

CHILDREN'S SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

Newsletter

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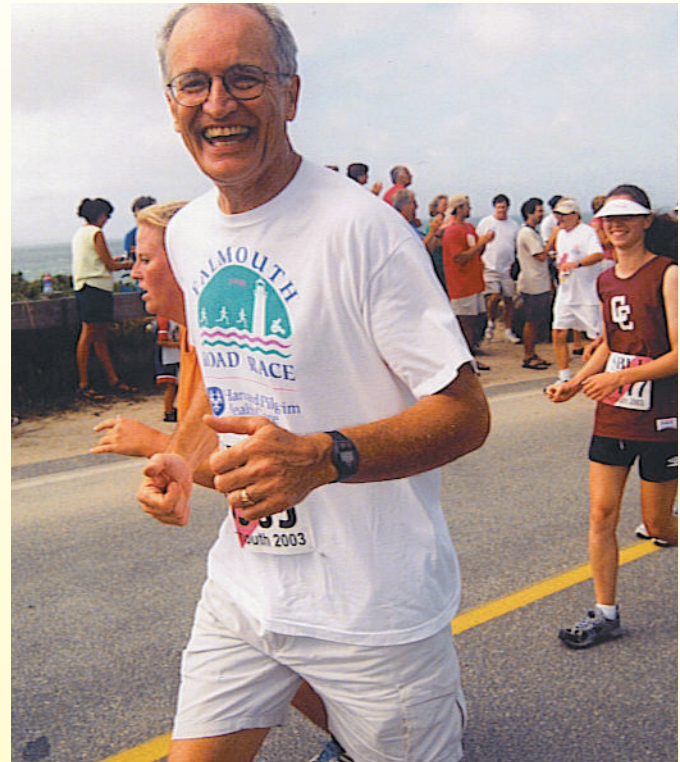
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a wonderful opportunity the board has given me when it made a leap of faith August 6th and elected its first male chair in 91 years. The year is off to a great start with much wonderful guidance from Dorothea Mautner, our immediate past President.

For my wife Alice and me, the Children's School of Science became a highlight of our years in the early 1990's when Amy, our oldest, was 7 and could go to Seashore Life. We signed up for as many field trips as each class had and extra field trips to boot. From that time forward, the volunteer activities were a magnet in the sense that the adults we met were having as much fun and the kids were. Amy now is at Mount Holyoke College and is still clearly interested in science. Amy was a lifer and an Assistant for two years. Her college interviews all especially noted her essay that focused on her Woods Hole experience. Our youngest, Jennelle, now has had nine summers and considers herself a super lifer and hopes to be an Assistant next summer.

What has always been a mystery to us was how everything at the CSS gets done. This is an amazingly complex school with almost 500 children and yet things seem to go like clockwork. It seems to come out of an attic in late June in a day's time and goes back into the attic in a day's time. In fact the closer I got to the board and the committee chairs the more impressed I became with just how many out-of-sight energetic volunteers there are, how complex the tasks seem when one considers that outcome: six weeks of interesting courses, great teachers all with an endurance of 91 years. So it is our own children and our own discovery that led us to more involvement with the CSS.



As for me, I have loved all sorts of science from a young age. My father attended CSS in the 1920's and, although I was born in Woods Hole (on Glendon Street in 1941), left at age four or so and did not get back until 1986 when we finally found a place to buy on George Street. My father had been a summer resident in Woods Hole from the late 1920's and brought his bride to Woods Hole year round when they were married after college in 1939. He worked at MBL and WHOI during World War II when everyone had two jobs or maybe it was the Woods Hole thing to do even back then! It was a transfer to another "war industry" that took my parents and their two sons to St. Paul, Minnesota in 1944. It was this love of science that led my father to his career and also led to my

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