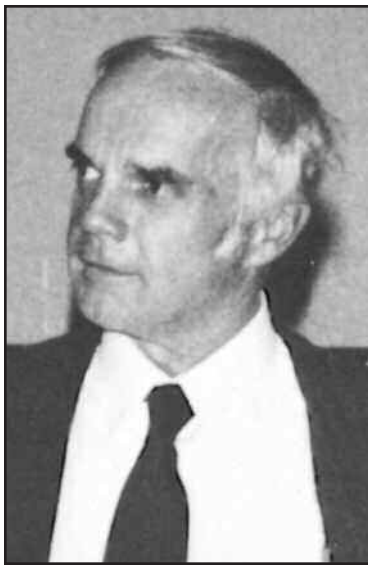
When James E. Tracy was a student at East in 1950, East was the leading achiever in almost every endeavor from athletics to scholarship. It was a place of great teachers who applied their talents and became legends. When Jim Tracy was told he would be East High's principal in the spring of 1985, he immediately returned to his alma mater to wander the halls and contemplate his new challenge. "Quite frankly, I had dreamed of returning to East as the principal, but once I realized I was to be the man, I felt intimidated."

"Expectations were high and I would be in charge of one of the brightest faculty staffs in DPS history. I wondered if I was up to the task."

Jim Tracy would prove to be the right man at the right moment and he can look back and be satisfied that he did his part to "guard the traditions." Tracy was an energetic leader who had no fear of dedicated hard work or speaking his mind. On Saturday mornings, he could often be found in his office at East catching up on paperwork. His trademark writing was described as being in hieroglyphics, but his thinking was always described as creative and out of the box. Jim had three goals in mind for East: to continue the already strong academic program, to bring the community into closer partnership with the school and to provide a cleaner historical setting for learning. "The place was dirty when I got here." Maybe those days as a sweeper boy at Stedman elementary paid off. Tracy made the custodial issue important during his tenure. "I worked closely with the main custodian Bell Munoz and pretty soon the school started looking better." Graffiti was an issue when Tracy first arrived at East, with his constant monitoring (he never wanted the kids to see it) and the help of Bell Munoz the problem diminished.

One of Jim Tracy's most important decisions was to resurrect the East alumni association. This association had been a strong force in earlier years and he saw this as a way of bringing the community back into partnership with the school. He selected Beth Gower, one of his young teachers, to spearhead the rejuvenation of the alumni organization. Within two years, the organization was connecting with alumni and had launched the East High Museum project — a project to guard and honor the East "traditions."

Jim Tracy's efforts provided the leadership for creating the East Museum. "We raised money from alums, renovated a space in our historic tower, and started gath-



Jim Tracy

ering artifacts. I am so proud of what my first alumni committee was able to accomplish." The recent historical projects all have some of Tracy's vision and legacy.

Jim Tracy has served Denver's children and their parents for over 35 years. He started his teaching career at Westwood Elementary (1954-1955), taking time out to serve in the armed forces (Army) for two years. He returned to the DPS and Doull Elementary (1957-1961.) His next assignment would be as a social studies teacher and counselor at North High School (1961-1969), and then as assistant principal at Morey Junior High. (1969-1972).

His first job as principal was at Washington Park Elementary (1972-1975), then Wyman Elementary (1975-1979), then Holm elementary (1979-1985). He completed his long distinguished career where he belonged — East High School.

Jim concluded: "Life has been good to me; I was able to work in the one place I always wanted to be. And now, in my retirement, I continue to feel the pride every time I hear or read about a success at East." Maybe success is the greatest tradition at East.

The East Angel Friends & Alumni foundation thank James Tracy for the footprints he left at East High School.

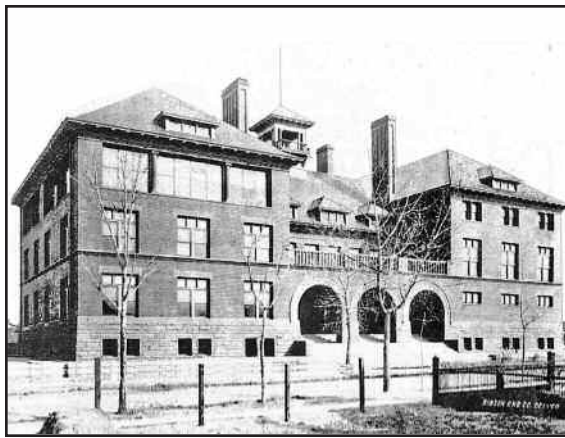
Class Of 1961 Celebrates 50th

"It does a heart good to see today's faces on yesterday's people." Bill Slatkin East High Class of '61.

Sept. 16-18, 2011, saw over 200 East High graduates re-visit our school and Denver after 50 years. It was a grand time of re-connecting, sharing friendships, recalling memories, and stepping back in time.

The kick-off for the weekend was held at Sam's #3 on Friday night. We were "packed-in" for a happy evening of eating, sipping and reacquainting. Many were surprised that people wore that remembered expression of youth, enough that we could call out a name without the help of a name tag! The gray and white hair made us pause but hadn't changed that familiar look or laugh. How could anyone forget John Wong's laugh?!

Saturday's tour of East brought a record number to the school auditorium. Mark Leonard introduced Dick Nelson, former teacher, author of the book *Flights of Angels: A History of East High School, 1875-2004*, who reminded us of significant past events and of our heritage. Walking the halls of East, we were struck with some of those old feelings that relate to a familiar place and days gone by. Memories flooded back as we remembered specifics. Teachers and friend's names came to mind as we thought of our favorite classes, assemblies, dances and school activities that occupied our days. Old photos and trophy cases reminded us of sports events and people — fond memories, as well.



West High School



North High School

More History Found In Old Yearbook

If one looks hard enough and long enough, the history of Denver East High School can be found in many places. At a local antique store in Denver, an early high school annual was discovered and turned over to the East High School museum. Entitled the "Annual of the Denver High Schools," it is a shared document of East, West, North and Manual high schools for the school year 1894. The main difference in this yearbook and a modern one is that the schools were combined in one publication. South High School was not up and running at this time so it was not a part of the book. The book is now safely housed in the tower museum at East.

By 1880, these four schools were providing education to the children of Denver. At that time, East was located at 19th and Stout. West, known as Central School, was located at 6th avenue and Fox Street. North was then known as Ashland School, and Manual Training School was located at Franklin and 27th street.

In the spring of 1894, 594 students attended East, with a graduating class of 112. Other graduation numbers were: West 25, North 13 and Manual 110. In the early days before the construction of the Denver Auditorium, public school graduations took place at the three leading churches downtown: 1st Baptist, Central Presbyterian and Trinity Methodist. East's graduation in 1894 took place at Trinity Methodist Church.

According to the writers of this annual, only two other cities, Chi-



East High School

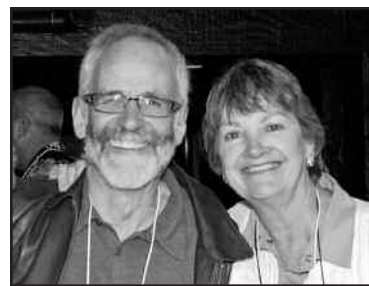
cago and Boston, were publishing annuals representing their various high schools. The book is marked by a highly stylistic prose and the photography is of extremely high quality for such an early time.

It was a time of basic education in math, physical and natural sciences, history and philosophy. Of course, no one could call himself or herself truly educated without a thorough training in Latin and Greek. This was truly a classical education and was fitting because the building at 19th and Stout was one of the few classical buildings in the entire city of Denver.

The annual covered the Cadet program which is the forerunner of the modern day ROTC program. The Cadets were born on the same day as East High School, 1874, and the ROTC program continues today as a vital program at East.

Although there were no playing fields, East sported teams in football, basketball, baseball and track. The annual is also replete with photos of the spacious and stylish main lobby, reminiscent of the beautiful main lobby of modern East. The building was adorned with numerous statues, friezes, murals and busts. Most of these were transported to modern East, but over the years many have disappeared with only the statue of David left, as well as several busts in the library and a few friezes.

The history of Denver East has been one of beautiful buildings, basic classical curriculum, competitive sports teams and outstanding drama, music and speech activities. The overall theme of the annual was, "Long live the D.H.S.," a sentiment many of East alums still feel today.



old friends and mates. Others stepped onto the dance floor and moved their feet and bodies to the beat of the "stroll." Some even did the "twist" while others embraced each other in the "slow" dances. Some continued sharing old stories around the tables. We were indeed sobered by the list of our deceased classmates and missed them. Those who could not attend were notably missed, as well.

Fond farewells were exchanged and the evening ended with enthusiastic words of praise for a happy, convivial time together.

Sunday re-united some of our George Washington classmates who were in town for their 50th as well. We all gathered at Observatory Park for a picnic where hot dogs were enjoyed, final connections were made and "good-byes" were expressed. Thankful for

beautiful Colorado blue skies and warm weather, many exclaimed their appreciation for the work and planning that brought us all together. Some of the most heard comments were: "I'm so glad I came!" and "It was a friendly, happy reunion!" To this, I would say an enthusiastic "Amen!"

Margaret Starr Rider,
Class of 1961

East is grateful for the generous \$8,000 contribution the '61 Reunion Committee gave for student scholarships for 2012, in honor of John Auger, college counselor.

Additional reunions held last summer were: 1941; 1971; 1976-1986 (generous contribution to the Mentors and Student Assistance programs); 1981; and 1991.

Welcome East Alums

Join The A+ Angels Mentor Program

Volunteers Needed To Help Struggling East High Students Achieve & Graduate

Weekly meetings occur during school time or after school.

Training And Support Provided

Contact www.APlusAngels.org or kimberlyoddi@yahoo.com

Speech Team Surpasses Tradition

"If it is a disgrace to a man when he cannot defend himself physically, it would be absurd not to think it a disgrace when he cannot defend himself with reason in speech." *Aristotle — The Rhetoric*

Matthew Murphy, speech teacher at East High School, has created one of the premier forensic programs in the state and, in the summer of 2011, he achieved something that had not been done since 1949. Three of his students won national championships in the national speech tournament. Elliot Mamet captured the national title in Congressional Debate and Suzzette Turner and Ameerah Kindie tied for the national title in Duo Interpretation. The last Angel to win a national championship was Mark Gibson (Class of 1949) in oratory.



Mark Gibson

Mr. Murphy, a graduate of Wasson High School (2001) in Colorado Springs, earned his college degree at Colorado State University. At both institutions he was deeply involved in theatre. He came to East first as a student teacher under Melody Duggan, East's drama teacher and coach. He was hired full-time in 2006 and has raised the program to unimaginable heights. 253 students are involved in the speech program at East. He teaches three classes of intro to speech and he is assisted by Grant Wiley (class of 2000). Grant, who earned a law degree at DU, trains the debaters.

East is annually considered one of the three top speech programs in Colorado and coach Murphy has his young charges competing throughout the country in prestigious national meets at Princeton, Harvard, Berkeley and Glenn Brooks in Chicago.

His success is aided by the fact that there is great cross-over from other areas such as drama, music and constitutional scholars. This is



Elliot Mamet captured the national title in Congressional Debate.



Suzzette Turner and Ameerah Kindie tied for the national title in Duo Interpretation.

in keeping with the ancient Lyceum movement which saw speech, literature and music as the great persuasive arts of the world's most educated students. Aristotle, Plato and Socrates were all part of these classical groups.

Murphy virtually has no weekends to himself during the school year, as he has his students attending nearly 30 meets every year. It has paid off, as he has the East team ranked 40th nationally in an activity that includes over 3,000 school participants. "We go up against well-funded programs and the most academically elite programs in the country. We are successful because sometimes hard work trumps talent, and most often we out work everyone else."

When asked why he believes so passionately in the speech program, Matt responded, "Speech

and especially debate rewards intellect and hard work and says to young people, it is OK to be competitive. Putting yourself in a speech situation, one of the most terrifying experiences anyone can face, allows you to comfort yourself and gain self-confidence."

Matt recently was recognized for the **9Who Cares Award**. He believes that the value of the speech program is not that every speech student win a state championship nor qualify for nationals, but that with persistence, dedication and hard work, East High speech students can develop life-long skills that will assist them in their professional development and in life.

UPCOMING REUNION DATES

CLASS OF 1962
August 24-26, 2012
Contacts: Ted Scott
radioted@comcast.net
303-756-9091
Gerry Achatz
glachatz@comcast.net
303-722-9064

CLASS OF 1972
Info to come

CLASS OF 1982
June 22-24, 2012
Contact: Shawn Carrington
eastangels.82@gmail.com
303-404-8633
Or
www.82angels.@myevent.com

East High Constitutional Scholars A Proud Tradition Continues

In May of 2011 the East High Constitutional Scholars Team placed sixth in the nation in the **We The People: the Citizen and the Constitution** competition in Washington, D.C. As it is with all East teams, they underwent rigorous preparation with their coach and teacher Mark Thalhofer, along with hours of help from local attorneys. East is fortunate and so grateful to have loyal community members, and former East parents who each year contribute their time and legal talents to help prepare the new team. Members of the team, past and present, consider Con Law to be one of the most difficult and time-consuming undertakings of their high school careers — and one of the most rewarding.



Representing Colorado as State Champions, East has placed in the top 10 18 times and won the National championship four times. (1992, 2007, 2008, 2009)!

We are proud of all the East participants for their hard work and all those adults who encourage and help make this level of learning possible! And we are most grateful to all those who provide financial support to make this national competition possible!!

In May of 2012... East will again represent Colorado as the **State Champions** in the National competition. The 25 member team and their coach Mark Thalhofer will leave for D.C. on April 26 and return May 1. **Twenty-three times Colorado State Champs!** For the first time, East will have to raise 100 percent of funds needed for the competition. In previous years congress helped pay for student airfares — no longer! Contact: Mrs. Beth Gower, East High School, 1600 City Park Esplanade, Denver, CO 80206, or jsmbgower@earthlink.net.

2011 Athletic Hall Inductees

Thirty-one new Angels were inducted into the East High Athletic Hall of Fame at an induction ceremony held on October 15, 2011, at the school. Twenty-two boys, six girls and three coaches were added to the hall. To date, 168 male and female athletes have been inducted along with 31 coaches.

In keeping with the original philosophy, these new inductees represent all decades from 1910-2010 and as many different sports as possible. Each candidate must have had at least one All State honor in his or her resume in order to be considered.

Gary Henson, (class of 1958) and David Oliver (class of 2000) were featured speakers. Gary, an All-State football and track athlete talked about the great coaching that existed at East in the 1950s. He highlighted Pat Panek, Gregg Browning, Paul Vaughn, John Brennan, Paul Coleman, Jack Boyd and Bill Weimar as coaches who provided positive role models for young athletes. David, an Olympian bronze medal winner in track, talked about the unique experience that was an East High education.

Anyone interested in nominating an athlete for future consideration should send a written letter of nomination complete with contact information of the nominee, his or her year of graduation and which sport or sports he or she was named All-State. Send to

Richard Nelson, 112 South Eaton Court, Lakewood, Colorado 80226 or e-mail it to dick_n_jan@yahoo.com.

The next induction year has not been determined as there is a need to raise money for the hall.

East Hall of Fame Inductees 2011

- 1911 - Howard Shotwell Track
- 1928 - Edwin Toothaker Fb/Bbk/Bbl
- 1937 - Russell Brown Track
- 1942 - Bill Spoor Fb/Track
- 1944 - Billy Sellers Wr/Bbk
- 1946 - John Strobel Fb/Bbl
- 1946 - John Jeffries Bbk
- 1950 - Bill Horton Fb/Track
- 1955 - John Naylor Gym
- 1958 - Gary Henson Fb/Track
- 1960 - Tim Hinton Fb/Wr
- 1960 - Terry Wrightson Sw
- 1965 - Tarry Harrison Track/CC
- 1970 - Darryl Simpson Gym
- 1971 - Dale Hooks Bbk
- 1974 - Tina Dwight Track
- 1983 - Maureatha Hall Fb/Bbk
- 1984 - Julie Doane Soc
- 1985 - Nanci Yarter Gym
- 1986 - Devin Shaffer Ten
- 1994 - Jason Craft Fb/Track
- 1995 - Erin Lanphier Sw
- 1998 - Ted Burghardt Ten
- 2000 - David Oliver Tr
- 2000 - Tasha Molock Bbk
- 2003 - Antonio Porch Bbk
- 2006 - Dillon Roy Lax
- 2007 - Brenna Hokanson Softball
- Coach Ted Calloway Bbk
- Coach Phil Krous Ten
- Coach Rick Schraeder Bbk

Your Support Matters!

East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation wanted to let you know what we've been doing this year. Last summer, over 700 alums viewed our entryway project when they returned to East. Our **Historic Preservation Committee** is planning for future restoration/preservation of the historic items in the museum. Seventy-seven students paired with community Mentors in the **A+ Angel Mentoring program**, one of many programs funded by EAFAF. Our **Debate and Constitutional Scholar teams** are off to a great start again this year with funding for coaches provided by EAFAF. Our **Student and Faculty Grant Program** funded a large variety of classroom wish lists, including Kindles for special education students and funding CDs for the music department.

The **Student Assistance Fund** has seen a 40 percent increase in the number of students seeking help to pay AP fees, buy bus passes, calculators and textbooks. This is consistent with our **Angel Pack Program**, where backpacks of food, packed by volunteers, are sent home with kids that would otherwise not have access to food on weekends. **Project Greer Street** is hard at work with African-American male students supporting their efforts at achieving excellence in school and success in their futures. Our **Community Connections** program partners with the City and community groups on projects affecting East... this year planting trees and working with the Community Gardens in front of East. EAFAF has also provided **Scholarships** to help our Angels with higher education.

EAFAF works to address the needs of our Angels and this important work would not be possible without the support of friends like you. Thank you!

NEW ENTRY PLAZA AT EAST IS BIG AND BEAUTIFUL

Leave Your Legacy At East With A Personalized Brick Or Paver

- CELEBRATE YOUR OR YOUR FAMILY'S YEARS AT EAST
- HONOR A FRIEND, TEACHER OR COACH.
- INSPIRE PAST AND FUTURE ANGELS

Commemorative red bricks are \$100 each, for up to three lines of personal information. Granite Pavers are \$1,000 and Capstones are \$5,000.

To purchase bricks or pavers contact:
Susan Bardwell 303-399-1155 or SusanBardwell@msn.com
Bricks can also be purchased at www.eastangelfriends.org.

East Boys' Soccer Captures State Title

For the third time since soccer was sanctioned as a competitive sport in Colorado, the East boys' team has won the state champion-

ship. The Angels won the title this year in a rather significant manner. In all five games of the state playoffs, the Angels never allowed

a score to get by them.

The team is coached by Beth Hinz who also led the Angels to a state title in 2008. In 1994, coach Tee MacDonald led East to its first boys soccer title. The girls' soccer team won a state title in 1985.

Several players were given All-State honors:

First Team:
Mitchell Heinzeroth Senior
Ashi Geberkidane Junior

Second Team:
Caden MacKenzie Junior
Jeremy Tabor Junior

Honorable Mention:
Marques McDonald Senior

All-Colorado Player of the Year:
Mitchell Heinzeroth Senior



Angels senior Mitchell Heinzeroth (1) carried the trophy toward the East fans following the win. (Karl Gehring, *The Denver Post*)

