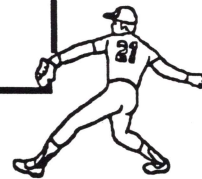




The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

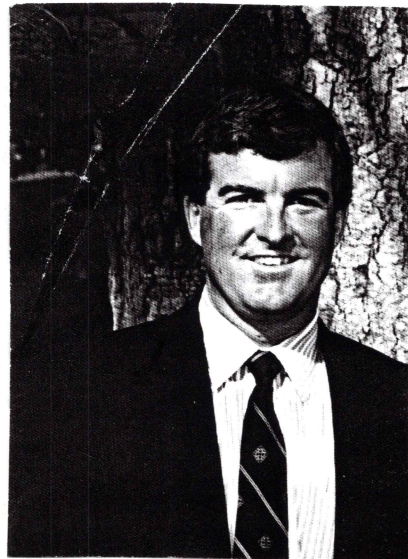
March, 1997



BOB GILLINGHAM HONORED BY JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

BOB AND LISTY ENJOY HOLIDAY IN PASADENA

Recently Bob Gillingham received the following letter from Johns Hopkins University, which defines an award he received as one of the outstanding educational administrators in California. The letter contains the details, and we also reproduce a second letter sent out by Francis Parker School to all of the Lower School parents. As you can see from the note added to the Parker letter by Listy, they had an especially enjoyable two night visit to the big city. Also, it would appear that the shopping twins will soon be on the loose again, looking for some special bargains. This award certainly is a well deserved honor, and we congratulate Bob for his achievement.



Friday, February 7, 1997

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Institute for the Academic Advancement of Youth
Center for Talented Youth
Center for Academic Advancement

January 21, 1997

Dr. Robert Gillingham
8704 Robles Drive
San Diego, California 92103

Dear Dr. Gillingham:

I am honored to inform you that you have been nominated and selected as one of the most effective and outstanding educational administrators in the state of California. My congratulations to you on your accomplishment! Your essay application conveyed progressive ideas toward forwarding the education of our nations' students and represented hope for teachers and students alike. The Johns Hopkins University Institute for the Academic Advancement of Youth (IAAY) is eager to recognize your contributions to the field of education at the annual 1997 SDB Winter Conference.

This special event will be held at The Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel in Pasadena, California, February 6-February 9, 1997. The conference will focus on *The Privatization of Education: Its Impact & Its Future*. Mr. Douglas Becker, CEO, Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc., will be the keynote speaker.

As an honored participant to this important event, your travel, accommodations, and most meal expenses will be covered by IAAY. If you will be traveling by air, please contact Sharon Sweeney at Carriage House Travel (818/795-8656) to make your airline reservations. Please complete the enclosed response form and then fax to IAAY *No Later Than January 25, 1997*.

Again, congratulations on receiving this special honor. We are looking forward to meeting you on Thursday evening, February 6th. Please call Mary Beth Pope, Conference Coordinator, at the IAAY Western Regional Office, if you have any questions regarding this special event.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Jones Stork
Director, IAAY Western Region
Deputy Director, CAA

818 500 9034

Enclosure

206 N. Jackson
ST. 304
Glendale CA
201206

3400 N. Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21218 (410) 516-0337 FAX: (410) 516-0804
Administrative Offices: Baltimore, Maryland and Glendale, California

IAAY
CTY CAA



Founded in 1912

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We are proud of and grateful to Bob Gillingham, and feel the same about the entire Lower School team—faculty, students and staff...The team is only as good as the captain, and the captain is only as good as the team...Johns Hopkins University has astutely conferred this distinction on the Head of the Lower School and, indeed, on the entire Lower School family.

So, congratulations to Dr. Gillingham, and to all pre-k - grade 5 Lancers, adult and youth!

Sincere best wishes,

W. Lee Pierson
Headmaster

Dad,
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We got treated to a 2-night stay at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Pasadena.
8 administrators were recognized with a certificate & \$900 honorarium (must be meant for the wives!). Pretty impressive!
Listy

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

March, 1997

AUNT ELOISE REPORTS ON THE DEATH OF UNCLE JIMMIE

Recently we received the following letter from Aunt Eloise, along with the obituary notice and a copy of the memorial service program, as shown below. Although distance precluded our seeing each other except on rare occasions, Jimmie and I communicated by telephone frequently, and maintained a close family relationship. With the recent visit by Listy and Birdy all of our family have met and know Jimmie and Eloise through past visits. Their kindness and generosity toward all of us will be a fond memory, and although he no longer is with us we will continue to hold him in our memories. We also extend to Susan and Debbie our deepest sympathies, along with the hope that someday they and their families, and also Eloise, will be able to visit us here in San Diego. Jimmie was very proud of his family, just as we are, and we hope for a happy future for everyone.

13 February 1997

Dear Edith and Frank,

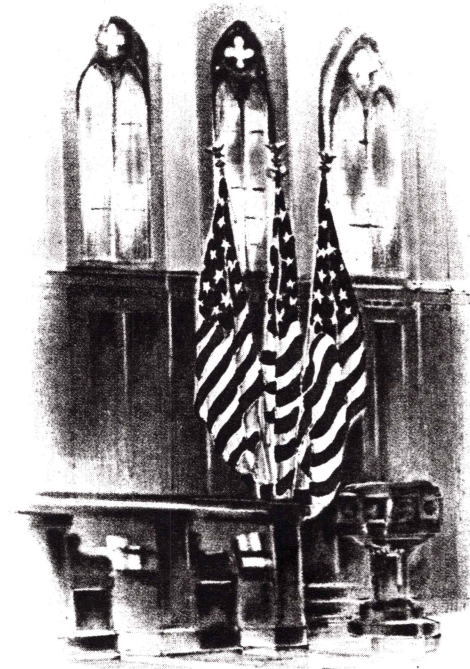
Jimmie had not been well for three months when Birdy and Listy visited us (what a wonderful day that was - we finally got to meet the TWINS), and made a special effort to entertain them. He had no appetite but no pain, just wasn't interested in food, although he would eat. The doctor put him in the hospital the following Wednesday after Birdy and Listy were here, to have some more tests run. All tests were negative and Jimmie was released from the hospital on Friday. When he got out of the car at home, he lost his balance, fell and broke his hip. We left the hospital at 6 PM and were back at 7PM. His broken hip, although quite painful, was mending well, he was walking; but his problem of no appetite and not eating continued. When the doctors decided to make the TC scan of the stomach area, the low grade lymphoma was found. Jimmie had the first of the chemotherapy treatment, and had no ill effects at first, but then he became extremely weak, and went downhill rapidly. Wed-afternoon late he lapsed into a coma and then just stopped breathing early Wednesday night. We had no idea the end was so near. Death is always a shock, and to lose someone like Jimmie is heartbreaking.

Frank, you should be very proud of your brother. There has been such an outpouring of love and compassion. During the month Jimmie was in the hospital, he received an average of over two cards per day, and the room was always filled with flowers, fruit and candy. There were over 200 people at the services, and the floral offering was unbelievable. Jimmie had the unusual gift of making friends and then caring enough to keep the friendship active, from teenagers to the aged. Many businesses were closed so that friends could attend the services. Many of our old business associates attended as well as the Mayor, and Jimmie's good friend, the former Mayor. You wouldn't believe all the food, the visits, the cards and the memorials to the Citadel, the church and the Leukemia Society. The flowers from your family, and the one from Birdy and Listy were so pretty and most appreciated. Yours was a huge basket of red double begonias and peace lily, and the other was a variety of green plants with carnations, daisies and snapdragons. Thank you for the flowers. They surely helped to ease the pain.

Needless to say my life will never be the same again. I am very grateful that I have my work. The family and friends have seen to it that I am not alone for any length of time. I have had a problem getting around to writing thank you letters.

I appreciate very much your kind invitation to visit you. I would like to take you up on your offer at a later date. It's too soon right now to see Jimmie's side of the family. Please give everyone my love, and please take good care of yourselves.

*With love,
Eloise*



IN MEMORY

James Daniel Riel II died Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1997, at Tuomey Regional Medical Center.

Born March 21, 1915, in Cleveland, Ohio, he was a son of the late Frank James Sr. and Edna Southam Riel. He was a 1937 graduate of The Citadel. He served as a lieutenant colonel in the African and European theaters during World War II. Mr. Riel was owner of an engineering firm, Details Bi-Riel. He was a member of the Fellowship Literary Society and Shiloh United Methodist Church. He was known to all as a "character."

Survivors include his wife, Eloise Green Riel of Sumter; two daughters, Susan Riel Silverman of Rock Hill and Debbie Riel Nix of Dalzell; a brother, Dr. Frank James Riel Jr. of San Diego, Calif.; three grandchildren, Lt. Andrew James Nix of San Antonio, Texas, Scott Clinton Nix of Dalzell and Alexander James Silverman of Rock Hill; and a host of nephews and nieces.

Memorial services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Friday at Shiloh United Methodist Church, Shiloh, with the Rev. John Bauknight officiating, assisted by the Rev. Gordon Timmons.

The family will receive friends immediately following the memorial service at the church, and at other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to the S.C. Chapter, Leukemia Society of America, 261-B Riverchase Way, Lexington, S.C. 29072.

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News



March, 1997

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The birthday twins (both February 10th) Michael and Brett celebrated their 16th and 14th birthdays recently. After lunch at Tio Leo's, (see accompanying photograph) the plan was to play a round of golf. However, since it was a holiday both the Mission Bay and Admiral Baker courses were too crowded to get out on. Grandma promised a rain check, and we settled for a movie, "Dante's Peak". This celebration marked a first for Grandpa and Grandma in that Michael now is driving, and can come to us instead of us picking him up. We love it!. A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to both, and the golf game is still due.

BIRTHDAY CALENDAR FOR MARCH

Margaret Riel	March 5	47
Jessica Benesch	March 17	14
Craig Hartman	March 19	14
Jeffrey Benesch	March 23	45

TRAVEL NEWS

The travel twins, Margaret and Francie, were at it again in January. Francie took a short vacation trip to San Francisco, enjoying some shopping and taking in a few of the local sights, as shown in the picture. She also had business trips to Seattle and then Chicago. Her company, Iso, recently has changed ownership. The former parent company, Helene Curtis, was acquired by Unilever, A large British/Dutch owned company. Since their product line is marked directly to retail suppliers, they were not interested in a product line marketed to the trade. Consequently the Iso subsidiary was sold to a Japanese firm. The new relationship appears to be working out well, and Francie plans to continue her consulting activity. Next trip, Tokyo?? Margaret recently attended a conference in Monterey, California, and reports it was interesting and well attended.

Bob and Karla Riel also were in the travel news, spending a well deserved week end in Las Vegas. They are returning this Sunday, and we hope to hear that they were big winners.

Brett and Bryce Sorem were in the travel news, spending some time with dad Alan at Peoria, taking in spring training with the Padres. We understand Bryce hit the Tony Gwynn autograph line three times, and Tony wanted to know if there was anything else he could do for him. Brett also enjoyed a school outing at Mammoth, and got an award for being the only one who made it to the top, in the snowboarding activity. Brett also got the school principal award as Student of the Month. Congratulations, Brett!!

RUNNY NOSE DEPARTMENT

Annie Gillingham was fairly sick for several days, in early February. She had to spend most of the week under Grandma's care, and finally made a complete recovery. In a brief note from dad Bob he reported that "she's back to her bubbly self". It is apparent that Grandma has not lost her healing touch.

On a more positive note, the last time we saw Robert Riel we almost did not recognize him, since he had lost 30 pounds. We understand that the count now has reached 40 pounds, all lost a result of dieting and exercise. During a recent evening conversation he was huffing and puffing on his exercise

bike. Congratulations, Robert, on your resolve to trim down and get healthy. We hope you do not find any of those lost pounds in Las Vegas.

Speaking of Robert, we had a chance meeting under less pleasant circumstances, recently. While waiting in the dentists office for the repair of a broken tooth Grandpa saw Robert enter the lobby. It seems that he needed an emergency root canal, which was performed shortly thereafter. Coincidentally, we met at the same place about a week later, for follow up work. We plan to stop meeting under these circumstances, in the future.



The Riel Family Newsletter

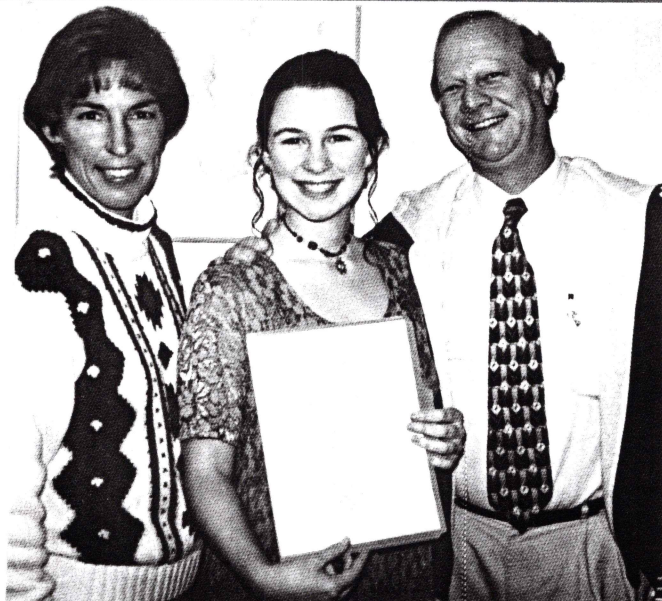
Catch the News



March, 1997

JESSICA WINS POETRY AWARD

In a recent ceremony Jessica was honored by the San Diego Unified PTA Council for her entry in the 1996-1997 National PTA Reflections Program. The theme of this years contest was "Hey it Could Happen". There were various categories, including both posters and literature entries. Jessica's poem won 1st place in her grade level, and is reproduced below. The picture shows her with her proud parents. Incidentally, Jeff reported that he was top salesman in the San Diego area. Congratulations to both for these achievements!



DUSTIN STARS IN "THE JUNGLE BOOK" WORLD PREMIERE

Dustin has won a lead role in the CYT original musical production, and the show now is playing at the Lewis Jr. High School auditorium. We understand dad Jeff was involved in the creation of this production, and we look forward to seeing it next week. Look for a full report in the April issue of RFNL.

Jessica Benesch
Period 6
Oct. 17 1996

Hey it Could Happen . . .

I took a walk beneath the stars
and sat against old oak tree.
I heard a voice from a passing car:
It was my brother, he s only three.
I sat bewildered at this strange sight
and thought and thought with all my might
"How could it be that my brother of three can learn to drive a car."
A voice came from an ant on my knee
Who said with a grin.
"Hey, it could happen!"

The next day I woke up
and walked down to the kitchen.
I reached for my cup;
the scene became quite bewitchin.
I looked at my mom, who started to boast
while buttering my shoes
and buckling my toast.
I thought this the strangest
sight I ll ever see
So I closed my eyes.
"This is not happening to me!"
But when I opened my eyes
and put my toast in the oven.
it winked at me and said,
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When you think everything
is perfectly true
Just remember,
"Hey, it could happen to you!"

IB REPRESENTATIVE REPLIES TO
EDITORIAL BY RIEL BOWL
COMMISSIONER, 1/1/97

Recently we received a communication from a self styled spokesman of an infamous group who sometimes identify themselves as "The Innocent

Bystanders". This communication, submitted by one R. Gillingham, reportedly is in reply to the scholarly essay released by the honorable Riel Bowl Commissioner, Robert D. Riel on the occasion of the Riel Bowl VI celebration. We reprint the Gillingham statement without further comment.

To: Editor, Riel Family Newsletter
From: Bob Gillingham
Re: Riel Bowl Commissioner
Date: January 26, 1997

My apology for the long delay in replying to the Riel Bowl Commissioner's rantings. . . er. . . reverie regarding the Innocent (in every sense of the word) Bystanders showstopping performance on the celestial occasion of the 50th anniversary party for Frank and Edith. However, the sheer audacity of his remarks and overwhelming fear of potential retribution rendered me essentially. . . speechless.

Nevertheless, because I am a newly reconfirmed Innocent Bystander, sworn to a high standard of personal integrity, and not a wimp or Pic 'n' Save consumer like Robert, I must admit that these points, the ones he found most offensive, issued not from Jeff's considerable font of creativity, but from my own ink-stained fingers.

That stated, I feel duty-bound to caution our vaunted commissioner not to try too hard to alleviate conditions resulting in his self-acknowledged wimpism. For after all, if it quacks like a duck, looks like a duck, smells like a duck . . . you get the picture! And as for Pic 'n' Save, I agree that many a Christmas stocking would have gone unfilled. . . but, hey, think it over. . . is that really a bad thing? We don't want to give those kids the wrong impression of Santa. We could be threatening the existence of one of the most cherished and long-held traditions.

But the main reason for this reply is to defend the honor of the Riel women. Male Innocent Bystanders worship these heavenly creatures and the ground they walk on (limited though this may be by their diminutive foot size) . For the commissioner to suggest that we harbor "pent-up frustrations" because we married Riel women is unconscionable. One is driven to think that the only bowl this commissioner is worthy of directing is the one he was sitting on when he wrote his piece, "The Commissioner Speaks Out," and hopefully not the one Carla said he has needed to fix for the past several years.

In closing, I must say to all upon whom Robert would bestow his compassion for our "undeniably pathetic situation". . . Somehow, we will overcome!
Long live the IBer's!

13 February 1997

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*With love,
Elaine*

FRANCIS PARKER
SCHOOL

Friday, February 7, 1997

Founded in 1912

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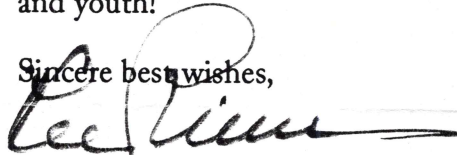
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Sincere best wishes,



W. Lee Pierson
Headmaster

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Glendale, CA
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2-12-97

Dear Frank & Edith,

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