

oxygen, salinity, carbon dioxide, and turbidity (clarity).

Armstrong also recalls memorable moments at CSS that happened outside her classroom. Former CSS director Eugene Phillips would set up a projector and show films on rainy days, bringing together all the students. One that Armstrong remembers was “Between the Tides,” which was filmed in Maine, and explored the marine life that lived between high tide and low tide. Another, “The Loon’s Necklace,” told the story of an Indian squaw who threw her necklace into a lake, which landed on a loon’s neck and broke, scattering the white beads across the loon’s back.

When asked what students do now on rainy days, Armstrong laughed and said, “We go out!” In truly inclement weather, Armstrong added, they will do projects with paint or clay or work on collections.

Years ago, safety was not as paramount an issue at CSS as it is today, Armstrong said. Students didn’t necessarily wear life jackets on boats, for example, and many students arrived at school barefoot. One year when Armstrong was teaching, John’s Shoes in Falmouth gave the school a huge cardboard box of sneakers they couldn’t sell—as Armstrong remembers, all white. Whenever a student came to school barefoot, they had to go to this box and get shoes.

“You can imagine that by the end of summer, there were fifty pairs of sneakers that were mismatched, muddy, and they never got dried,” Armstrong said.

Teaching at the Children’s School of Science has become a family affair for Ellie Armstrong. Her daughter Heather, who now lives in Italy, was an assistant for two years and taught one summer of Biological Illustration. Heather’s daughter Aida is now a student at CSS. Armstrong’s other daughter, Jenny Junker, taught Animal Behavior and Biological Illustration, and Jenny’s husband Steve Junker taught Meteorology and Navigation. A third daughter, Bronwen Armstrong, a senior in college, taught Theater through the Marine Biological Laboratory club and produced a play, “Robin Hood,” which featured many CSS students.

Board Member Spotlight!

The CSS Board of Directors includes thirteen members, with each member required to serve a three-year tour of duty. Below are featured four biographies of board members who are serving their last year:

Kitty Brown: Kitty Brown spent summers on the Cape from the time she was eight years old until she went away to college, fostering a life-long love of the region. She and her husband returned to the Cape in 1974 and have lived in East Falmouth since 1976. As a child, Brown attended CSS for six years and became an assistant in the Vertebrate, Zoology, and Entomology classes. Her mother was president of the school when she was an assistant. When her daughter took Seashore Life, Brown became involved as an active volunteer for the school. She served as Trips Chair for four years, clerk and recording secretary for two years, and she was a member on the board for two years before becoming president. She has remained on the board since then and has been treasurer for the past four years. Both her daughter and son attended the school for many years. “Although my children are grown, Science School continues to excite me. The enthusiasm of the staff, children, and parents is exhilarating and contagious! The warm friendships made along the way are lifelong.”

Rhona Carlton-Foss: Rhona Carlton-Foss is currently co-chair of Health and Safety for CSS. Carlton-Foss lives in Weston, Massachusetts in the winter, where she has taught math at the Cambridge School of

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