

# Sunday Morn

May 10, 2015

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Dear T-D Family,

No one under the big tent at the Larchmont Yacht Club last night needed a shot of insulin on Sunday morn. Last night was a night full of sweetness. It wasn't saccharine sweet; it was *real sugar* and it will take awhile for the delicious after taste to disappear.

Yes, maybe the night should have been one of warm spring breezes, but that didn't matter much. A little fog settled in, but it only added to the mystique and, more importantly, it allowed Aly Fanelli to feel right at home. She's a Brit.

Some of us are good at surfing life. Others are better at surfing the net and then there's Aly Fanelli who surfs the seashore like none other I know.

The Spring Gala demands just enough from us to make T-D folk be properly adorned, but in our midst were a few daring dudes and female fashionistas.

Among others, both Mario Gazzola and Dan Livingstone, two T-D trustees, left their ties at home. Maybe, like me, the Windsor knot remains an untaught lesson. Then there were guys like Scott Paris with a tie that was illuminated and a matching illuminated fedora to boot. Me, I stuck to my clip-on and, of course, was the only one wearing tan. I simply *do* something for that color.

T-D President Augie Nigro doesn't really need anything special to look good. His presence always enhances any social gathering and he always leaves T-D's auction event as one of the highest bidders. Monica Rose was one of T-D's best dressed ladies and her close-to-cobalt blue dress made her the best dressed grandma. Her son Derrell, T-D alumnus and trustee, was in the house. The Rose family is a generational one with Brittany, Derrell's daughter, their latest budding beauty.

School alumni and alumnae were under the big tent. Pam Cakouros Schlitten '80 sat with Annemarie Licini-Paris and a few from my family. Pam, a T-D lifer, as was her son Steven, can tell stories, almost all good ones, like none other.

The Knockin' on Valhalla's Door Gala saluted all of T-D's senior parents from the Class of 2015. Kudos came from all the cozy corners of the big tent as the microphone was passed to each and every graduating family. One after another the compliments kept coming. It was almost like – can you top this story? No family forgot to thank the faculty and various faculty members. One,

my daughter Lauren Susan Telesco, felt compelled to thank her son Dominick's esteemed and revered English teacher, Retha Petrosino. "The Pea" died in 2011. Lauren, like her son Dom '14, and her son Andrew '15 is also a T-D lifer from the Class of '84.

At one point Ana Ceppi, Adrian's mom, took over the room. There's nothing like a little Latin blood to elevate the spirits. The Ceppis made T-D's auction a real merrymaking *fund raising* experience. The Ceppi's, by the way, are enrolling their daughter into T-D's middle school. Thanks Ana, T-D's next astronomer mom. Her son Adrian will be star gazing at Penn State next year along with future Bio Technologist Lakoi Takona.

Thanks to Aly Fanelli for gathering us all under that big tent so full of good will and good tidings. How could anything go wrong in the world if our T-D families ran it? No guns; just roses. It would have to be the happiest hamlet yet.

The fog, may not have allowed T-D's faithful to stare at the stars, but if you looked in Aly Fanelli's eyes you could easily have seen two of them.

The entire evening was like an edulcorated poem a la Rimbaud or Poe or a Sinatra song that gets under your skin and deep in your heart. Let's play more music and dance.

Gratefully,

Douglas E. Fleming, Jr.

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Headmaster