

TATTLER TWO

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45TH REUNION

IT'S GETTING CLOSER

It's hard to believe, given the winter that Ithaca and much of the rest of the country has been experiencing, that spring will soon be here and, not too long after that, the 45th reunion of the class of '58. The dates are now set – July 25 through 27.

You will be receiving the official reunion announcement from the reunion organizers – **Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley, Kathryn (Gleason) Smith, and Ann (Rosa) Weitzel** – in the mail later this month. But here is a preview.

Friday Evening, 7:30 pm, Meadow Court Inn, 529 Meadow St. (Rt. 13) – Gathering on the patio of the inn and restaurant owned by classmate **Marilyn (Hull) Ryan**.

Saturday Morning, 9 am to 12:30 pm, Ithaca Farmers Market – Get off Rt. 13 at Third St. and follow the signs. Award-winning market with international food stalls, boat rides, etc.

Saturday Afternoon, 1 to 7 pm, Stewart Park's Large Pavilion – Picnic. Bring a dish to pass. Music at the Pavilion, 4 to 7 pm, “Steve Southworth and Rockabilly Rays”

Saturday Evening, 7 pm and after – Free time, Grade School Get-Togethers (more information below), etc. All are welcome.

Sunday Morning at the Old High School – Buffet brunch at Moosewood Restaurant in our old high school building (Seneca St. entrance). The building is now called “Dewitt Mall.”

Sunday Afternoon – Some classmates may want to get together to tour the Finger Lakes' wineries.

Attend as many of the events as you wish. Unlike many reunions, you won't have a buy a costly all-events package. There will be a charge of \$20

per classmate for the picnic, to cover renting the pavilion, hiring the band, buying paper goods and the like, and paying for printing and mailing of the announcement. Light snacks will be provided for the Friday night gathering at the Meadow Court. Other events, including brunch at Moosewood, will be on a “pay if you choose to attend” basis.

If you plan to attend the picnic, please send your \$20 to **Kathryn (Gleason) Smith** at P.O. Box 85, Spencer, NY 14883-0085.

WHERE TO STAY

For members of the class coming in from around the U.S., the Ithaca area has many motels and bed-and-breakfasts. A list will be included in the next issue of the Tattler Two. The Meadow Court Inn is offering a special rate of \$75 per night if you mention you are a member of the class of '58. Call 1-800-852-4014.

Classmate **Carol (Stevens) Jordan** has offered to provide accommodations in her home, located in Berkshire, NY. If you are interested in staying at Carol's, please write her at P.O. Box 742, Aripeka, FL 34679-0742; phone her on (727) 868-5650; or e-mail her at carol.jordan6@verizon.net.

If other Ithaca-area classmates want to welcome others to stay with them, please let me know and I will include the information in the next issue of the Tattler Two, which should be coming out in May.

As mentioned in the last issue, several classmates traveling from far-flung places for the reunion are thinking about making the trip a real vacation by staying a week or so and renting a house on Cayuga Lake during their visit. If you are interested in this kind of arrangement, you might contact Orlando Turco (IHS class of '52) who works for REMAX Associates. His phone number is (607) 257-6866 and his e-mail address is oturco@twcny.rr.com.

PARTY, PARTY, PARTY

As I said in the lead article, on Saturday evening there will be parties in the evening hosted by various classmates. Many will be open to all.

The core group for one get-together, site to be determined, will be those who attended Cayuga Heights Elementary School but it will not be limited to CCESers. For more information, please contact **Anita Bonney** (by mail at 8519 Torchwood Lane, Cicero, NY 13039; phone at 315-699-7955; or e-mail at nitzibonney@aol.com) or **Rita MacDonald** (North Woods Apts., 16-2F, 700 Warren Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-257-2415; rmacдона@twcny.rr.com).

Another party will take place at the family home of **Carol (Robinson) Battenfeld**. The core group will be those who attended Belle Sherman Elementary School. As with the CCES event, attendance will not be restricted. For information, you can contact Carol. As she lives in Germany, it would be easiest to e-mail her. Her e-mail address is 106010.1356@compuserve.com.

Bob Saturn, Dick Monroe, and Ross Carlisle are trying to organize a get-together of the Sea Scout Ship Spear (Ship 25) crew members from our era, their wives, and any one else in the class that wants to attend, either on Saturday evening (their first choice) or Sunday afternoon. More info in the next issue.

If you want to organize a get-together for your grade school, call **Kathy (Illencsik) Lilley** on (607) 272-8600.

CLASS NOTES

In the last issue, I neglected to include information on **Cindy (Miller) Cramsey** I received from her during the summer. After working for 30 years as a property and casualty insurance agent in New York and Virginia, Cindy moved to Albuquerque in 1993 and went into the residential mortgage business. In 2000, she moved again, to Burleson, TX (also home of American Idol Kelly Clarkson), where she manages a branch office of the residential mortgage company for which she worked in Albuquerque. Also in 2000, she married

second husband Dan. Retired from the U.S. Forest Service, he is now assistant manager of a convenience store as well as a part-time jail chaplain. Between Cindy and Dan, they have 6 living children – each lost a child – and 15 grandchildren. The Cramseys enjoy dancing, dining, and exploring new places.

Here's what I've received since the last issue.

Ron Fitch, an auxiliary classmate, reports from Bellevue, Washington, that he is semi-retired from the textile business. His work entailed supplying raw materials to manufacturers in North America and Asia. He and wife Charlotte, who works part-time as a dental hygienist, have a daughter in Bellevue and sons in Michigan and Ohio, as well as 4 grandchildren. For recreation, the Fitches enjoy sailing, for which Bellevue provides a wonderful base.

Faith (Miller) Roelofs' husband Chuck Dann sold his house in Berkeley, California in April of 2002 and moved permanently to Arizona (Prescott, to be precise). Faith reports that, to celebrate, she and Chuck had a grand time touring Paris and London in October. The two will have a very busy and happy June when three of their children will be receiving degrees from the U. of Washington.

Beverly (Bower) Tuckerman lives in Alpine with Ralph, her husband of 43 years. The Tuckermans owned and operated a hardware business in Elmira for 21 years before selling it. For the past 23 years, Bev has been a floral designer and shop manager, but cut back to a part-time schedule early last year. Ralph worked as the shop carpenter for Hardinge Brothers until retiring 3 years ago. In addition to their 3 children and 6 grandchildren, Bev and Ralph have 4 step-grandchildren and 4 step-great grandchildren!

Short Takes:

Here are bits of news about other class members.

Cyndi (Beebee) Anderson writes of a busy Christmas season. She sang in two programs at her church, helped pre-school children put on a program, and went caroling with her singles group.

She also continues to crochet, making gifts for family and friends.

Fred Barnard and wife Christine recently moved from San Jose to Watsonville, California, where they have 2½ acres on a creek. In December, they went to Oklahoma for the wedding of one of their daughters. Christine reports that Fred wore a tux for the very first time.

Diane Driscoll, in retirement, is studying for the insurance licensing exam so that she can sell long-term care insurance and insurance to supplement Medicare for State Farm. She intends to work only about 20 hours a week.

E-mailing from the Philippines, **Carl King** reports that while he is basically retired (he worked with computers, natural health, and investments), he is now writing a book on technical investing in stocks and futures. He adds that he is investing in the loan business in the Philippines at a very good rate of return.

Joyce (Ballerdini) Personius notes that recently “found” auxiliary classmates **Lu Tracy** and **Isabelle (Tracy) Wilcox** are cousins of hers by marriage.

Marilyn (Hull) Ryan and husband Neal celebrated Thanksgiving in Venice, Florida (together with her daughter, her sister, their respective families and others). The Ryans are looking forward to heading south again in April after the rough Ithaca winter.

Dave Smith writes from Farmington, NY (near Rochester) that he retired on the 1st of January last year and is enjoying retired life.

Shirley (Cook) Weeks and her cousin Donna went on a cruise to the Bahamas in early February. She recommends cruises to anyone wishing to walk a lot, eat a lot, and have a great time.

Get-Togethers:

Randy Little met **Carolyn (Pfohl) McGory** and husband Tom in November at the Cornell Athletic Hall of Fame induction banquet.

Steve Schmal and wife Deb were dinner guests of **Suzi (Colbert) Gittins** and husband Tom at the

Gittins’ home in McLean, Virginia, fortunately the day **before** the D.C. area was hit with almost 2 feet of snow. Also present was Suzi’s sister Emmalou (IHS class of ’55), visiting from North Carolina.

CORRECTION

In the last issue, reporting on **Suzi (Colbert) Gittins** and husband Tom, I said their son Tom, his wife, and their 2 sons lived nearby, implying that Tom and his wife were living together. They are divorced, and I apologize for the error.

IN MEMORIUM

Jeanne (Pyle) Main died in East Lansing, MI on February 2. Jean, who received her bachelor’s degree from the U. of Wisconsin, spent her career in the health industry, first in hospital management and later in customer service and sales for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. She is survived by her husband of 40 years Bill, son Gregory, daughter Jennifer, son-in-law Eliot Waxman, grandson Ethan Waxman, and brother James (IHS class of ’57). Bill reports she had been looking forward to attending the reunion. We will miss her.

THE FACSIMILE ANNUAL

Just 3 copies of the facsimile 1958 Annual are still available. If you are interested in obtaining one – the cost is only \$5.50 including postage (just \$2 if you are in the Ithaca area and can pick it up) – contact **Rita MacDonald**. She can be reached by e-mail at rmacdona@twcnny.rr.com, by phone at (607-257-2415), or by surface mail at 700 Warren Rd., #16-2F; Ithaca, NY 14850.

BY THE NUMBERS

Here is the information I have received so far in response to the inquiries in the last issue, spurred by a suggestion from **Anita Bonney**, seeking to identify the class leaders in the following categories.

Married the longest? **44+ years.** I know of at least 11 classmates who have been married 40 years or longer. Most recently married? **Less than 1½ years.** (Remember, either a first marriage or a re-marriage counts in this category.)

Most children? **7.** Most grandchildren? **18.** And does anyone have great-grandchildren? **Yes (several classmates).**

Oldest child? **44 or 45.** Youngest? **31 and 8** (children of female and male classmates, respectively).

Oldest living parent? **99.**

* * * * *

As I mentioned in the last issue, feel free to add entries in other categories of your making and please pass the info on to me as soon as possible. (**Randy Little** suggested earliest graduation from Cornell, pointing out that he went to nursery school there. But he is no better than tied in that category as I did also.) The results will be announced at the reunion and in the newsletter that follows it.

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. Like the class list, it is free if you are on the Internet but there is a charge of 75 cents otherwise. You should know that I absolutely will not make these lists available to anyone other than our classmates.

THANK YOU

Once again, I want to acknowledge the classmates who have provided assistance to me in two areas. Helping to locate "missing" classmates or identifying potential auxiliary classmates: **Kate (Catherwood) Fackelman, Dorrice (Griffith)**

Hammer, Jim (formerly Ludwig) Illes, Judy (Sine) Jager, Rita MacDonald, Sharron (Hunsinger) Marino, Carol (Riley) Riggs, and Tom Smith. Provided financial assistance that helps defray my newsletter and search activities costs: **Judy (Osborn) Davis, Nettie (Chirillo) Kossman, and Jean Houghton.** Thanks to all of you!!

"THE SEARCH": STATUS

We are now down to four "missing" classmates. "Found" since the last newsletter are **Nancy (Oktavec) Swank** and **Linda (Waterfield) Torres.** Still "missing" are Arlene Johnson, Denise Lecoq, Craig Wilson, and Willie Young.

Ronnie Chandler has been added to the ranks of the auxiliary class members – those who were in our class for part of our high school years but did not graduate with us. **Harry Guidi** and **Sally Parker** were located but declined the honors.

The list of potential auxiliary class members continues to grow and now includes **Starr Atwood, Jane Banks, Bill Ellsworth, Jack Macbeth, Jim McCarthy, Bob McCauley, Carolyn Penta, John Ryan, and James Taft.** But we have little idea where they might be. If you have any information that would help us get in touch with them, please pass it on to me. **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.

"THE SEARCH": STORIES

Locating two of the most recently "found" class members started with obituaries. For **Nancy (Oktavec) Swank,** it was her aunt's, which I'd found when I entered her mother's name in Google.com. That led me to two cousins who gave me Nancy's married name, husband's name, and a last-known location of Interlaken. A check of Internet phone listings showed none for Ronald or Nancy Swank there, but one for Mrs. Gordon Swank who, it turns out, is his aunt. She told me they'd moved to Trumansburg, but had no phone number or mailing address. And I could find no

Internet phone listings for them in T-burg, either. What to do? I contacted **Judy (Sine) Jager**, asking her whether T-burg had a local paper. Yes, she said, and so we ran a notice in the Trumansburg Free Press. And we have proof positive of the power of the free press. A neighbor of Nancy's read the notice, told her about it, Nancy called Judy, and the number of "missing" classmates dropped once again.

Cindy (Miller) Cramsey was also "found" through an obituary, very sadly for one of her daughters. Not knowing Cindy's married name, I entered her maiden name in Google.com and among the "hits" was a 2001 obituary from the Lehighon (Pennsylvania) Times-News for Maribeth Hosler. It mentioned that Ms. Hosler was 35, had been born in Ithaca, and her mother's name was Cynthia Miller Cramsey. Also mentioned was that her stepfather was Dan Cramsey and that he and Cynthia lived in Burleson, Texas. When I checked one of the Internet phonebooks, there was a listing for a Dan Cramsey in Burleson. When I called, Dan answered the phone and said I had indeed reached the right household. I spoke with Cindy the next day.

Not knowing that **Linda Waterfield's** current last name is Torres made locating her quite difficult. A classmate had told me her last name was Bell – true at one time – and that she lived in Florida. I'd used various Internet tools to try to find her but, as I was looking for a Linda Bell, I had no luck. I also tried to locate her brother John (IHS class of '61). While I found an Internet reference to a John Waterfield, age 59, in Florida, I was unable to come up with an address or phone number. We almost located Linda through a lead from **Jim Illes**. He said she had an uncle named Russell Goss who lived in Syracuse. So Diane Driscoll and I tried to get in touch with Russell. But despite having an address and phone number, we had no success in contacting him. Then Jim Malone of the class of '56 came to the rescue. He found that a John E. Waterfield, age 59, had married Kathryn Ann Beich in Pinellas County, Florida, and then found a phone listing for

Ms. Beich. Armed with that information, I called. John answered, said he was indeed the brother of our class's Linda, and was only too happy to give me her contact info.

AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOR IHS?

Rita MacDonald has not rested on her laurels following her efforts in arranging for the printing and distribution of the facsimile 1958 Annual. Over the past several months, she had been working toward establishing an Ithaca High School Alumni Association, probably as an independent partner of IPEI, the Ithaca Public Education Initiative, a tax-exempt group formed several years ago to provide funding support for teachers, students, and programs in the Ithaca District.

The first order of business will be getting an updated IHS alumni directory. Rita expects a contract between IPEI and Harris Publishing, which put out the 1996 Directory, to be signed by the beginning of March. Although I will provide Harris, through Rita, with the class list I maintain, if Harris contacts you within the next several months, it is important that you respond to insure that the new Directory contains all the relevant info about you. If all goes well, the new Directory should be available, in book form and as a CD ROM, in about 8 or 9 months. A basic grant of \$500 from Harris plus royalties from sales of the Directories will serve as start-up funds for the Alumni Association.

In the meantime, Rita has continued to work on the process for forming the association and "talking up" the project among alumni she has seen or with whom she has been in contact, working toward establishing a steering committee. Once a founding Board of Directors is formed, and a mission statement and constitution are written, the Alumni Association will be able to apply for its own tax-exempt status. At that point, it can choose to remain part of IPEI or "fly" on its own, depending on the wishes of the founding group.

We will keep you posted on future developments.

IN CLOSING

Most of us have very busy lives, with many things competing for our limited available time. And for some classmates who live far away, it may not be feasible – financially and/or logistically – to get to Ithaca for our 45th reunion. Having said that, I hope we have an excellent turnout.

The program the reunion organizers have put together is excellent – a wide range of activities that should include something for everyone's taste – and the cost is very reasonable.

Please try to attend if at all possible!

Steve

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 want to be apprised of mailing address changes even if you're 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.