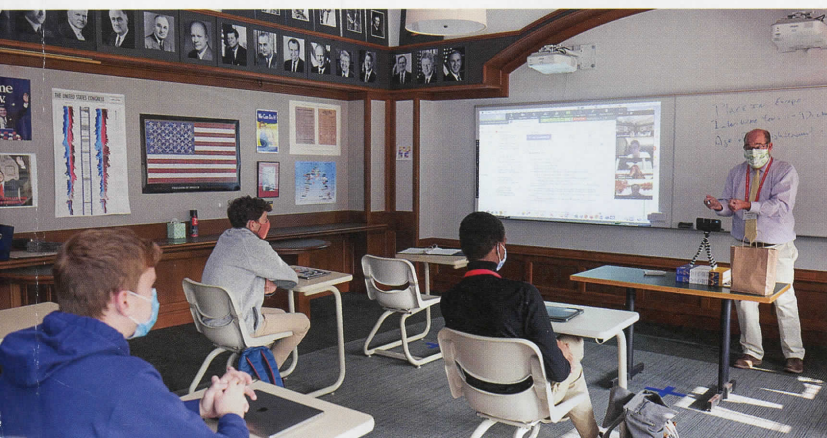
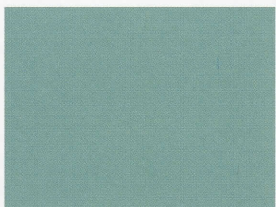
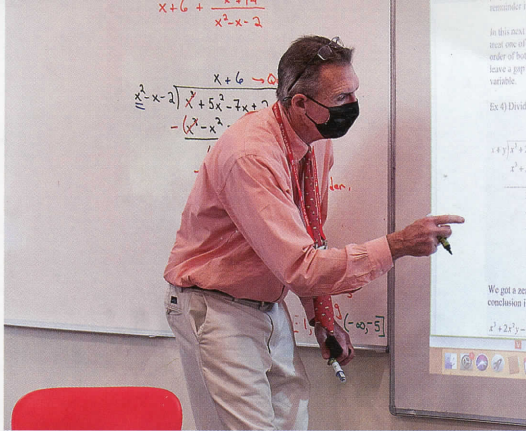
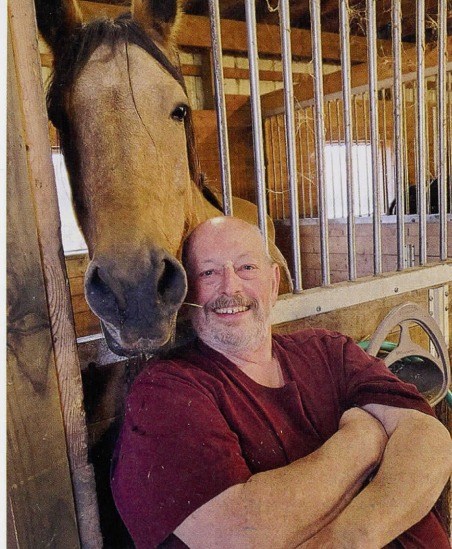


Taft
BULLETIN





Lee Rosenblum '69 with his horse, Pagan.



Colter Rule '69 and John Purinton '69.



Tom Gross '69 on the east branch of Penobscot River.

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The data mining by actively retired **Jim Taylor** continues. "I found **Marc Weinbaum**. Marc and his wife, Linda, live between Indiana and Florida." Welcome back, Marc! Tracked down **Bill Breeden** through his wife who wrote, "We are safe at our home in Vermont and both retired. Unfortunately, Bill isn't well. He has had many surgeries and has emphysema. It is mild, and we have that under control; however, he has back problems, and as soon as we get back to New Jersey, he will have surgery. I brought him to our Vermont home in April to keep him safe because of COVID. Bill often speaks of Taft and the fond memories he has. I will give him your email, and I'm sure he would love to reconnect with you." I hope to hear from him soon and get his contact info. On a sadder note, I tracked down **Dave Elmore**, who was in our senior class. His wife wrote, "I am sitting with David, we are down in Florida. We retired here after David got ill with Lewy body dementia. We have done as much as we could for as long as we could. Dancing, beaches, camping, dinners. David always said that we might as well make it fun! Unfortunately, he is in hospice, but I don't believe there are any coincidences. Your call helped me reflect on David's younger years and all the sports he was into and what a great guy he is. Hope all is well with your world." From **Tony Yablonski**: "Marc, I recall playing bridge with you, **John**, **Jeff**, and **Peter**! Welcome." **Greg Griffin** wrote, "Dear **Jim**, thank you for the huge amount of work and time you must have put into this project! What a gift—especially for those (such as myself) who have lost their Taft *Annual* and most Taft memorabilia over the course of multiple household moves. I really appreciate what you've done for me and our classmates! PS—Hi, guys! Hope you are all surviving our shared aging project with a minimum of pain and a maximum of security and happiness. Hope to see you in 2022 for our

(let's see—I've got to get out the calculator) 55th Reunion! Cheers." **Bill McCarter** reminisced, "I will always remember **Yorke Corbin** as 'swift-footed Yorke,' an ironic application of an epithet for Achilles in the translation of the *Iliad* we were reading at the time. He was a longtime roommate of **Joe Reeves**, whose email address I regrettably don't have. I didn't know **Bob Donahue** very well, but recall him as a very fine hockey player. Perhaps other classmates will have additional memories of Yorke and Bob." Please welcome **Bruce Holliday** and **Jesse Deupree**, again thanks to **Jim Taylor** "Had a nice chat with them yesterday. Jesse was in our class lower mid and mid years and lives in Portland, Maine." Also on another note, please see the article on page 22 about **Tim Ely** and his work as a musician and songwriter. As our past class notes had mentioned, his song "The Long Haul" is in the new film *The Comeback Trail*. From your secretary, can any of us remember that Vespers when they asked the person sitting between **Lex Hemphill** and **Alleynne Howell** to stand up, "What is your name?" Our first **Holliday! Al H.:** "I remember Jesse and Bruce as well. Now if I could find my car keys...Welcome!"

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Collected and written late November during a global spike in the pandemic, our submissions reflect good news or *euangelion* as our Greek scholars would declare. We have upbeat health reports, prodigal sons returning to our pages, a champion crowned a second time, present and future grandkids filling our hearts, and even a

new powerful patent awarded. Witness the photo of kind soul **Lee Rosenblum**, with his horse. Lee rides in: "The horse is Pagan. We've known him for all 24 years of his life. He has helped me learn patience and clear intentions. I've sometimes wondered whether Taft, since it has gone coed, has an equestrian team. Given the strong connection between girls and horses. Other than reading, taking care of horses, and our 10-acre paradise, my biggest joy is taking care of our granddaughter, Lorelai, three days a week. She is great fun as she develops at 18 months. New words and new skills all the time." **John Purinton** serendipitously visited **Colter Rule** and henceforth returned to the "barn." From the trail in Maine he writes, "Please share that I am very much enjoying reconconnections with **Brian Steppacher**, **Colter Rule**, and **Mike Macy**. I also loved reliving cross-country experiences with Mike and **Parker Mills**. Sorry, I tried to take a picture but there was only an old man in the viewfinder." See the photo Colter took of the two '69ers. Pilot, MD, firefighter, veteran, author, and survivor **Tom Gross** reports to the tower: "I missed the whole summer. But people tell me that I didn't miss much. Actually, I almost died. I lost 20 pounds in July, not intentionally. I developed acute bacterial peritonitis secondary to an exploded gall bladder, probably secondary to the metastatic cancer in my pancreas. Lying on my back, hospitalized for 17 days while the docs argued over what was wrong, a young 38-year-old surgeon came into my room, did not even touch me, but looked into my eyes for 10 seconds and said, 'You're going to the OR today.' I thought, Thank God somebody around here knows what's going on.' The surgeon did an incredible job; she had to excise several abscesses that had grown throughout my abdomen. It turns out she was paid less for her five hours on her feet in the OR than the cost for one month of my outpatient medications. I'm back on my feet. Last week I started flying again, this time for a volunteer organization that transports patients from their hometowns into Boston for care. This cat is not sure how many of his nine lives he has left. I didn't start counting