

TATTLER TWO

Vol. 5, No. 1

December 2003

45TH REUNION

IT WAS GRAND!

The 45th reunion of the class of '58 was a smashing success.

Again, kudos to the organizing committee -- **Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley**, for scheduling the Meadow Court, Stewart Park, and Moosewood events, and arranging for the band; **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose** for setting up the program for the main event at Stewart Park; **Kathy (Gleason) Smith** for handing the money and responses; and **Ann (Weitzel) Rosa** for designing and producing the reunion announcement. And thanks also to **Marilyn (Hull) Ryan** for hosting the Meadow Court event.

Special credit should be given to Kathy Smith who carried out her responsibilities despite the deaths of her father about 2 weeks before the reunion and of a cousin a week preceding it.

WHO WAS THERE?

The simple answer is "lots of folks." But for those who want detailed information, the following members of the class and auxiliary members attended at least one reunion event (no room to list the spouses and other significant others):

Greta (Albrecht) Waterman, Cindy (Beebee) Anderson, Rollie Boda, Anita Bonney, Rosalie (Bower) Amoroso, Betty Boyle, Ingrid (Brohm) Jimrusti, C. Edward Bullock, Suzie (Burke) Howser, Ross Carlisle, Rosemary (Case) Blischke, Kate (Catherwood) Fackelman, Rodney Chapman, Peggy (Chester) Petrillose, Bill Coggshall, Roberta (Coleman) Hunter, Shirley (Cook) Weeks, Bonnie Jo (Cornelius) Freda, Foster Cornelius, Cal Cotner, Peg (Credle) Cunningham, John Davis, Shirley (Deeb) Stone, Sandra (Deeley) Scaglione, Marshall

Downing, Diane Driscoll, Sue (Ensworth) Saltus, Kathy (Fallon) Cameron, Myra Fincher, Peggy (Fitzgerald) Greenfield, Dana Furman, Annette (Gates) Shimer, Kathy (Gleason) Smith, Dorrice (Griffith) Hammer, Ron Harmon, Dick Heimlich, Mimi (Heinecke) Monfredo, Judie (Herron) Pascal, and Maryjean (Hertel) Yengo.

Also Helen (Hillhouse) Madsen, Tom Hoff, Karl Hoffmann, Susann (Hornbrook) Wilcox, Marcia (Hubble) Knight, Marilyn (Hull) Ryan, Sharron (Hunsinger) Marino, Linda (Hunt) Larsen, Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley, Jim Illes, Don Jania-Smith, Phil Jimrusti, Linda (Kallstrom) Carpenter, Kip Kane, Jim Kirby, Carol (Kleeman) Hayes, George Knaysi, Norm Lacy, Dick Lavoie, Gordon Light, Randy Little, Rita MacDonald, John Mahool, Mike Malison, Chris (Mathewson) Salerno, Jane (McElwee) Decker, Jim McCarthy, Elinor (McLaren) Henkels, Chuck McNeal, John Merrill, Faith (Miller) Roelofs, Bill Mobbs, Dick Monroe, Bob Moore, Kent Moore, Patsy (Morrow) Smith, Betsey (Moulton) Farnham, June (Mulcahy) Leagans, Ann (Murphy) DeYoung, Jim Myers, Donna (Newhart) Rogers, Les Niles, Bob Nixon, Judy (Osborn) Davis, and Cuyler Page.

And finally Eva (Palmer) Johnson, Sally (Pardoe) Hoyt, Wilmont Parker, Izzie (Petricola) Worthen, Carolyn (Pfohl) McGory, Donna (Phillips) Dawes, Karen (Phillips) Arey, Bob Pierce, Tom Ranney, Howard Raymond, Frances (Riela) Ciaschi, Carol (Riley) Riggs, Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld, Bill Rocco, Ann (Rosa) Weitzel, Dave Rumsey, Bob Saturn, Steve Schmal, Marty Schmidt, Judy (Sine) Jager, Sally (Slate) McEnteer, June (Smith) Churchill, Kathie (Smith) Lamb, Tom Smith, Judy (Spacher) Kallfelz, Carol (Stevens) Jordan, Isabelle (Tracy) Wilcox, Lu Tracy, Kay Trimberger, Barbara (Utter) Park, Carolyn (VanBuren) McPherson, Cathy (VanBuren) Bomberger, Monique (VanLent) Kosar, Ruth (Warren) Gerlach, Pete Wells, Margot (Williams) Akers,

Dorothy (Wintermute) Ward, Linda (Womble) Conrad, John Wray, and Jack Yengo.

Wow! (I hope I have not forgotten anyone. After the 40th, I forgot to list Jack. Please let me know if your name was omitted.)

And let us not forget the teachers. Of roughly 20 who could be contacted and invited, 11 attended -- Don Culligan (Athletics and Drivers Ed), Eva Firra (Business), Don Henry (Industrial Arts), Mary Honcharik (Business), Vito Mason (Vocal Music), Roger Ming (Chemistry), Joe Moresco (Athletics and Math), Gordon Myer (Art), Lou Preston (Industrial Arts), Phyllis Seager (Business), and Jean Snyder (Home Ec).

REUNION EVENTS RECAP

On Friday evening, so many reunioners and their significant others assembled at the Meadow Court Inn that they overflowed the patio area, spilling over into the Royal Court Restaurant and the parking lot. But the weather was spectacular and a great time, getting acquainted and reacquainted, was had by all. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvre's provided by **Marilyn (Hull) Ryan**, who with her sister owns the inn and restaurant, and by the reunion committee.

Although not an official reunion event, the Cayuga Heights Elementary School brunch, organized by **Anita Bonney** and **Rita MacDonald** and held at the Ithaca Country Club on Saturday morning, also had an excellent turnout.

The sun shone for the biggest of the reunion events, the Saturday afternoon picnic at the large pavilion in Stewart Park. Food, copious and delicious, was provided by the attendees. Music, mostly from the 50's, was provided by Steve Southworth and Rockabilly Rays. Vito Mason led the class in singing the Alma Mater (with most surprising themselves by remembering the words).

Another unofficial event, a party with a core group of those who attended Belle Sherman Elementary School, took place at the family home of **Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld** on Saturday evening.

The reunion wrap-up was a Sunday morning buffet brunch at the Moosewood Restaurant in the

Dewitt Mall, our old high school building. While the turnout was smaller than at the other official reunion events, the brunch gave several classmates who had other things scheduled for Friday and Saturday the opportunity to attend.

And, for many the best part, in addition to the official and semi-official events, classmates got together informally with one another throughout the reunion weekend.

HONOREES

At the reunion, honors were bestowed on several classmates. **Maryjean (Hertel) Yengo** was voted the least changed. **Suzie (Hordbrook) Wilcox** was recognized for having been married the longest. (At 47 years, her marriage to Ed surpasses all others, but not by too much. By my records, 11 other classmates have been married for 40 years or more.) **Bill Rocco** took the honors for having the least hair, while **Dana Furman** was judged to have the most (at least among the men). And **Dick Heimlich** narrowly edged out **Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld** in the category of longest trip to the reunion. Dick has homes in both North Carolina and Hawaii but, as he was traveling from the Aloha State, his was a slightly longer journey than Carol's from Germany.

In the last couple issues of the Tattler Two, I had asked about the class leaders in several other categories. Here are the results.

Who was married most recently? **Bill Cogshall**. At reunion time, he had been married to Janet less than two years. (Remember, either a first marriage or a re-marriage counts in this category.) Who has the most children? **Calvin Sears** (11). The most grandchildren? **Calvin Sears** (18). Does anyone have great-grandchildren? Yes, including **Cynthia (Beebee) Anderson**, **Mary Edsall-Golway**, **Carol (Stevens) Jordan**, **Joyce (Ballardini) Personius**, and **Beverly (Bower) Tuckerman**. And the late **Joyce (Cornelius) Knuutila** was also a great-grandparent at the time of her death. Who has the oldest child? **Suzie Wilcox** again (47). The youngest (female division)? **Margot (Williams) Akers** (18). And the youngest (male division)? **Marvin Shaub** (9).

ODE TO THE REUNION

Following the reunion, **Ron Harmon** put his thoughts about it into verse. He said I should feel free to use them in the newsletter and indeed they deserve to be shared.

On a lightsome gentle July day
conjoined by common cause
we met with friends and loves
to reminisce our spring

That seminal season past
alight with charge and trust
in warm embrace we took leave
to etch disparate destinies

But on this gentle July day
we laughed out loud of what was old
then laughed again of what is new
and promised well to keep in touch

Resisting breach of time and place
with a slightly sense of bitter sweet
we shared our autumn days assured
and spoke of when, we next would meet

AND THE PICTURES?

Unfortunately there are none in this issue. I received quite a lot of wonderful ones, but I am not savvy (yet) in using my computer to reproduce them. But I promise to work on this during the winter months and if all goes well they will be included in the next issue or be the subject of a special edition.

50TH REUNION

IT'S IN THE WORKS!

Efforts are already underway to prepare for the next reunion, in 2008. **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose, Marilyn (Hull) Ryan, and Kathy (Gleason) Smith** are spearheading the effort. They welcome both ideas and assistance. If you have suggestions, you can mail or e-mail them as follows: to Peggy at 336 N. Sunset Dr.; Ithaca, NY 14850 or Jpetril@twcny.rr.com; to Marilyn at 515 Campbell Ave.; Ithaca, NY 14850 or

nealomarlo@aol.com; or to Kathy at P.O. Box 85, Spencer, NY 14883 or kls9@cornell.edu.

There is good news in the fiscal department. There already several hundred dollars in the treasury, thanks to contributions from a number of attendees at this summer's reunion and some "found" money. In September **Nancy (Hinger) Hare** wrote that she had placed money left over from the 10th reunion in a bank account. She had forgotten about it, and received no notices from the bank, until recently. With accrued interest, the account totaled well over \$100 and that amount has been added to the coffers for the 50th.

CLASS NOTES

IN MEMORIUM

Suzie (Burke) Howser died in Ithaca on December 9 from complications following a heart attack.

She is survived by her husband Art, Sr., as well as by her father James and stepmother Helen; son Steven McInness, daughters Mary Runsvold and Danielle McInnes, stepsons Charles and Jeff Howser, and sons- and daughters-in-law; sisters Barbara Brown, Nancy Drane, Betty Chupp and Sharon White, brothers Michael, Timothy and Thomas, and their spouses; 10 grandchildren; and many uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Suzie was employed for the past nine years at T-S-T BOCES and previously for 19 years by The Special Children's Center, Inc./Franziska Racker Center.

She will be missed. Gifts in her memory can be made to a local children's charity of your choice.

Other Sad News:

Cy Cantrell's 12-year-old daughter Sarah took her own life at school on April 16. Cy, his wife of 31 years, Lynn Marple, and their 17-year-old daughter Kate were stunned, as were all of Sarah's close friends. The family has created a memorial Web site for Sarah: www.cdcantrell.com/sarah.html. Cy

writes, "We are deeply grateful to our family, friends, co-workers and even strangers for their love and support, which have made it possible for us to keep putting one foot in front of the other."

Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld's mother passed away in Sarasota in July. She had her 99th birthday earlier this year. **Tom Hoff's** mother, who at 102 had been the oldest parent of a classmate, died in Phoenix on July 30.

Short Takes:

Bill Cass and wife Sarah have moved. It is not unusual for folks to retire and move to Florida but it is not often that retirement spurs a move from Florida as the Casses have done. They now live in Quitman, TX. **June (Smith) Churchill** and husband Dexter moved from Herkimer (after 37 years in the same house) to Keene, NH. In June they went to Idaho to be together with daughter Kristen who had her first child. Ever the travelers, **Bill Coggshall** and wife Janet spent a week in Singapore and one in Japan after the reunion. **Jane (McElwee) Decker** and husband Tom recently moved from Raleigh to the North Carolina shore (Holden Beach).

Elinor (McLaren) Henkels and husband Ed spent time fixing up the place they bought near Bath, NY fixed up so they can spend more time there next summer (and get away from the Arizona heat). **Don Jania-Smith** and wife Barbara made the most of their trip from California by combining the reunion with visits to family. They visited Don's sons in the Albany area, Don's brother John near Boston, and Barbara's daughter and family in the Lansing, MI area.

Jean (Bassett) Kinyon missed the reunion on account of a family reunion that weekend. As the youngest of seven children, she says she always wonders whether they will all be around for the next one. In August, a successful reunion having been concluded, **Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley** left Ithaca for California where she plans to spend a year examining whether she wants to move there. Her daughter Sasha lives in Berkeley and works for Pacifica Radio.

Back to school is **Dick Lavoie**. He is attending a technical college in Columbus, GA, taking courses in web design. He writes that four nights a week during the fall quarter was rough. However, he is already putting his learning to use, together with a fellow student designing a web page for his urologist. **Joanne (Schnitzer) McManus** writes from Thornton, PA that her mother was ill at reunion time and subsequently died – she was 92 – but Joanne hopes to attend the 50th.

Carol (Van Buren) McPherson and husband Don will be in Florida most of January and part of February, then in late February take a week's trip to Las Vegas and the Salt Lake City area. **Dan Moeder** retired from Visa International in April and he and wife **Ann (Simpson)** relocated from Foster City, CA to Sanibel, FL. Ann reports they were unable to attend the reunion because they were babysitting a grandchild that weekend.

Randy Little has finished a 500-page book on the history of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and is readying it for publication. And in a less bookish vein, he has been repainting (two coats of primer/sealer and two finish coats) the family home during visits from New Jersey. **Sharron (Hunsinger) Marino** has moved south, leaving New Jersey for the warmer climes of Hudson, FL. In late October, she bought a mobile home on a lake in an adult community. It is close to the winter homes of her cousin **Sally (Pardoe) Hoyt** and **Carol (Stevens) Jordan** among others.

Dick Monroe's reunion trek from Woodinville, WA and back took a month, during which he also attended a family reunion in the Catskills and visited a number of friends. For the record, he drove 9016 miles on the trip, his Mini Cooper getting 28.6 miles per gallon! **Ron Saccucci** was another of those who missed the reunion due to family reasons. He planned to attend until one of his and wife Maureen's grandchildren asked to spend his first sleep-over with them.

Gail (Woolley) Scullin had planned to attend the reunion but foot surgery intervened. Gail also reports that she and husband Dennis helped her dad and his mother close down their childhood homes, hers at Glenside and his in Breesport. **Bill**

Turley, who had been the secondary principal at an international school in Cali, Columbia, returned to Bogota in July. He says he is thinking of retiring from “regular work” and instead giving a few courses for the various state governments in Columbia for which he has worked before.

Harry Wheaton also missed the reunion due to a family event, in his case a trip to the Badlands in South Dakota with his wife Margaret and grandchildren Ryan and Erica. **Maryjean (Hertel)** and **Jack Yengo** attended Cornell Alumni University, together with two of Maryjean’s sorority sisters and their husbands. They took Cayuga Lake Archeology and Paleobiology, enjoying it immensely. And yours truly and my better half were in Italy in October. We rented apartments for a week each in Tuscany (highlight: a visit to Pisa) and on the Sorrento Peninsula (highlights: daytrips to Capri, Pompeii, and Positano), and spent a memorable day at the end of the trip meeting relatives of Deb whom she had never met before.

Get-Togethers:

In addition to all the getting together at the reunion, there were mini-reunions in various places.

Anita Bonney, **Rita MacDonald**, and **Susie (Hornbrook) Wilcox** had lunch with **Jim Rogers** in June when Jim, who lives in Houston, visited his aunt in Ithaca. Jim could not attend the reunion due to work commitments overseas.

At least two groups traveled to the event by car – **Ann (Murphy) DeYoung** and **Dorrice (Griffith) Hammer** from Vermont, and **Monique (Van Lent) Kosar**, **Chrissy (Mathewson) Salerno**, and **Sue (Ensworth) Saltus** from Connecticut – a great way to expand their reunion time.

Although she did not attend the reunion, **Jean Houghton** had the reunion come to her. On the Sunday afternoon of reunion weekend, she hosted **Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley**, **Cuyler Page**, **Steve Schmal** and wife Deb, and **Kay Trimmerger**.

And on Monday **Karen (Phillips) Arey** spent time with her.

Ann (Simpson) and **Dan Moeder** had dinner with **Debbie (Wells) Macomber** and husband Marshall in November. The Moeders and the Macomers had been coming to Sanibel for many years but never at the same time. No longer a problem, now that Ann and Dan live there.

Cathy (Van Buren) Bomberger and husband Peter traveled to Ithaca for Thanksgiving with her sister **Carol** and husband Don. Cathy notes that it was her son-in-law’s first visit to the wilds of Upstate New York.

Earlier this month, **Fran (Riela) Ciaschi** flew down to Florida where she will stay with **Carol (Stevens) Jordan** and husband Roger until mid-January, a welcome relief from upstate New York. The Jordans plan to get together with, among others, **Linda (Womble) Conrad**, husband Eb, **Sally (Pardoe) Hoyt**, and husband Bruce during their winter’s stay in Florida.

VIETNAM VETERANS?

In the last issue of the Tattler Two, I noted that **Calvin Cotner** had asked the question, “Who in the class of ’58 served in Vietnam?” Cal said he spent about 6 months of his 2-year active duty tour in Vietnam as the signal maintenance advisor and communications officer in the 69th Maintenance Battalion at Cam Ranh Bay.

I received two replies from classmates who like Cal served in Vietnam. **Rod Chapman** wrote that he was there for about a year, assigned to the Navy’s Fleet Air Support Unit. In addition to the time he spent at the Unit’s base at Bin Thuy, he was door gunner with a light attach squadron, participated in interdiction activities with the squadron, and was door gunner for an Army medical unit. As a result of accompanying a unit on a field mission, he received a Viet Cong flag that he still has.

Like Cal, **Dick Lavoie** spent 6 months in Vietnam, in his case as an artillery forward observer with the 1st Air Cavalry.

Want a Class List or E-List?

As in the past, I am offering the class list I've been maintaining to any classmates who want it. If you'd like a copy, please let me know. It's free if you're on the Internet, but it'll cost \$2, to cover printing and postage, if you want it mailed to you. I am also offering a list of classmates' e-mail addresses. You should know that I absolutely will not make these lists available to anyone other than our classmates.

EAST LAWN SCHOOL

In the last issue of the Tattler Two, I included **Peggy (FitzGerald) Greenfield's** recollections about the Hayts Corners School, a one-room school located between Ithaca and Trumansburg not far from the Odd Fellows Home, that she, **John Davis**, auxiliary IHS classmate **John Mahool** and **Dick Monroe**.

Rod Chapman reports that he attended another one-room school – East Lawn Elementary. The school, located on Mitchell Street Extension just before it intersects with Pine Tree Road and Judd Falls Road, went from first to sixth grade. The building still stands but it is now a rental property (a small one, it would seem).

In addition to Rod, members of the IHS Class of '58 who went to East Lawn were **Cal Cotner**, the late **Dave Flavin**, **Pat (Phillips) Marion**, **Sally (Slate) McEnteer**, and **Howard Raymond**. Sally was only there for 6th grade. Howard was there for all six grades but was a year ahead of the others.

The teacher, Lina Jones, is fondly remembered. Pat notes that Lina, in addition to teaching at six grade levels, had a large class by any standard -- over 30 children.

Rod recalls that during the war Lina received butter, peanut butter, and honey from the government and, using her small electric stove and bread and baking potatoes brought from home, he and the other students lunched big time courtesy of Uncle Sam.

Sally also remembers government surplus food, in her case a huge can of peaches. She also recalls that Lina was a strict disciplinarian, occasionally applying a yardstick to an errant student (but always behind the upright piano that was in the room).

Were there any other one-room schools in the county that members of the class attended?

ITHACA BOOKS OF NOTE

Dick Monroe recommends "Images of Ithaca and Tompkins County Volume 2 – 1940's, 50's, and 60's," a book of photos from the collection of the DeWitt Historical Society. **Bob Saturn** had forwarded him a copy. It is available from the Historical Society, selling for \$39.95 plus postage.

If it is fiction with an Ithaca twist that you are looking for, **Cal Cotner** mentions two novels by Beth Saulnier, Bad Seed and Ecstasy, that are set in a thinly disguised Ithaca. **Cal** also says that at the reunion **Karen (Phillips) Arey** reminded him about another novelist, Grace Miller White, who wrote about residents of the flats in the early part of the last century.

"THE SEARCH": STATUS

There's really not much new in this department. I have taken Duane Cole off the list of "missing" classmates because I again have a working phone number for him. However, I have been unsuccessful in my attempts to speak with him. The remaining four "missing" classmates are Arlene Johnson, Denise Lecoq, Craig Wilson, and Willie Young. At the reunion, **Dave Rumsey** told me that he believed Craig had died in the 1980's. However, I have been unable to confirm that. Does anyone know anything more?

Add **Betsy (Edwards) Fincke** to the ranks of auxiliary class members – those who were in our class for part of our high school years but did not graduate with us. Betsy lives on Limmi Island, WA. The list of potential auxiliary class members consists of **Starr Atwood**, **Jane Banks**, **Bill Ellsworth**, **Jack Macbeth**, **Bob McCauley**, **John**

Ryan, and James Taft. If you have any information that would help us get in touch with them, please pass it on to me. And, again, **if you know of others who might qualify as auxiliary classmates, please pass their names on to me,** even if you don't know where they are now. I will then apply my detective skills and see if I can locate them.

Address Change? Let Me Know!

The Tattler Two is most successful if it actually reaches you. **Please let me know if your e-mail or mailing address changes.** (I would like to be apprised of mailing address changes even if you are on the Internet. We want to stay in touch with you and some of the class-related material may go out via the mails.)

All it takes is an e-mail, postcard, or phone call. My contact information is schmals@erols.com; 7317 Summit Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815; (301) 652-8620.

THANK YOU

Once again, I want to acknowledge the classmates who have assisted me in various ways. In helping to locate "missing" classmates or identifying potential auxiliary classmates: **Anita Bonney** and **Myra Fincher.** In provided financial assistance that helps defray my newsletter and search activities costs: **Karen (Phillips) Arey, Cal Cotner, John Davis, Jim Illes, Kathy (Smith) Lamb, Mike Malison, Sharron (Hunsinger) Marino, Jim McCarthy, Sally (Slate) McEnteer, Chuck McNeal, and Ann (Rosa) Weitzel** and teachers **Mary Honcharik** and **Roger Ming,** And in helping me with the list of reunion attendees: **Dick Monroe** and **Bob Saturn.** Thanks to all of you!!

IN CLOSING

Best wishes for the holiday season. And may 2004 be a year of good health and happiness to all of you.

Steve