

TATTLER TWO

Vol. 10, No. 1

October 2008

50TH REUNION

A ROUSING SUCCESS!

We came in large numbers – see below for a list of those who attended – and we celebrated in style. Even the weather, which was fickle most of the summer in central New York, cooperated. Not a drop of rain fell.

Kudos to the reunion committee – **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose, Marilyn (Hull) Ryan, Kathy (Gleason) Smith, Ann (Rosa) Weitzel, Rita MacDonald, Carolyn (Pfohl) McGory, and Barb (Utter) Park** – for their efforts in putting together such an outstanding event!

Friday evening. Participants gathered on the patio of the Meadow Court Inn and Royal Court Restaurant, co-owned by classmate **Marilyn (Hull) Ryan**, for conversation, nibbles, and drinks. The place was packed but, with a breeze blowing, very comfortable. The name tags, with our Annual pictures on them, were a big hit. (A few classmates, not aware the reunion committee had decided on that type of tag, made their own.)

Saturday morning. A number of reunioners, as well as at least one teacher (and spouse) visited the Ithaca Clock Museum, owned and operated by classmate **Ralph Thorpe**, and admired the large collection of clocks, principally Ithaca Calendar Clocks, Ralph has on display. (Classmates living in the Ithaca area or visiting who have not been to the Museum should check it out.)

Saturday afternoon. Picnic at the Stewart Park Large Pavilion was the main reunion event. The pavilion is under renovation and when **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose** inspected it earlier in the week she seriously thought an alternative site might be necessary. But she was assured that things would be in order by Saturday, and they were. Attendees feasted on the catered meal

provided by Hope's Way – hors d'oeuvres; marinated chicken breast or veggie burger; salt potatoes; green salad; rotini and vegetable salad; grilled vegetable platter; assorted breads; fresh fruit; fudge brownies; raspberry, lemon, and pecan bars; iced tea; and lemonade. And they were entertained by **Rosalie (Bower) Amoroso's** competitive dance troupe (who demonstrated not only talent but great show biz spirit, as they had returned in the wee hours of the morning from Las Vegas after participating in a dance competition).

Late Saturday afternoon. Responding to a kind invitation from **Deborah Jones**, a number of classmates and spouses went out to Trumansburg to tour Debbie's art studio/home, which Debbie had fashioned out of her family's old barn. Truly remarkable! See the Class Notes for more information about Debbie and her place.

Sunday morning. Although the turnout was smaller than for the Friday evening and Saturday afternoon events, a goodly number of reunioners participated in breakfast at the Royal Court Restaurant, enjoying eggs, bacon, sausage, French toast, muffins, Danish pastries, coffee, tea, and juice.

50TH REUNION

THE ATTENDEES

Some had been at every previous reunion while for others it was their first. If you are wondering who attended, according to **Kathy (Gleason) Smith's** records, the following were at one or more of the reunion events (non-classmate spouses, significant others, and guests included):

Margot (Williams) and Chuck Akers, Rosalie (Bower) and Carmen Amoroso, Karen (Phillips) and Chet Arey, Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld,

Craig Beach, Rosemary (Case) Blischke, Rollie and Sharon Boda, Cathy (Van Buren) and Peter Bomberger, Anita Bonney, Clyde Edward Bullock, Gaye (MacDougal) Calkins, Cy Cantrell, Ross and Paulette Carlisle, Linda (Kallstrom) Carpenter, Dave Carr, Bill and Janet Coggshall, Bonnie (Lewis) and Michael Conway, Calvin Cotner and wife Sharon Murphy, Jack and Dixie Cunkelman, John and Priscilla Davis, and Judy (Osborn) Davis.

Also, Raven Davis-King (formerly Sarah Pratt) and friend Eileen Morton, Donna (Phillips) and Mel Dawes, Jane (McElwee) and Thomas Decker, Ann (Murphy) and Ronald DeYoung, Shirley (Stamp) and Gary Dial, Marshall Downing, Diane Driscoll, Betsey (Moulton) Farnham, Joan Foss, Bob and Loretta Gardner, Ruth (Warren) and Henry Gerlach, Lucy (Kimble) Grinnell, Dorrice (Griffith) and John Hammer, Carol (Kleeman) Hayes, Elinor (McLaren) Henkels, Heinz Hoffmann (formerly Przyrembel), Karl Hoffmann (formerly Przyrembel), Judy (Sine) Jager, Don and Barbara Jania-Smith, Sarah (White) Jennings, and Ingrid (Brohm) and Phil Jimrusti.

In addition, Debbie Jones, Carol (Stevens) and Roger Jordan, Judy (Spacher) and Terry Kallfelz, Kip Kane, Jim Kirby, George Knaysi, Monique (VanLent) Kosar, Marcia (Hubble) Knight, Larry and Joyce Knuutila, Kathy (Smith) Lamb, Gordy Light and guest Kenna (Grant) Kavensky (class of '60), Kathleen (Illencsik) Lilley, Betty (Allen) Little, Rita MacDonald, Harry and Betsy Mann, Carolyn (Pfohl) McGory, Carol (Van Buren) and Don McPherson, John and Sandy Merrill, Bill and Barb Child Mobbs, Dick Monroe, Kent and Mafalda Moore, Bob and Donna Moore, Les Niles, Bob and Clara Nixon, Barb (Utter) and Avery Park, and Bill and Barbara Parker.

And finally but not least, Katy (Shaw) Peltz, Peggy (Chester) and Joe Petrillose, Bob and Susan Pierce, Carol (Riley) and Ralph Riggs, Jim and Rita Rogers, Dave Rumsey, Marilyn (Hull) and Neal Ryan, Chris (Mathewson) Salerno, Sue (Ellsworth) Saltus, Bob Saturn, Sandy (Deeley) and Tom Scaglione, Steve and Deb Schmal, Marty and Pat Schmidt, Gail (Woolley) and Dennis Scullin, Dick Shulman, Kathy (Gleason) Smith, Patsy Morrow Smith Morgillo, Kay Trimberger, Sharron (Hunsinger) and Bill Vogt and Dixie Hunsinger (class of '59), Dorothy (Wintermute) Ward, Shirley

(Cook) Weeks, Carol (Bly) Weistart, Ann (Rosa) and Dick Weitzel, Pete Wells, Harry and Margaret Wheaton, Susie (Hornbrook) Wilcox, and Maryjean (Hertel) and Jack Yengo.

Special note should be made of Ingrid (Brohm) Jimrusti's attendance. She had a heart attack the Friday before the reunion. But she did not want to miss the party and, when her doctor gave her the green light to travel, off she and Phil went.

Teachers who attended as invited guests of the class were Don Culligan (with his wife Jane), Don Henry, Vito Mason (accompanied by his wife Rosina), Joe Moresco, Gordon Myer, Lou Preston, and Phyllis Seager. Vito and Rosina traveled from Silver Spring, Maryland, and Phyllis from Syracuse.

And a few non-'58ers attended – Bernie and Carol Cook, Don and Anne (Welker) Sherwood, and Margie (James) Perna. Bernie, class of '60, is Shirley (Cook) Weeks' cousin and knows lots of members of our class. Don and Anne, both class of '59, also know many in our class. And Margie, class of '61, was seeking pointers for her class's next reunion.

I hope I have not forgotten anyone! But please let me know if I have.

50TH REUNION **THE PRIZES**

At the picnic, a number of prizes were awarded. One went to **Ingrid (Brohm) and Phil Jimrusti** as the classmates who had been married to each other the longest. They have been hitched for 48 years (edging out **Maryjean (Hertel) and Jack Yengo**, who have been married for 44). Another was given to **Suzie (Hornbrook) Wilcox** as the classmate who had been married the longest. She and Ted have been married for 52 years. **Shirley (Stamp) Dial**, got two prizes, as the classmate at the reunion with the most children (9) and the most grandchildren (23). (She also has 5 great-grandchildren!) And **Dick Monroe** got a prize for having traveled the furthest to attend the reunion (in a tie-breaker with others from the west coast, Dick having driven).

The Jimrustis received a painting of Taughannock Falls donated by **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose**,

while the others were given handsome coffee mugs bearing the IHS seal. And every classmate in attendance was a winner as all received coffee mugs. So did the teachers who attended.

Kathy (Gleason) Smith reports that there were mugs left over and anyone wanting to purchase one – for \$2, plus postage – should contact her, by e-mail at kls9@cornell.edu or by phone at 607-589-6023.

50TH REUNION

THE REUNION FUND

The reunion fund is not dead. The fund was used to pay for the printing and mailing of invitations, and the rental fee for the Stewart Park pavilion, and helped defray the costs of the events, making the reunion more affordable. Also, thanks to the fund, those of our teachers who attend will be guests of the class.

But, as the class has every intention of holding a 55th reunion five years hence, contributions to the fund are still very welcome. They should be sent to **Kathy (Gleason) Smith** at 18 Railroad St., Spencer, NY 14883-9543. Please make checks payable to her, not to the class.

CLASS NOTES

The reunion was not the only class news during the past months.

First, sad news.

IN MEMORIAM

Joanne (Wilkinson) Baker died on August 10 following complications from surgery. She lived in Ft. Myers, Florida. She is survived by husband Art; children Steve Rhoads, Patti Shannon, Debbie Carver, Lisa Rhoads, Duane Baker, and Denise Baker; and grandchildren, Robert, Matthew, and Gage. Joanne attended Fall Creek School before going to Boynton Junior High and IHS. Contributions in Joanne's memory can be made to the Transplant Foundation, Inc., 701 SW 27th Ave., Suite 201, Miami, Florida 33135.

In other news:

In late May, **Cathy (Van Buren) Bomberger** and husband Pete spent a wonderful week in northern California with high school classmates of Pete who had such a good time at their class's reunion that they decided to stage a mini-reunion. Cathy writes that seven of them rented two houses and did different activities each day (including seeing the California coast and the redwoods), taking turns cooking and driving.

More recently, Cathy and Pete went on a vacation to Nova Scotia with her sister **Carol McPherson** and husband Don. Cathy reports they enjoyed driving everywhere in Nova Scotia after taking the ferry from Bar Harbor, Maine to Yarmouth. Unfortunately, they returned to a disaster area, as Munster, Indiana had been seriously affected by flooding, two days of rain proving more than the ground could absorb. Their old neighborhood was part of the flooded area. Fortunately, their condo was dry, but they were stranded on their "Island" for 1½ days until the water receded.

After enjoying the reunion – she thought the turnout was wonderful, the food at the picnic was great, and a good time was had by all – **Bonnie (Lewis) Conway** and husband Mike headed to Wisconsin to visit his sister and brother-in-law. They had a fine time there – lots of golf and boating, and great weather. While in the Ithaca area, Bonnie had a nice visit with **Marge (McLachlan) Trimm**, who lives in Interlaken but is pretty much house-bound. In late August, Bonnie and Mike went to Lake Lure, North Carolina for two weeks for more golf, some sightseeing, and also a 2-day visit from their daughter and four grandchildren who live in Charlotte, only a couple hours from Lake Lure.

Just after the last newsletter went out, **Cindy (Miller) Cramsey** wrote that she had recently moved from Texas to Strasburg, Virginia, at the northern end of the Shenandoah Valley. At one time she thought the move might result in her attending the reunion, as she is now considerably closer to Ithaca. But after only eight days in the "new" townhouse, she fell and broke her right leg quite badly. She needed two plates and four pins to keep it all together, and was unable to walk or drive, ruling out her reunion attendance.

Although **John Davis** did not get the chance to play tennis while at the reunion – he and I were going to hit the ball around, but time was short and it was hot and humid – he did after returning to Muncie, Indiana. He was awarded a trophy for winning the consolation bracket in the Century Doubles division of the Delaware County Open Tennis Tournament. John and his partner, the only woman playing in the division, were the oldest team but in the finals trounced two men who are high school coaches, 6-1, 6-2.

Donna (Phillips) Dawes thought she might have to miss the reunion as husband Mel underwent surgery earlier in July. But they made it. Donna reports that earlier the two of them had visited **John Chacona** (see more about him in the item on the search for classmates below), who like the Dawes lives in Zephyrhills, Florida. She says John has a fine sense of humor, adding that names from the past were flying right and left during the visit.

A sad note from **Shirley (Stamp) Dial**: her daughter died of cancer in June. However, she also notes that she and husband Gary both had a wonderful time at the reunion. For her, it was especially great to see so many people she had not seen in many, many years and learn about their lives since she left Ithaca. As for Gary, he was delighted to meet so many friendly, nice people – he was so happy to find that he was never bored for a minute as he fully had expected to be! – and he was very impressed with the beauty of Ithaca and surrounding areas and just amazed at the Cornell campus. His only complaint: the drive from, and particularly back to Arizona as they had to get back in 3 days in order for Shirley to catch a flight to St. Kitts to visit her granddaughter Jenica (where, Shirley notes, she had a wonderful time). While the Dials hope to make the next reunion, Gary says next time they will fly because he will never make the trip by car again!

Myra Fincher was disappointed in having to miss the reunion but had a very good reason – an offer by older sister Esther Hays (IHS class of '44) and her husband to visit their summer place – a mere 120 acres of range land – just outside of Glacier National Park. Myra reports she had a wonderful time. Two highlights of her visit were a 6-mile hike with her sister to hidden Grinnell Lake, formed by the shrinking Grinnell Glacier, and learning more

about the Hays family's connections with the park. And, with six relatives there, she notes it was great being with family. After returning to Ithaca, Myra, **Kathleen (Illencsik) Lilley**, and Kathleen's mom (who, like Myra, lives at McGraw House) had dinner together. And on September 18, McGraw House residents were the audience for Myra's Montana Memories, a talk about her trip.

Peggy (FitzGerald) Greenfield regrets having missed the reunion, but her husband John had a hernia operation during the summer. She reports he is now recovered and again driving special needs students to a private elementary school part-time. After her mother died last September, Peggy worked as a permissions consultant – this entails getting permission to reprint photos and illustrations – for "Unknown Soldiers: Reliving World War II in Europe," a memoir by Joseph E. Garland. In the book, just published by Protean Press, Mr. Garland presents first-hand experiences that affected his life and the lives of "unknown soldiers" and civilians alike. He also shares an extraordinary love story, of meeting his future wife through wartime correspondence, reconnecting after the war, and eventually marrying in 1981. And, per Peggy, with an appreciation of our need to break the cycle of war, he presents new understanding of events repeated across the generations. Peggy says that since June she has been taking needed time to settle her mother's affairs and to reconnect with various extended family members before starting other projects.

Another classmate who missed the reunion is **Sandy Halstead**. Why? She was in the throes of moving . . . back to Ithaca after 40 years, with the move taking place on reunion weekend. She had so wanted to see old friends, so she invites all those living in or visiting the Ithaca area to call and say hi. Her new address is 123 E. King Rd., Apt. F4, her home phone number is (607) 319-5240, and her cell phone number is (914) 656-1567.

More about **Deborah Jones**, who had an open house at her art studio for reunion attendees. She writes that, unlike many of the class who disappeared from the Ithaca area after graduation, except for graduate work at the University of Illinois and her first professional job at the University's Krannert Art Museum, she has continued to make the area her home. She

returned to convert the barn on her family's property into a home and art studio.

Deborah says she has always appreciated the beauty of the Finger Lakes region and it inspires her woodcarving. Although her carvings are grounded in nature, they are altered to transcend the way we often look at the world around us. Along with woodcarving, she is working on a book, "The Barn Story", a graphic novel about renovating the 19th century barn into a home and studio. It is divided into two parts. In the first she explains the process of renovating the barn, in the absence of photographs, illustrating the experience with drawings, watercolors, photographs, and architectural renderings and creating a cartoon figure to represent herself working on the major building steps of the seven-year project. The second part of the book contains photographs of the adapted barn interior with the cartoon figure leading the viewer through the finished residence. Pages from the book in progress are on display in her studio along with a number of woodcarvings.

If you live in or around Ithaca or visit the area, you might want to check out the Greater Ithaca Art Trail – Deborah is one of the four founding members – on its web site, www.arttrail.com.

More well-deserved recognition for James Gibbs, Sr., **Huldah (Gibbs) Jones's** father. In early July, the History Center in Tompkins County put up an exhibit at the Southside Community Center, celebrating James's life and his contributions to the community. The exhibit focused on the period from 1937 to 1944 during which he was the first director of the Southside Community Center. In opening the exhibit, both organizations expressed thanks to Huldah and her brother James Gibbs, Jr. for providing photographs and family information, and for generously giving many hours sharing their memories of their father and mother.

Before the reunion, **Larry Jones** wrote he wished he could be there, but the distance – he lives in California – and other commitments – he had five children, 12 grandchildren, a full-time medical practice, and the coffee business he and his wife run – precluded doing so.

Kip Kane has moved across the country. He left Phoenix and now lives in Spanish Fort, Alabama.

If we want to see **Randy Little** at a reunion, the event probably will have to take place at a different time of year. For the 20 years, he has taught the natural sound recording workshop for Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology and that is what he was doing, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, while the class was assembling in Ithaca.

Yet another classmate who missed the reunion is **Mary (O'Connor) MacKenzie**. She wrote that she will be heading to New York City and Ithaca, the latter for a mini-family reunion and a wedding, in October, so the timing was not right for being at the reunion.

Mike Malison and wife Sue spent most of the summer at their beach house in East Hampton with some wonderful quality time with their family, especially their grandchildren. They plan to spend Thanksgiving in St Petersburg, Florida where their son and his family live, Christmas in Windham, New Hampshire with their daughter and her family; and then head to Siesta Key, Florida for another snowbird season. In between, they will rest and relax at their home in Commack on Long Island.

Pat (Phillips) Marion and husband Al missed the reunion, too, as they went to Alaska again. Pat notes that they had not seen their grandchildren in Kodiak in 3 years (their last trip there) nor one of their two in Anchorage at all. (One Anchorage grandson, with parents, visited the Marions in May of last year, but he now has a new brother.)

Dick Monroe writes he had a great reunion with family members prior to the class reunion, a great time our reunion, and great conversations with friends along the way. His "damage" assessment on the trip: He drove 7210 miles; used 239.5 gallons of gas, paying an average of \$4.12 a gallon; and spent \$2060.63. He says he will do it again – that is, drive to Ithaca for the next reunion – but add a week more for side trips.

In early June, **Cuyler Page** was hired by the Royal British Columbia Museum, the big Provincial museum in Victoria, BC, where he lives, to work in the exhibits department. The official title of his job is Exhibit Arts Technician. This means he makes the displays for which the museum is famous – currently he is working with hi-tech plastics to make a mold of a crab to create an

unbreakable hands-on care for a new interactive exhibit – and provides daily maintenance for the beautiful Natural History Gallery, which includes feeding the sea critters in the indoor tide pool and big salt water aquarium.

After years of being a museum manager, he now gets to focus on the aspect of museums he loves best and to return to his professional roots as a designer-craftsman – making things for a purpose, making special things that meet special needs, making diverse materials help to tell the stories of the displays being presented. Per Cuyler, the exhibit arts studio is, along with the rest of the museum, full of fun, wonderfully quick-minded individuals, and coffee-time conversations are like those in a university cafeteria. The only downside was that work commonly begins at 7:30 a.m. and Cuyler, a night owl, had to change his habits! He says this has been one of the most exciting events of his life, having dreamed for years about a job like this and now having it materialize.

At the same time, he has provided continuity in managing the Craigflower Historic Site until they hired a replacement for him, working weekends as well as several hours during the week to supervise the student summer staff and keep things going. In September, a new person was hired. Cuyler still worked weekends until the end of the month, when he could finally delight in having his first day off since early May!

As for his other passion – music – he reported that the four-person Renaissance wind band to which he belongs, called "A Great Noyse," performed in the big Gothic cathedral in Victoria earlier in the year. The group uses fine replicas of historic instruments and, per Cuyler, when the instruments and music from the period were combined in the sonic space of the cathedral, the effect was stunning and the sound was fantastic. The band is now preparing for a November concert.

He also plays bassoon regularly in a woodwind quintet and a wind octet, both groups performing classical and contemporary music. The Windrift Quintet had its first concert in July and is working on a second, to take place in December. The wind octet, Ensemble Pacifica, is conducted by George Corwin, who was a classmate of Frank Battisti at Ithaca College. Cuyler notes that he and Dr.

Corwin are making music together, the same music they were each introduced to back in Ithaca, and their reminiscences can go on for hours.

If that is not enough, he plays baroque bassoon in an ensemble dedicated to instrumental music of the 1600s, which is now working on the program for a March concert. In addition, he is in a small concert band, frequently playing for dinners such as the Officer's Mess at the local armory and for community events; in the Victoria Civic Orchestra; and from time to time, together with a violinist, plays baroque oboe and recorder for weddings and dinners in Hatley Park Castle, a gorgeous stately home near Victoria. And, finally, he will be assisting in presenting a workshop in Renaissance music in October. All the music makes him feel very happy.

Holiday weekends often find Cuyler in Vernon, BC, where he lived before moving to Victoria and where he still owns a house, spending time with his friend Carole, making repairs to the house, and visiting friends. His two sons – one teaches 3-D computer animation at Simon Fraser University and the other is a safety and security manager for Vancouver's rapid transit rail system – are back in Vancouver, and he really enjoys their visits.

Cuyler adds that he would be delighted to see any classmates who come to visit Victoria. He is right downtown and easy to connect with.

Regretfully, **Ron Saccucci** had to change his plans to attend the reunion at the last minute. Several weeks before the event, his wife Maureen had total knee replacement surgery and, while improving, she was not independent enough by reunion time for Ron to leave her alone.

After the reunion **Steve Schmal** and wife Deb spent a week on Canandaigua Lake. In addition to enjoying the relaxing atmosphere there, they went to Pittsford, New York where **Mimi (Heinecke) Monfredo** and husband Frank hosted them for lunch. They also took a trip to Auburn to tour the Willard Chapel and the Seward House. It was well worth the ride. Steve noted he had rarely been to Auburn while growing up only 40 miles away.

Earlier this month, the Schmals traveled to New Mexico. After spending a week based in Taos, they headed to the Albuquerque area where they

visited with 100% of the classmates living in the state – **Randy Cole** and **Larry Townley**.

Randy and wife Val (IHS class of '59) live within the Albuquerque city limits. Randy still works at Sandia Laboratories but now only a couple days a week. Val is treasurer of the New Mexico Horse Council (as well as the Council's newsletter editor) and the day after getting together with the Schmals was off to Fort Worth to work at the Miniature Horse World Show.

Larry lives in nearby Rio Rancho, having moved there from Michigan 2½ years ago. Unfortunately his wife Lorraine died shortly afterwards. Larry also still works – there must be something in the New Mexico air – in his case, four days a week for Advanced Composite Structures. He applies Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma methodologies to improve company operations, and is also involved in training. But his life is not all work. He recently got engaged to Raquel Equihual!

Calvin Sears successfully underwent surgery on both shoulders in June. Writing from his home in Puebla, Mexico, Calvin reports that, after seeking God's will for several months with regard to his shoulders, he decided to have surgery and then was blessed to have someone provide the financial assistance needed for the operation. He credits his wife Eva for being his nurse 24 hours a day, and his children Daniel, Elizabeth, and David for carrying on his missionary work, during his recuperation.

From Hudson, Florida, **Sharron (Hunsinger) Vogt** writes that she, **Sally (Pardoe) Hoyt**, and their cousin Lana (Fetherbay) O'Brian (IHS class of '64) who lives in Sarasota recently had a "cousins" day outing at nearby Tarpon Springs, where all three love to go. Sharron notes that their families had been very close they the three were growing up so they had a lot to reminisce about. And they had such a nice time that they plan to get together again later this month.

Ed Washbon, with whom we had lost contact for a while, had been heard from again. He now lives in Paramount, California (which he says is 9 miles north of the Queen Mary's location in Long Beach), having moved from South Pasadena when the rents there went out of sight. He and Diane, an acquaintance of 15+ years, combined resources

and share a 3-bedroom condo in a complex with a pool, a Jacuzzi, and bountiful trees, shrubs, and flowers. Five years ago, Ed says, he went mostly blind in his left eye but after lens and glaucoma surgeries in 2005 and 2007 he now has good vision, with reading glasses.

Reversing the more usual pattern, **Shirley (Cook) Weeks** has moved from Florida back to the Ithaca area! She has an apartment at Fountain Manor Apartments (Senior Living) in Slaterville and her father will be in an apartment downstairs in the same building. Shirley says he had some heart-related health issues last summer. As that has not changed and the doctors in the Ithaca area did not want him making the trip to Florida, she decided to move north instead.

And – final item – in July **Maryjean (Hertel) and Jack Yengo's** children surprised them with a family party in Ithaca. Maryjean and Jack renewed their vows at Anabel Taylor Chapel (where we were married 44 plus years ago) and then were feted at a reception at the Moakley House (where Maryjean had worked, at the snack bar, for several summers). Maryjean says it was a wonderful party and a total surprise.

MEMORIES OF FRANK

Last month, **Kay Trimberger** received an e-mail from Jeana McKinley, who is the granddaughter of late classmate **Frank Payne**. As he died in 1968, when Jeana's mother was only about a year old, Jeana was interested in whether anyone in the class remembered Frank or had any information or pictures they could share with her. Kay forwarded Jeana's e-mail to me, I sent messages to those on my e-mail lists, and you came through. At least three classmates have shared their memories of Frank with Jeana.

If any of you who are not on the e-mail lists want to contact Jeana, let me know and I will put you in touch with her.

A NEW CLASS PROJECT?

Following the reunion, I received a suggestion from **Cathy (Van Buren) Bomberger** that it

would be nice to have a class reference book that, in addition to the contact data that is in the current directory, contained information about post-high school education, occupation, family, and the like. She added that it would be nice to include our IHS graduation photos, too. She thought it might be possible to work on the book so it would be ready in time for the next reunion and to include its cost in reunion expenses.

Kay Trimberger made a similar suggestion earlier, and I think it is an excellent one. But there is one major catch. Someone would need to be willing to work on it. I am, but only if others are as well. **Please let me know if you are interested (and also feel free to share your thoughts about such a venture).**

OUR ITHACA SCHOOLS: A HISTORY

The last three Tattler Twos have contained articles on Ithaca schools, the result of research by **Myra Fincher**. The first, in the October 2007 issue, presented histories of the elementary schools we attended. The second, in the March 2008 issue, dealt with other Ithaca schools members of the class attended. And the third, in the May 2008 issue, covered most of the schools in the Ithaca system built after our student days.

However, one school in the last category was not mentioned.

The Lehman Alternative Community School is a nationally renowned public educational alternative. With approximately 270 students in grades 6 through 12, the school is known for its small class size, non-traditional curricula, and focus on student participation. Demand greatly exceeds available space, with a waiting list to enter the school generally exceeding 270.

In 1974 parents and teachers in Ithaca rallied support on the school board to create a junior high that would provide students with an educational experience that would be empowering, relevant, and democratic. Dr. David Lehman was recruited to be the first principal and to make the dream a reality. The result was the New Junior High

Program for grades 7 through 9. Initially housed in the old Markles Flats building on the corner of Court and Plains Streets, the program was moved to IHS's E-Building in 1977. In 1978 grades 10 through 12 were added. Shortly thereafter, grade 6 was added. In 1983 the school moved to its current location, in the former West Hill Elementary School building. Following Dr. Lehman's retirement in 2004, the school was renamed after him.

In the early years of the NJHP, staff and students would gather at the beginning of each quarter to hammer out a schedule of classes. Students could offer classes and teachers could take classes. As the school grew, the scheduling by consensus became prohibitively time-consuming, but to this day one of the center pieces of the school's educational philosophy is its commitment to participatory, democratic decision-making.

In 1987, the school joined the Coalition of Essential Schools, a national secondary school reform movement. This led the school to develop its own set of high school graduation requirements and alternative means of evaluating student progress, moving completely away from the old high school "credit system" and New York State Regents Exams. The school was designated in the fall of 1992 as one of the first fourteen "Compact Partnership Schools" under the "New Compact for Learning," a document calling for major reforms in education for the state of New York.

However, in the years following, a new Board of Regents moved to stricter testing and, as a result, state-wide examinations have begun to be phased back in at the school even while the school, as a member of a consortium of New York State alternative schools, has been fighting the change in the legislature and in the courts.

IHSAA (YET AGAIN)

I hope you will forgive me for mentioning the IHS Alumni Association (IHSAA for short) again. The IHSAA was formed to promote Ithaca High among its alumni. It has a web site – <http://ihsaa.gorgeswebsites.com> – that allows people to place their contact information on it and

use what other alumni have put on the site to contact them. Also, class web sites, including ours (www.ihs58.com), are linked to the IHSAA site.

You can become an associate member of IHSAA and use the site for free! (Even at no cost, only four members of our class have done so.) Or you can become a voting member – it only costs \$10 a year – and/or make a tax-deductible donation to help support IHSAA operations and programs.

Address Changed? Let Me Know!

The Tattler Two is most successful if it actually reaches you. **Please let me know if your e-mail address changes.** It seems that every time I send a newsletter out via e-mail, at least one bounces back. And, even if you are receiving the newsletter via the Internet, **please apprise me of mailing address changes.** We want to stay in touch with you, and some class-related materials, such as the reunion invitation, go via the U.S. Postal Service.

All you need to do is send me an e-mail message, send me a postcard, or telephone me. My contact information is schmals@verizon.net; 7317 Summit Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815; (301) 652-8620. Thanks in advance for your help.

WHERE IS VOLUME 9?

Possibly you noticed that the previous issue of the Tattle Two was Vol. 8, No. 5, and this one is Vol. 10, No. 1. What happened to Vol. 9? The answer: It simply does not exist. In the past, I started a new volume with the fall issue, but failed to do so last year. However, as this begins the 10th year of the Tattler Two, I decided the volume numbering should reflect that.

“THE SEARCH”: STATUS

As mentioned above, since the last newsletter, **Ed Washbon** resurfaced and therefore is no longer on the list of “missing” classmates. Also, we have added two more auxiliary classmates to our ranks – **John Chacona** and **Larry Cooper**.

The following report is from John, who prefaces it with the following: “I’ve been found! I really didn’t know I was lost.”

He continues: “But this nice gentleman named Steve called me in May and told me he been looking for me for a long time. So I guess I was missing. Now Steve must work for the FBI or some such agency because he lives near the Washington area. And though I don’t know him, he seems nice and works hard and all he wants me to do is explain what I have been doing for the last 50+ years.

“I think it was in February 1955 that I left Ithaca and went to Chicopee, MA, just outside of Springfield. I finished that school year and in September I turned 16 so I quit school and went to work for A. G. Spalding World Wide. I was first a factory worker, in the union. They then offered me a job as a supervisor, which I declined the first two times. But when they offered me a fair salary, I took the job, which lasted until 1977 when Spalding was bought out by Quester.

“Quester had some people that they wanted in certain jobs and I was one, as well as my boss, his boss, and an engineer friend of mine. The other three ended up working for Wilson Sporting Goods in Humboldt, TN. After a few months of looking for work I decide to call them to see if they had any openings. The response was, “Come down and talk.” I said I would drive down but they said “take a plane” and gave me a ticket so I could spend a week or two there. I did, they showed me around and we talked. I told them I was looking for work and I knew the product. So they asked me when I wanted to start and I said, “Give me two weeks.” So I moved, bought a home there, and stayed until 1984 when Wilson discontinued manufacturing basketballs there (shifting the production operation to Taiwan).

“After several months of looking for work, my smart kids suggested I should return to Massachusetts so I did and found a job as a warehouse manager for magazines and newspapers. This one lasted until 1994 when they closed their doors. The owner wanted to retire and his sons didn’t have an interest in running the business. So it was back to being a factory worker in a packaging company making boxes. In 2001 I

had to retire due to my health, which is still causing me a lot of problems.

“As for family, I wed Kathleen Bonack in 1959. The marriage lasted 15 years. We have 5 children, 3 girls and 2 boys. Sue, the oldest girl, will be 50 next fall. And we have 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren! In 2004, I married Barbara Cusson but we have been together since 1985. We live in Zephyrhills, Florida.

“I played a lot of softball in the past. I thought golf was stupid – you hit a ball and go chase it – but then Spalding made a mistake of giving me a set of Top-Flite clubs and all the balls I wanted. I never got good but I did get better. Now I'm not able to play golf outside but I do on the computer (and actually beat Tiger Woods twice, but don't tell him).”

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As for Larry, like John he did not graduate with the class. Due to illness in 1957, he had to drop out in our junior year. He says he goofed around, but in fact he went to Ohio and worked for several years before returning to Ithaca and graduating in 1961. He got married in 1962, and has 3 daughters (including twins) and now 6 grandchildren, 4 boys and 2 girls. He worked for 3 years for the Cornell Campus Police and then a year for Ithaca Police, before joining the Cayuga Heights Police, where he worked from 1967 – he was made Sergeant in 1974 – until he retired in 1992 due to an on-duty injury. He now lives half the year in Burdette, New York in a 1835 farm house that he is in the process of restoring – and the half other in a golf community in Florida. He says he has certainly enjoyed retired life.

One additional item of note: During his work life, he assisted Cornell professor Dan McCall in writing two books that were published, the first titled “Bluebird Canyon” and the second called “Triphammer”. Larry says it was a fun project, even though his real name could not be mentioned at the time because of his position. He adds that Dan McCall has had many books published, one of which – “Jack the Bear” – was made into a movie, in which Danny DeVito starred.

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With Ed Washbon no longer “missing”, the list of “missing” classmates now consists of **Duane Cole, Arlene Johnson, Denise Lecoq, Remi Moore** (she was Josephine Thomas when we were in high school), and auxiliary classmate **Ronnie Chandler**. And, as for auxiliary class members, I am still trying to get in touch with **Albert Ellis, Bill Ellsworth, Donald Lapointe, Jack Macbeth, and John Ryan**. If you have any information that might lead us to any of them, please let me know. Also, please pass on to me the names of any others who might qualify as auxiliary classmates.

THANK YOU

I would like to personally thank the reunion committee – **Peggy (Chester) Petrillose, Marilyn (Hull) Ryan, Kathy (Gleason) Smith, Ann (Rosa) Weitzel, Rita MacDonald, Carolyn (Pfohl) McGory, and Barb (Utter) Park** – for all their hard work in making our 50th the success it was.

I would also like to thank **Myra Fincher and Carol (Van Buren) McPherson** for financial support of the Tattler Two; **Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld, Linda (Womble) Conrad, Myra, and Ron Pete** for keeping me informed me about class-related happenings; Linda, **Donna (Phillips) Dawes, and Maryjean (Hertel) Yengo** for assisting in the “missing” classmates search; and, as usual, to all who have provided me with news, as well as with changes of e-mail and postal addresses.

IN CLOSING

Have a nice autumn, an enjoyable Thanksgiving, happy holidays, and all the best for 2009. And it is not too early to start thinking about the next class reunion, coming up in 2013. Ideas about the event and an enhanced class directory will be most welcomed.

Steve