



the alumni Insider

june/july 07

in this Issue:

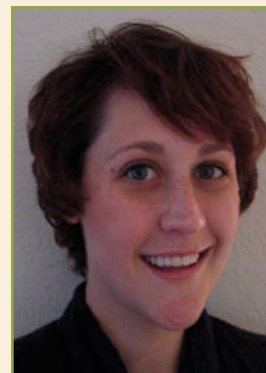
- ❁ new SPS alumni association president
- ❁ connection site update
- ❁ welcome class of 2007
- ❁ 40th anniversary party recap
- ❁ telescope tuesdays
- ❁ alumni notes
- ❁ pack the post!
- ❁ dates & events
- ❁ housekeeping stuff

meet your new SPS alumni association president

Welcome our new Alumni Association President Rebecca (Joyner Wade) Garrett, '97! Rebecca, a recruiter for senior leadership positions, lives in ABQ with her husband Sean. As Alumni Association President, Rebecca will be the face of the SPS Alumni Association for Sandia Prep's 2,500+ alumni worldwide. [Click here](#) for a message from Rebecca.

Rebecca replaces Jillian Gonzales, '91, our Alumni Association President from 2005 – 2007. While leading the Association, Jillian was vital to the launch of our Connection site, <http://alumni.sandiaprep.org>, helped plan several successful alumni events and much more. Thank you Jillian for all your hard work and dedication.

If you have an idea for the Association or want to learn more about upcoming volunteer opportunities, email Rebecca at garrettr0206@comcast.net or the SPS Alumni Affairs office at alumni@sandiaprep.org.



Rebecca (Joyner Wade) Garrett '97, new SPS Alumni Association President

WANTED: connection site registrations

200+ SPS alumni and faculty are enrolled in Sandia Prep's online community, <http://alumni.sandiaprep.org>. Similar to Facebook and MySpace, the Connection site is only available to the SPS community and is free of all the ads and spam you'll encounter on other connection sites. **Through the Connection site you can:**

- Search for and network with fellow alums
- Create your own profile page and upload personal photos
- Learn more about the latest SPS events and volunteer opportunities
- Make online gifts
- And much more!

[Enroll now](#)

Congratulations Class of 2007!

On Saturday, June 2, 2007, the SPS Alumni Association welcomed 106 new graduates into the fold.

Check out our collection of [photos](#) from the Class of 2007's last official school day, the alumni induction breakfast and graduation. It'll be quite a trip down memory lane!



40th anniversary party recap



Sandia Prep's 40th Anniversary Party had quite the turnout - more than 200 alumni, parents of alumni, SPS friends, and SPS faculty and administration members attended the anniversary celebration on Saturday, April 7, 2007. Guests of the party were treated to a 1960s

themed dinner and dance with guest entertainers, The Birds of Paradise. [Click here](#) to check out a sampling of pictures from Sandia Prep's Birthday Bash.

telescope tuesdays - see the stars!

On Tuesday evenings, Sandia Prep's telescope will be open after sunset (sometime after 8:30pm) for your viewing pleasure. One of our many talented science teachers, John Suding, has said that the School's telescope will be open in good weather to track planets and check out star clusters. So bring your spouse, kids, or even a friend or neighbor to SPS for our Telescope Tuesdays! Questions? Contact John Suding at jsuding@sandiaprep.org.

alumni notes...

In April, **Chip Conlee**, '01 visited SPS to speak with Chuck Buxbaum's Environmental Science class. Conlee, an Aerospace Architect at NASA's Johnson Space Center, is on the design team for the Permanent Lunar Habitat. During his presentation, Conlee detailed the life-support services that the Lunar Habitat needs to maintain a safe environment for its occupants. It was a great presentation and he had both the students and teachers laughing and engaged in a fun Q&A session.

Molly Wales, '93 and her husband, Craig Cornett had a beautiful baby girl, Estrella Rose Cornett on December 20, 2006. Molly and Craig are part owners of Frog Ranch, a line of wholesome, high quality, great tasting all-natural salsas and pickles. Check out www.frogranch.com for full details.



The *alumni insider* is brought to you by the Sandia Prep Alumni Association and is designed to keep you informed and up to date on the latest SPS happenings.

For any additions, suggestions or comments, please contact Melissa Besante Dineen, '97 at Sandia Prep at 505.338.3021 or email alumni@sandiaprep.org.

alumni insider contributors:

melissa besante dineen, '97, editor
dohnia dorman, designer
rebecca (joyner wade) garrett, '97, association president

Be sure to forward the *alumni insider* to all your friends and classmates to share exciting news from the Sandia Prep alumni association.

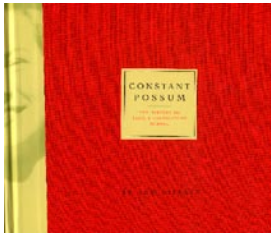
The **Westbrook** brothers, **Ben**, '03 and **Zac**, '01 have an impressive summer ahead of them. Ben, who was a finalist for class valedictorian and the Dean's Medal for Excellence in the Sciences, just graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Mathematics from the University of San Francisco. Ben will work at Livermore National Labs on the Dark Matter project this summer and then attend the University of California at Berkley to study in their Physics PhD. program in August. Older brother Zac graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BA in Linguistics and a minor in Spanish from the University of New Mexico in December 2006. Zac will participate in the New Mexico Fellows program with Governor Richardson's office this summer. He will be working under the Economic Development Department with the Office on Mexican Affairs.



pack the post! - send us your news!

We're gathering updates for our August issue of *Prep Post* and want to include as many alumni notes as possible. Come on, you know that that's your favorite section! So don't be shy, send us your news! If you've started a new job, got married, have a new addition to the family or just have something fun you want to share, send your news to alumni@sandiaprep.org. Help us 'Pack the Post!'

Lou Liberty's Constant Possum: A History of Sandia Preparatory School is now available to alumni for just **\$35.00**. To order your copy now, email alumni@sandiaprep.org.



have you moved?

Your Alumni Affairs office is constantly working to keep your record current, but we realize that our alumni move and don't always send us their new contact info. We have some exciting activities planned for this year (a cooking class, individual class reunions, out-of-state 'Meet & Greet' visits and more!) - so send us your contact information and we'll be sure to send you all the details. And in true Prep fashion, let's spread the word. Pass the message along to your old classmates and remind them to update their records as well!

UPCOMING DATES & REUNION NEWS

attention class of 1997 - labor day weekend 2007

Plan now to join your former classmates during Labor Day weekend 2007. Your reunion committee is in the process of working out the location and event specifics, so we hope everyone can plan now to attend one or all of the following:

- Happy Hour - Friday, August 31
- Evening Party - Saturday, September 1
- Family Breakfast - Sunday, September 2

[Click here](#) for the full details. If you are interested in helping plan or want to learn more about your ten-year reunion, feel free to contact your SPS Alumni Office at alumni@sandiaprep.org or call 505.338.3021.

september 15 (sat) - sandia prep's 2007 homecoming

Mark your calendars now for Sandia Prep's revised homecoming festivities! At this family-oriented event, we'll have fun activities for the kids, plenty of free food, tours of the campus with some of your favorite teachers and staff, and it's a great opportunity to cheer on your fellow Sundevils. Full details to be announced soon.

*coming up
In aug 07*

❁ **alumni notes**

❁ **business brag sheet**

❁ **homecoming 2007 details**



alumni association president letter

June 2007

Dear Sandia Prep Alumni Community,

I am honored to introduce myself as Sandia Prep's new Alumni Association President. As an SPS graduate I appreciate the education and opportunities Prep presented and am excited to be welcomed back to the School community.

Having met with Sandia Prep's Alumni Affairs office, we have begun to map out the next phases of program development, building on the great work of the previous administration. My plan is to help increase communication and interaction between our alumni and the School. To that end, I invite and encourage all of my fellow alumni to return to campus to reconnect with Prep as I have enjoyed doing. There are several opportunities slated in the upcoming year for fellow alumni. To learn more about these events, please visit the alumni Web site at <http://alumni.sandiaprep.org>. In addition to information regarding SPS alumni events, such as our new and improved homecoming festivities, you will find the opportunity to reconnect with your former classmates and teachers and network with other SPS alumni. Registering is easy and allows immediate access to many of your fellow Prep grads.

I would also like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Alumni Association, to give our heartfelt thanks to Jillian Gonzales, Sandia Prep's Alumni Association President for 2005 to 2007, for all her hard work over the last term. Jillian has done a tremendous job of moving the organization dramatically forward and leaves impressive shoes to fill. Thank you Jillian for all your hard work and dedication!

I look forward to seeing and hearing from our unique group of alumni at one of our many upcoming events!

Warm regards,

Rebecca (Joyner-Wade) Garrett '97
Alumni Association President
garrettr0206@comcast.net

fun facts

- Rebecca works from home for a boutique recruiting firm in Philadelphia. Her 2,000+ mile commute means she has flown nearly 50,000 miles in the last year!
- As an excuse to see NYC during her first semester of graduate school, Rebecca tried out for the *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* game show. As a contestant she answered several questions correctly and appeared on air with the *Today Show's* Meredith Viera.
- As an SPS student Rebecca was a Unicorn, managed both the girl's basketball team and the volleyball team, and was a member of the chorus and the Sandglass yearbook staff.
- A big fan of indie alt-rock and alt-country music, Rebecca took a road trip through the Midwest this summer to see bands including: Sparta, Wilco and The National.
- A native of NM, Rebecca never tried green chile until moving to Philadelphia. Four years later, she has yet to try red.

SANDIA  PREP

alumni association

"dedicated to the connection"