Some twenty Greater Boston Academy graduates from the 90s, along with a few friends from South Lancaster Academy and Stoneham Memorial Church pooled their vocal talents to present music for both the church service of GBA’s 63rd Alumni Homecoming Weekend and a benefit concert on Sabbath afternoon for GBA’s current music program. Former music teacher from the mid 1990s, Laurie Redmer Minner, was the conductor. The offering brought in $802 with a matching pledge of $800.

Former Bible teacher and chaplain Matt Lombard was the speaker for church. His message was about the power of prayer, saying that if God’s people pray together, there is little they can’t do, with His help. He closed his sermon by asking the congregation to pair off by twos and pray together. Many found this a powerful and empowering experience.

Returning alumni found their alma mater doing well and contributed another $850 in the morning’s offering. A potluck after church Continued on page 7

Alumni Officers stay put for another two years

President: Arthur Barnaby, 1951
Vice President: Olga Batista Slocum, 1978
Secretary: Elaine Hedden French, 1966
Treasurer: Bill McGregor, 1964

After many years of service, long-time editor of the alumni newsletter, Alumnnews, Paul Asgeirsson resigned. Several conversations later, Rondi Aastrup (1973) agreed to produce the newsletter via internet the GBA website.

For biography and photo of current alumni president, see page 4.
GBA Alumni Chapter to be established in Chattanooga, TN

Alumni president Art Barnaby met with Susan Goodwin Dingman (1972) in early January to discuss the details about establishing a GBA Alumni Chapter in Chattanooga, TN, near Southern Adventist University. If all goes well, the first meeting of this fledgling chapter will take place on Sabbath March 29th between 3 PM & 8 PM at a location to be determined. A letter will be sent to all who live within 150 miles of Chattanooga with details. If you do not receive a letter and wish to attend please contact Art Barnaby at afbarnaby@juno.com.

Besides being a social occasion, Alumni Chapter meetings give opportunity for alumni to catch up on their alma mater and perhaps discover ways to give back to their school. This first meeting will be no exception.

If you have suggestions, please contact Art at afbarnaby@juno.com. If you know someone who should attend, pass this information on to them. The more who come, the better the results will be.

Recent alumni make impact on Edgewood students

When Darrell Gowasack, current Edgewood 4-6th grade teacher, took a leave of absence to spend time with his new baby, it necessitated a search for a long-term substitute. These are not easy to come by, but after several days of phone calls and e-mails, Sarah Stacey (2005) and Ken Wilkins (attended through 2002) agreed to help out. The two made a good team, keeping things under control in what is quite a lively classroom.

Sarah gave two days until the recently retired Sandra Bent came to take charge. Ken stayed on, and will continue to serve as teaching assistant when Mr. Gowasack returns on January 22. Sarah is an engineering student at UMass-Lowell. Ken is an aviation major at Andrews University. Miss Bent, since her retirement in June, is living with sister Marsha in Topsham, ME.

Rachel Pamphile takes on choir

Rachel Pamphile (2006) is at it again. Twice before, she served as director of the GBA choir, most recently during the 2004-05 school year when she had charge of the Gospel Choir. This year, on short notice, she has accepted the responsibility of the 7-12th grade choir after director Americo Motta suddenly resigned.

Rachel is an accomplished musician, arranging most of what her choirs sing. EW/GBA is privileged to have one of its own at the helm again.
When Stephanie Dawson and Brad Connelly (1999) were planning their October 13 wedding, they probably weren’t thinking about orchestrating one of the biggest non-Alumni Weekend GBA reunions in recent memory. They just wanted their friends and family to share in their special day. Given that three of their four parents (Pam Kloss Dawson (1971), David Dawson (1972), and Margot Marston Connelly (1972)) are also alumni, though, the event could not help but be filled with scores of GBA alumni and former staff.
Arthur Barnaby was born at the New England Sanitarium and grew up in Everett. He attended the Everett Church School until it closed and then went to the Robert Hall School in Boston. That was in 1946, the first year that GBA and the Robert Hall School were located at 415 Newbury Street.

Art attended grades 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11 at Newbury Street. He transferred to Everett High School for his senior year. His grades were not the best and his dad thought that $16.00 per month tuition was too much for those grades and that he could get the same education for free at the public high school. He was made an honorary graduate in 1987.

Arthur served two years in the US Army during which time he spent 9 months in Germany and five months in France. He returned home conversant in German and fluent in French.

He married Avis Jepson in 1957. They have two daughters, Ann and Eleanor. Both girls became nurses. He has 4 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Arthur spent the next 38 years repairing computer systems. He retired in 1995 and in 2004 sold his home in Riverside, CA and bought a motor home and has been traveling around the country.

He spent 23 years working with Pathfinders holding every position up to and including Area Coordinator.

Arthur has been very active in the GBA Alumni Association helping to restart the organization in 1976. He served a two year term as president about 15 years ago. In October 2005 he was elected for another two year term as president. He was reelected in 2007 for another two year term.

His hobbies include genealogy, collecting GBA memorabilia, and interviewing former teachers and students. He has dozens of audio-taped interviews with early students and teachers. Someday he would like to write the history of GBA. He is looking for someone to help him with this project.

Arthur has been active with Maranatha Volunteers International having gone on projects at the Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, WI, in 2004, the summer camp at St. Johns, Newfoundland, in 2005, and Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, MS in 2006.

In between these excursions, Art and Avis sometimes spend weeks at GBA doing repair and maintenance work. They have been a blessing to the school they love.

GBA Alumni Reunion in Orlando

Arthur Barnaby, Alumni president, is working with Patty Tauro, Jackie Rathbun, and Wanda Hopkins in planning for an alumni reunion in the Orlando area of Florida. This location seems to be centrally located to the large concentration of alumni.

This meeting will take place on Sabbath March 22nd between 3 PM & 8 PM at a location to be determined. A letter will be sent to all who live in the state of Florida with details. If you do not receive a letter and wish to attend please contact Art Barnaby at afbarnaby@juno.com.

Please pass this information on to any you know who would be interested in attending.
Window on Alumni Weekend 2007

L to R: Janice Coffen Blair, Fred Blair; Avis Barnaby, Chuck Boyer, Rachel Slocum, Olga Slocum, Susan Dingman; Tom Giampa, Steve Conrad, John Lindquist.

L to R: Harold Dingman, Paul White, Elizabeth Marshall Boyer; Olga Slocum; Potluck with Bart and Dessa Hardin and Alfred Aastrup at the head of the line.

L to R: Judy and Matt Longard; Susan Dingman, Adam Rich, Dave Cutts; Eric Kloss with his wife and Lauren Aastrup Rittenhouse.

L to R: Tony Tauro, Bruce Moore, John Hodson, Bobby and Anthony Jackson; Class of 1975; Ruthann Goodwin Giering And Jackie Lang Rathbun.

Photos on this and other pages courtesy of Rondi Aastrup, Art Barnaby, and Diane Maloney.

L to R: Barney Bolton, David Cutts, Alfred Aastrup; Cherie Knight Asgeirsson; Redmer Reunion Choir at afternoon concert.
You are invited to attend the
6th Annual Elegant Dinner
To support Greater Boston Academy
On April 6, 2008 at 5 p.m.

Our goal this year is $50,000.
Your generosity will make a huge difference.
If you cannot be present, please send your donation to
Greater Boston Academy
108 Pond Street, Stoneham, MA 02180
Your gift is tax-deductible.

Join us for GBA’s Alumni Weekend
October 17-19, 2008

Friday night social
All-day Sabbath inspiration
Saturday night fun and fellowship
Sunday morning Fall Festival

Make plans now to come home to GBA!
The songs were those the group had sung all over New England and twice in Russia was well attended. Familiar faces (Carol Smith, Cheryl Wilkins, Becky Wilkins) set out dozens of delicious dishes for the throng that gathered in the EW/GBA gymnasium. There was plenty of time for conversation both with those present and via telephone with those unable to attend the reunion.

The vespers concert saw the Redmer Reunion Choir singing ten “old favorites” for their enthusiastic listeners. The songs were those the singers were surprised at how easily the pieces came back to them. Some had not sung them since they had graduated from academy!

In the evening, the class of 1972 challenged all others to a basketball game. Word has it that they haven’t lost too many steps over the past 35 years! Those not wishing to play or watch basketball, President Art Barnaby was pleased with the turn-out. Plans are already being made for next year’s reunion. Alumni won’t want to miss it.