

Profile

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Former Trustee Ryal R. Poppa '57 GP'08

In Good Taste

The Greek poet Alcaeus wrote, "Wine is a peep-hole on a man." Here sommelier **Chris Bradford '83** offers a peep-hole on wine.



DAVID JOHNSTON

Alumni**notes**



Born to Run

That CMCers pursue elected office at nearly every level is not a surprise, considering the College's focused mission to generate leaders. The results of the general election certainly affirm CMC's success in this arena. CMCAA President Ryder Smith '96 has compiled a list of alumni who won in this election cycle:

Steve Bullock '88 was elected attorney general of Montana.

Kenneth Chevront '83 was re-elected to the Arizona Senate, District 15.

Chuck DeVore '85 was re-elected to the California Assembly, District 70.

David Dreier '75 was re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from California's 26th Congressional District.

Sean Elsbernd '97 was re-elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 7.

Mike Feuer '80 was re-elected to the California Assembly, District 42.

Hugh Hallman '84 was re-elected mayor of the City of Tempe, Ariz.

Tyler Olson '98 was re-elected to the Iowa House of Representatives, District 37.

Jake Zimmerman '96 was re-elected to the Missouri House of Representatives, District 83.

Richard G. Cline '65 was re-elected judge of the Superior Court, County of San Diego.

Jon Fish '91 was elected to Office 8 on the Orange County Superior Court.

Political leadership happens at all levels, from city clerk to president, judge to district attorney. No matter the role, if you won your election or know a CMCer who won an election, please let Ryder know with an e-mail to ryder@tripepismith.com.

CMCAA President's Message

These are dynamic and challenging times in our nation's and world's history. The interconnected nature of the global economy has been revealed to all who felt untouched by it. The interplay of regulated versus free markets has taken a jarring pendulum swing toward government intervention. These monumental developments have happened as a mere backdrop to one of the more dramatic election cycles in recent history. What better time to be Claremont McKenna College alumni?



COURTESY CMCAA

Your CMC education taught you how to think, analyze, and flex. You learned how to consider the broad consequences of socio-economic change while being pragmatic about how these changes will impact your day-to-day life. To evaluate the psychology of the crowds. To place these times in their historical context. To reconsider what it means to live the good life. To run the math on your personal finances. To appraise the financials as you ponder your next investment move. Now, more than ever, is the time to celebrate your liberal arts experience and attack the future with the confidence and perspective forged during your time at CMC.

Our alumni are not immune to these economic challenges, but we are well-prepared. Further, we have a network of fellow alumni who are eager to engage with us to find the next opportunity. The CMCAA Alumni Directory and the CMCAA LinkedIn Group (nearly 1,350 and growing) represent two easy methods to find or reconnect with fellow alumni. You attended one of the greatest colleges in the world and, as a result, you can access some of the best alumni in the world.

Claremont McKenna College supports our alumni in cooperation with the Claremont McKenna College Alumni Association. As alumni, in turn, we help our alma mater with our financial support and volunteer time. The Campaign for Claremont McKenna has great promise and ambitious goals, and achieving these goals depends on you. Your participation in the Fund for CMC not only provides current operating dollars to help the College through these challenging times, but your contribution can pay major dividends by matching the goals of the Steve Crown challenge gift. Your participation—no matter the size—makes a difference, and makes possible the very magazine you are holding and the very Class Notes you will read.

Whenever class is in session at CMC, there are great people learning how to help make the world a better place. Times like these demand more CMC alumni leadership working to make the world a better place. More CMCers mean a better world. The equation is pretty simple. Making it all happen is harder. Help make it happen.

As always, I welcome your feedback at ryder@tripepismith.com.

Crescit cum commercio civitas,

Ryder Todd Smith '96

P.S. — I really appreciate receiving feedback from fellow alumni, so reach out to me at ryder@tripepismith.com.



Greene

Hennrich

O'Keefe

CMC Alumni Association 2008-2009

Board Member Committee Assignments

- President**
Ryder Todd Smith '96
- President Elect**
Richard J. Voit '78
- Parliamentarian**
Eugene L. Wolver, Jr. '51
- CMC Vice President for Alumni Relations**
John Faranda '79
- Alumna Trustee**
Lorraine C. Bains '88
- Alumna Trustee**
Susan Matteson King '85
- Alumnus Trustee**
Michael H. Rothman '72
- Chapters**
Jessica O'Hare '00, *Chair*
- Class Liaisons**
Anne Samuelson Williams '95, *Chair*
- Events**
Kevin Blair '06, *Chair*
- Giving**
David Denenholz '73 P'09 P'11, *Co-Chair*
Kirthi Narasimhan '08, *Co-Chair*
- History**
Michael Rothman '72, *Chair*
- International**
Alexis Piazza '07, *Chair*
- Marketing**
Angela Zhang '07, *Chair*
- Strategy**
Fred Merkin '67, *Chair*
- Technology**
Tauseef Rahman '07, *Chair*
- Liaisons**
- Admissions**
Evan Rutter '06
- Athletics**
David Niehaus '96
- Career Services**
Carol (Oliver) Hartman '86
- Public Relations**
Robert Poy '90
- Student Relations**
George Swaner '06
- Travel**
Robert Long '52

CMS Athletic Hall of Fame Welcomes New Members

The Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four new members: Sam Delich (HMC '62, football, posthumous), Chris Greene '92 (basketball), Carl Hennrich '69 (football), and Dan O'Keefe '89 (track & field, football).

Delich, a four-year letter winner in football, played both offense and defense. Frequently voted either Offensive or Defensive Player of the Game—sometimes both—by his teammates, he also earned All-SCIAC honors and was selected to the *Chemical and Engineering News* Football All-American Honor Roll.

Greene, the CMS basketball team's best defensive player for four years, played point guard, off guard, and small forward. In 1992, he earned First Team All-American, First Team All-District, and First Team All-SCIAC honors while serving as team captain for the Stags. He also earned First Team All-SCIAC honors in 1990 and 1991, when the Stags won SCIAC titles and qualified for the NCAA Tournament. He still holds the CMS career record for points scored (1,757) and is tied for the single-game scoring record (40). Greene averaged 17.6 points, 5.4 rebounds, and 3.0 assists per game during his career.

The first Stag athlete to play in the NFL, Hennrich competed for the Buffalo Bills. For the Stags, he played wide receiver and defensive back, and returned punts and kickoffs. At the completion of his senior season, he held the career record for total pass reception yardage (1,437). He earned Second Team All-SCIAC honors in 1966 and 1968, and Second Team All-District honors in 1968. Not only a prolific football star, Hennrich also played on the club lacrosse team, earning small college All-American honors, and the club rugby team, earning All-Tournament selection twice.

An All-SCIAC athlete in both track & field and football, O'Keefe was a two-time All-American in the hammer throw, finishing second in 1989 and seventh in 1988. He was track & field team captain, SCIAC champion in the hammer, SCIAC runner-up in the shot put and discus throws, and earned six additional All-SCIAC honors in track & field. In football, he was Second Team All-SCIAC at tight end in 1987, and on the back-to-back SCIAC Champion football teams in 1986 and 1987.

Calendar

Visit the alumni gateway for a current list of events.

JANUARY

- 8 **Palo Alto**
Reception with Information Technology Advisory Board students, featuring YouTube's Steve Grove '00
- 13 **New York City, The Yale Club**
Reception with the Financial Economics Institute at Claremont McKenna College and the Robert Day School of Economics and Finance
- 20 **Washington, D.C.**
Reception for alumni, students, parents, and friends gathered for the Presidential Inauguration
- 21 **Claremont**
Opening dinner for the Mentor Café

FEBRUARY

- 8 **Atherton**
Berger Institute Living Room Conversations on Work and Family

Panel discussion and lively conversation on issues faced as we navigate work and family
- 14-16 **Claremont**
Parents Weekend
- 19 **Monterey**
Lecture: "A Dream Fulfilled? The Historical Meaning of a Black Man in the White House" by Tomás F. Summers Sandoval Jr. '94, a professor in Claremont's Intercollegiate Department of Chicana/o-Latina/o Studies
- 22 **Portland**
Trailblazers vs. L.A. Clippers game and lunch



GETTY IMAGES

Keynote speaker Surin Pitsuwan '72, Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The Park Hyatt Resort & Spa boasts not only views of the Rocky Mountains' unparalleled beauty, and gourmet meals and wines, but also the indulgent Allegria Spa.



COURTESY PARK HYATT

Alumni Athenaeum

The Claremont McKenna College Alumni Association's inaugural Alumni Athenaeum, in Beaver Creek, Colo., from July 23 to 26, 2009, will feature discourse and diversion, building on the fine tradition of the Marian Miner Cook Athenaeum.

Accomplished leaders in business, finance, law, government, technology, science, education, religion, communications, the arts, and other important fields will present a host of issues for discussion:

Economic and Financial Stability in a Dynamic and Unstable World

Gordon Bjork
Jonathan B. Lovelace Professor of Economics, Emeritus

The Continuing Threat of Nuclear Arms

Ambassador Ronald F. Lehman II '68
Director, Center for Global Security Research (CGSR)

Impact of the Internet on Media and Entertainment

Jeff Klein '75 P'08 P'11
Chairman of the Board, 1105 Media Inc.

Wal-Mart, Katrina and the Environment

Jim Arnold '68 P'09
Principal, The Arnold Law Practice

It's Not Horsing Around: How to Succeed in the Thoroughbred Racing Business

Life Trustee Gary Biszantz '56 P'08
Founder, Cobra Golf

Sustainability: People, Profits, and the Planet

Terry Gips '73
President, Sustainability Associates

The New Administration Charts a Fresh Path for Homeland Security

Fred Nichols '85
Counselor, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Getting Out of Our Own Way: Can the U.S. Hold Its Position as the #1 Economy?

Rob Ranucci '86
VP General Counsel & Secretary, ViewSonic Corporation

Bridge to the Future of Energy

Joe Petrowski P'09
President and CEO, Gulf Oil Limited Partnership

Young and emerging leaders can participate in a seminar on the college admission process, led by Vice President and Dean of Admission & Financial Aid Richard Vos; a leadership workshop, sponsored by the Kravis Leadership Institute; and a multi-day theater program, culminating in a Sunday morning performance. Recreational time will spotlight the area's golf, hiking, riding, fly fishing, swimming, mountain biking, and other outdoor activities.

For more information, please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@cmc.edu or 909-621-8097. To register, please visit www.cmcaa.org.

Liquid Assets

By Hugo Martin



THE EPIPHANY CAME WITH A SIP FROM A \$35 BOTTLE OF CABERNET SAUVIGNON, FROM HEITZ CELLAR.

Chris Bradford '83 and a CMC classmate had taken up wine tasting as a hobby, during breaks from studying economics and politics. One weekend, the two students splurged on the Napa Valley cabernet with the reputation for unique mintiness, complexity, and balance. After a drink, Bradford remembers thinking, "Wow, wine is not just what you drink when you run out of beer."

More than 25 years later, Bradford's love of wine has landed him one of the most coveted jobs in the industry: wine director at a celebrated Beverly Hills restaurant frequented by Hollywood's A-list celebrities, like Annette Bening, Oliver Stone, Jeff Bridges, and Will Smith. On a daily basis, Bradford sips some of the world's best pinot noir, cabernet, and chardonnay with movie stars and business tycoons in an eatery heralded as the nation's best new restaurant by *Esquire* magazine when it opened in 1997.

Still, Bradford is no wine snob. While he routinely gabs with celebrities like Warren Beatty and manages a wine cellar with more than 600 selections, you can often find him relaxing on weekends, watching college football with an \$8

bottle of wine.

"If you are not enjoying your wine, you are not having a good time," he says.



Not a cowboy, a race car driver, or an astronaut.

Bradford grew up in Claremont with more practical dreams for his future. His grandfather helped found Downey Savings and Loan, so he set his sights on international banking and attended CMC because of its reputation for strong academics and small class sizes. He studied history, politics, and economics and, in his free time, researched and tasted wine with buddy David Deeds '83, now the Schulze Chaired Professor in Entrepreneurship at the University of St. Thomas, in Minnesota.

On a student budget, they couldn't afford top-brand wines, but one day the two budding connoisseurs tried the highly-regarded 1974 Martha's Vineyard cabernet by Heitz Cellar. Although today Bradford tastes up to 100 or more bottles of wine per week and owns a collection of over 1,500 bottles at home, he still remembers every detail of the bottle that sparked his fascination. From then on, he was curious about the growing conditions of the grapes, the fermenting and aging process—all the factors

that give each bottle a unique aroma, color, and flavor.

But in college Bradford never considered wine more than a hobby.

After graduation, he worked briefly as a legal assistant for a real estate developer and later as a lobbyist for the building industry in the Inland Empire. Then, one day, while leafing through a college extension class catalogue, he saw an advertisement for an intensive course for wine professionals. After completing the course, he came across a job posting in *Wine Spectator* magazine for a salesman for a wine distributor. Why not pursue his love of wine as a career, he thought. He landed the job and parlayed the post to several coveted wine positions.

Bradford's reputation as a sommelier improved with each new job. While he worked as manager and wine director at Bouchée Restaurant and Wine Bar in Carmel, the bistro was honored by the *Wine Spectator* with the "Best Award of Excellence." As beverage director at Cetrella in Half Moon Bay, Bradford won the 2005 Santé Award for "Top Wine Restaurant" in the western United States. He is a certified sommelier from the Court of Master Sommeliers and a member of the Society of Wine Educators.

In his latest position, Bradford is beverage director at Crustacean, a Beverly Hills restaurant with a reputation for exquisite Euro-Vietnamese cuisine. *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, and *Oprah* all hailed Crustacean as one of the best spots for celebrity sighting. But when it came to wine, Crustacean was a nonentity. Elizabeth An, Crustacean's manager, wanted to change that by hiring Bradford.

"In all my years in the restaurant business, I have had the privilege of knowing many top sommeliers," she says. "Chris Bradford is as good as it gets."

Since working at Crustacean, Bradford has expanded the wine list from 300 to over 600 selections, adding new wines from such diverse regions as Austria, Lebanon, and South Africa. Pairing wine with Euro-Vietnamese cuisine, typically brimming with vibrant flavors, has been a challenge for Bradford, who must ensure the wine does not clash or overpower the food.

"It's not the easiest food to pair wine with," he says after giving a tour of Crustacean's new wine cellar. "It's much easier to pair wine with a steak."

During the tour, Bradford spoke with confidence and experience. Although he earned his sommelier credentials after graduating from college, he credits much of his success to the liberal arts education he gained at CMC, including managing an extensive wine budget and conversing freely with Hollywood activists, politicians, and captains of industry.

"With a broad education, I can speak about many issues," he says.

But most of the time, restaurant guests—from legendary actors to anonymous businessmen—simply want to talk about Bradford's favorite subject: wine. And that's when he's in his element.

"I love to get people excited about wine," he says. "I get as much of a charge out of that as I do selling a \$1,000 bottle."