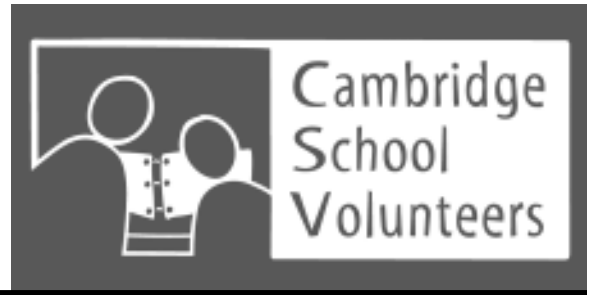


# CSV NEWS

SPRING/SUMMER 2005



## Cambridge School Volunteers Honored During Annual Recognition Event

On May 18, CSV honored its more than 1000 volunteers who have served in grades K-12 of the Cambridge Public Schools (CPS) during the 2004-05 academic year at a reception hosted by Harvard University at the Harvard Faculty Club. Together, these volunteers provided more than 60,000 hours of individualized academic services to Cambridge youth.

After a welcome by CPS Superintendent Thomas Fowler-Finn, Cambridge Mayor Michael Sullivan, CSV board president Andrew J. Bernstein, and Manuel Davis, son of Mack I. Davis, longevity certificates were awarded by CSV Executive Director Harriet Finck to those who had volunteered for four, ten, fifteen and twenty years. A new and ongoing award, acknowledging the work of Kennedy-Longfellow School Assistant Principal, Kenneth S. Neal, was presented to Mr. Neal for his commitment to CSV's corporate volunteer programs.

Awards honoring the late Mack I. Davis II, who was a Harvard administrator with an extraordinary record of public service, including membership on the CSV Board of Directors, were presented to the following out-



Mack I. Davis 2005 Award Winners (L to R): Elena Raya (CRLS), Allen West (CRLS), Carol Hulsizer (Baldwin), Elvernoy Holland (Peabody), Arthur Smith (Graham & Parks, CRLS), Susan Miller (CRLS), Harriet Griesinger (CRLS), Shelly Davis (widow of Mack Davis), and Manuel Davis (son of Mack Davis).

standing CSV volunteers by Ms. Finck: **Harriet Griesinger** (CRLS Physics classroom assistant); **Elvernoy Holland** (Catholic Charities Foster Grandparents Program, Peabody School); **Carol Hulsizer** (Intergenerational Literacy Program tutor, Baldwin School); **Susan Miller** (CRLS Tutoring Center volunteer); **Elena Raya** (CRLS Tutoring Center volunteer); **Thomas Arthur Smith** (Graham & Parks School and CRLS Art classroom assistant); and **Allen West** (CRLS Tutoring Center volunteer).

Awards were also presented to the following corporations whose employees participate in CSV team-based projects in the Cambridge Public Schools:

BookPALS: A Program of the Screen Actors Guild Foundation; Cambridge Police Department; Cambridge Systematics, Inc.; The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc.; Genzyme Corporation; Harvard Graduate School of Education; The Hyatt Regency of Cambridge; IBM; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Millennium Pharmaceuticals; Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research; The Stride Rite Corporation; and The Volpe National Transportation Systems Center.

## CSV Program Update – Spring/Summer '05

For the past five years, CSV's **Intergenerational Literacy Program** has been directed by three enthusiastic coordinators, Donald Crawford (Graham & Parks), Marian Lorenz (Haggerty) and Lee Robbins (Baldwin). While Donald has continued to tutor throughout, Marian and Lee have found that the responsibilities have precluded their doing that this year. All three have decided to step down as site directors and resume volunteer tutoring in the fall. We are currently interviewing candidates with experience in early childhood education, particularly reading and literacy, to become the new Director of ILP.

We are pleased to announce that the **Intergenerational Math Program (IMP)** has added a fifth school – the Tobin – at the request of Paulette Jones, Assistant Principal. Rose Madsen, Director of IMP, has been busy recruiting and training new vol-

unteers to work in this twice weekly tutoring program for second graders.

**Netpals** has added a new school and corporation with the partnership between Cambridgeport and Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research. Lisa Van Vleck, Director of **Corporate Volunteer Programs**, facilitated the development of this program where employees are matched as Netpals with 35 seventh graders at the Cambridgeport School. This is the first Netpals program to have a science focus, helping students with Science Expo and SimCell projects. Three face-to-face visits help to build the career awareness aspect of the program.

This is the seventh year in which Laura Margosian, Director of High School Volunteers, has recruited volunteer-advisors to work with CRLS students preparing for the state-wide **Science Olympiad**. This year,

twenty-one volunteers helped students with the research and strategies needed to participate in this rigorous interscholastic competition. In 1999, the first year of CSV's involvement, the volunteers coaching the high school team were instrumental in guiding the team to a first place win. This March, the team captured 7<sup>th</sup> place in the state (out of 35 private and public schools), placing among the top two in five competitions (first in *Forestry and Dynamic Planet*, second in *Astronomy, Tower, and Fermi Questions*).

And, in another CRLS venue, CSV volunteer John Hopkins of the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center delivered classroom presentations to four freshman Physics classes in February for the culmination of a transportation unit. John's presentation supplemented the physics curriculum focusing on driving safety and Newton's Law.

## CSV STAFF

Harriet Finck  
**Executive Director**

Kasey Appleman  
**Director of Elementary  
Volunteers**

Rose Madsen  
**Director of  
Intergenerational Math  
Program**

Laura Margosian  
**Director of High School  
Volunteers**

Rene Meshon  
**Tutoring Center Man-  
ager**

Martha Osler  
**Director of Volunteer  
Recruitment**

Daisy Rodriguez  
**Office Manager and  
Program Assistant**

Lisa Van Vleck  
**Director of Corporate  
Programs**

Donald Crawford, Marian  
Lorenz, Lee Robbins  
**Site Directors,  
Intergenerational  
Literacy Program**

## BOARD MEMBERS

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Bill Zamparelli

## A Note From the President

I am proud of the progress Cambridge School Volunteers has made in 2004-05 under our new leadership and am excited about the new initiatives described elsewhere. CSV continues to build on our positive relationship with the schools and administration while exploring new programs to benefit students and help lead them in the direction of academic success.

Overall, it has been an exciting year. Our former Executive Director moved on to the Kennedy School and we were fortunate to hire Harriet Finck as our new Executive Director. Harriet comes to us from a rich background of non-profit organizations. Also, we are pleased to welcome two new Board members, Marc McGovern, life-long Cambridge resident, product of the Cambridge Public Schools and a current School Committee member, and Robert "Chip" Taggart, COO of Cambridge Systematics and a volunteer through the NetPal program.

While we receive nearly half of our annual support from the Cambridge Public School Department, we must raise more than \$200,000 each year to fund our organization and deliver high quality services to the children and teenagers of the Cambridge Public Schools. We continue to recruit, screen, train and support nearly 1,200 volunteers on a small budget. Even with the slight up-tick in the economy it remains a great challenge to raise the necessary funds. I want to personally ask our supporters and friends to consider making a contribution as we approach the end of our fiscal year.

With warmest thanks on behalf of the public school children of Cambridge, I send my appreciation to each of you.

Andrew Bernstein, CSV Board President



New CSV  
Executive  
Director

CSV welcomed its new Executive Director, Harriet Finck, in the fall of 2004. Harriet, who took over the helm from Jennifer Singh, is a Brookline native with over 20 years of experience in the non-profit sector, with particular emphasis on children and families.

"I hope to extend CSV's positive relationship with Superintendent Fowler-Finn and other Cambridge educators in order to grow and develop our volunteer programs to closely serve our community. We also have a unique relationship with Cambridge corporations. Along with the CSV Board, I plan to enhance these partnerships in order to increase the impact we have on the lives of our city's children."

A graduate of Tufts University, Harriet also holds an MSW from Washington University in St. Louis, and an MBA from the Simmons School of Management.

## CSV Participates on Harvard Panel

Lisa Van Vleck, Director of Corporate Projects for CSV, participated recently in the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Askwith Education Forum entitled, "L is for Literacy: Reading with Children."

Lisa joined moderator Robert Selman, Larsen Professor of Education and Human Development, and Catherine Snow, Shattuck Professor of Education, focusing on how to promote children's literacy. She detailed how the Volpe Center, Genzyme Corporation, and Harvard Graduate School of Education/BookPALS read-aloud programs serve students in grades 1-3 at the Kennedy-Longfellow, Fletcher-Maynard Academy, and Amigos Schools. In addition to describing the Reading Buddies program infrastructure, Lisa shared enthusiastic responses from teachers, volunteers, and students.

# CRLS TUTORING CENTER

Walk into Room R319 at CRLS any week-day between 7:30 am and 4 pm, and you will hear the sound of work being done. It's a low hum, and as you look around, it's likely that more than a dozen students and tutors are talking quietly, poring over papers and textbooks.

Managed by CSV under the direction of Rene Meshon, the Tutoring Center (TC) is the essence of a successful collaboration between the school department and a small independent non-profit (CSV). It represents a commitment by both entities to support the academic and personal success of all students, regardless of education or income level. For years, the TC has offered help before, during and after-school to any student who needs it, whether it be in math, world history, learning English or other new language. As Rene has often stated, "There's no stigma to coming here. We have more students looking for tutoring than we have tutors to fill the slots."

Tutors have learned about the TC from a variety of places: word of mouth; CSV brochures; university public service offices; volunteer websites, including CSV's; and

newspaper and newsletter write-ups. All attend an orientation by Laura Margosian, Director of High School Programs and Placements, and can participate in other interactive workshops throughout the school year. Current volunteers include a mix of retired professionals, local undergrad and grad students, and caring adults who have much to contribute. Most come from Cambridge, though others travel from as far away as Swampscott and Needham, each putting in at least one hour per week.

The TC is truly appreciated by the principals, teachers, guidance counselors and parents who are part of the CRLS community. And there are endless stories about the impact that the TC has made on the lives of so many students and tutors. As Rene is fond of pointing out, these stories range from the tutor who worked with one student through all four of her years of CRLS and afterward, to the CRLS teacher who decided to volunteer as a tutor even beyond his normal teaching hours. Would you like to see the TC in operation or can you volunteer for as little as one hour per week? See Rene Meshon in Room R319, or call 617-349-6794.

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## Recruitment News

To date, more than 1,000 volunteers have registered through CSV as working in the Cambridge public schools, grades K thru 12. We are right on target for our usual number of 1,100+ volunteers.

In addition to the tried-and-true ways of recruiting volunteers (brochures, bookmarks, volunteer websites, newspaper and newsletter coverage), CSV has introduced some new methods this year, from a one-minute Public Service Announcement (PSA) spot on CCTV, to a more robust use of the agency's website ([www.csvinc.org](http://www.csvinc.org)). The PSA, featuring long-time volunteer and Cambridge resident Steve Sillari, appears regularly on Cambridge cable channels. The TV spot, which Steve authored and

stars in, gives his reasons for volunteering through CSV and the positive impact it makes on the lives of so many school children.

The CSV website, redesigned by graphic artist Christina Van Vleck, is regularly maintained by CSV staff with the assistance of their web host, skyBuilders. More than 100 interested volunteers used the website to submit an online Volunteer Application. Donors to CSV also used the site to make monetary donations. In addition, the site allows news and announcements about CSV to be shared with the general public. Future website plans include more interactive uses between CSV and its current volunteers as well as calendar updates for orientations and trainings.

## Corporate and Foundation Donations of \$500 and more July 1, 2004 – Present; Fiscal Year 2005

Cambridge School Volunteers is most grateful to the following foundations and corporations for their support since July 1, 2004.

Blossom Fund  
Campbell and Hall Charity Fund  
Dean Welfare Trust, Mellon Trust of New England, Corporate Trustee  
Eastern Charitable Foundation  
Sheila Gamble Fund at Cambridge Community Foundation  
Genzyme Corporation  
IBM  
Lars Foundation  
Martin Fund at The Boston Foundation  
MIT Community Service Fund  
The Math Works, Inc.  
Millipore Foundation  
New England High-Tech Charity Foundation  
Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research  
William E. and Bertha E. Schrafft Charitable Trust  
Stride Rite Foundation  
Volpe Center – Department of Transportation  
The Wood Foundation  
W.R. Grace  
and the Cambridge Public School Department

## And Kudos to...

Broadway Marketplace  
Middle East Restaurant  
Starbuck's (Broadway)  
Star Market (Beacon Street)  
Star Market (MIT)  
Trader Joe's

For providing CSV with tasty morsels for our many training events and our Open House

As well as:

Genzyme Corporation  
IBM Corporation  
Cambridge Public School Dept.

For other goods and services

# Hands-On Homework Help

Not all elementary students go directly home after school. When the bell rings, many seek out their school's Learning Center, a comfortable space for doing homework, where students work quietly with teachers and CSV volunteers. Coordinated by CSV, Learning Centers exist in almost all 12 elementary schools and offer a supportive environment where students can work one-on-one with an interested adult.

At one such Learning Center at the Baldwin School, volunteer Steve Sillari has participated twice a week for four years, assisting 3rd through 5th graders with homework. A longtime Cambridge resident and community activist, Steve says he totally looks forward to his visits to the Learning Center each week. Teachers Maria Proper and Kelly Henderson join him by staying beyond the school day to gently guide students as they work on homework problems, whether in math, social studies or language arts.

The Learning Center program, begun in the mid 1980's, is one of the hallmark programs for CSV. Managed by Kasey Appleman and funded in part through a contract with CPSD, each

center has its own unique flavor and serves lower and/or upper grades. Currently more than 90 CSV volunteers assist in these programs, including some collaborative groups (Hyatt Hotel, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, and Harvard HAND) that have partnered with a particular school.

## Good Morning, Marge!

On any Wednesday morning in Barbara Jais's classroom at the Cambridgeport School, you can hear the eager voices of her third and fourth graders welcoming their weekly volunteer, Marge Bernstein: "Good morning, Marge!" Also a CSV Board member, Marge has been participating as a classroom volunteer since the fall.

When she first started, she thought she would use her expertise as a former newspaper writer to help students with a Writer's Club. But things did not quite work out that way. Instead, Marge helps with math, writing, and just about anything else that comes up during the 2.5 hours that she is there. "I love being called by my first name," she said, and she also loves the freedom of walking around the classroom and helping students one-on-one.

So far, Marge has assisted with everything from the classroom newsletter to providing an occasional snack. She particularly relishes helping students with writing assignments and reading. "I never knew I'd be so hooked on it. I'm so pleased to be in the classroom and feeling like I'm making a real difference."

If you would like more information about becoming an elementary school volunteer, contact Kasey Appleman, Director of Elementary Programs, at CSV.

## Did You Know?

- ❖ **The first Mack Davis Service Awards, honoring six outstanding CSV volunteers, were presented on December 5, 1989.**
- ❖ **In 1981, approximately 100 volunteers worked in the school system. Today, the number is over 1,100 each academic year.**
- ❖ **CSV collaborates with 12 local corporations, public service/government agencies and universities who recruit more than 400 employees to work with an even larger number of students from 5 elementary school programs?**

## Cambridge School Volunteers Pledge Form

### YES! I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH CSV

Here is my gift of:

- \$30     \$50     \$100  
 \$250     \$500     Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail.  
 Please save a stamp and e-mail my gift acknowledgment. Here's my e-mail address:

- My employer matches gifts; the form is enclosed.

You can donate on-line at [csvinc.org](http://csvinc.org). Click on "Support CSV," then "Make a Donation" and "Click Here" and follow the prompts.

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617-349-6794