
'60 Minutes

September 2014

Reserve These Dates!

The 55th reunion committee chose July 23-25, 2015 for our next reunion. It will begin on Thursday, July 23 with a 3-hour sunset dinner cruise on Lake Mendota via Betty Lou Cruises.

On Friday night a casual get-together will be held at the Top of the Park with appetizers and cash bar from 7-11 pm. The Inn on the Park will also hold a block of rooms for us for those who will need housing while in Madison. Reserve these by June 23, 2015. A catered picnic at noon on Saturday will be at either Vilas Park or Hoyt Park – depending on where we can reserve the shelter.

An event at the Edgewater Hotel could not be scheduled due to space availability but classmates are encouraged to visit the new facility on their own.

More information, including costs, will be available in coming months. We anticipate mailing information and registration forms in January, 2015. The dinner cruise option has limited enrollment so return your forms asap.

Dan Nelson will update the web page with a list of classmates who register to attend each event as your forms are received by **Jeanne Lorimer Moren**. Thanks to the committee for their work so far and their help to bring us all together again.

Elaine Statz Penpek
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In Memorium

Kathleen Druckenbrod Kruger, age 71, had a beautiful, peaceful passing surrounded by her siblings, children and grandchildren at Agrace Hospice on May 1, 2014. Cancer and pulmonary fibrosis won the yearlong battle, but the "Queen of Color" put up a heck of a fight! She found her flair for color as a crafter, beginning her business, String and Things, selling fiber wearable art at craft fairs. She will be deeply missed by all of her family and friends and classmates. Kathy is survived by husband, Fritz; children Kristin Sanden, Steven, and Jessica Czajka; eight grandchildren, two brothers, Rob and David and sister, Samara.

Mary G. Feiler, age 72, passed away on June 28, 2014 at Liberty Manor in Adams, Wisconsin.

Daniel J. Hager, age 72, passed away on March 13, 2014 in St. Petersburg, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Anna; daughters Lori Benes and Kristine Cisewski and son Daniel, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He had resided in Florida since 1987 where he was employed by The Magnuson Hotel.

Sarah (Sally) Miles Gerken died on November 5, 2010 in Millbrae, California. She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Jack Gerken, her sister Nancy Townsend and brother Jim Miles.

Jean K. Postweiler Findley, age 71, passed away peacefully on December 9, 2013 after a lifelong struggle with Lupus. She is survived by her twin daughters, Katherine and Krista and son Steve, eight grandchildren and her brother Reini. She was preceded in death by daughter Susan and son Fritz.

**Address Changes from 2013
Postal Returns**

Patricia Barry Yocum
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Lynn Bassett Shebilske
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Jeri Bladl Novak
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Knute Tuhus
P.O. Box 51774
Phoenix, AZ 85076

Remembering our Teachers

Donald G. McCloskey, age 88, passed away on May 15, 2014 at Agrace HospiceCare from cancer. He taught for 34 years at West High School from 1953 to 1987. He was the successful and beloved coach of West High math teams, Oinks and Piglets, who won multiple competitions. His teaching career included service as president of Madison Teachers Inc. Don is survived by daughters, Linda Haring and Lorre DeSerre, four grandchildren and twin great grandsons. His wife, Irene, preceded him in death.

Roger J. Wiebe passed away on August 13, 2014 at the age of 74. He graduated from West High School in 1958 after an outstanding showing on the basketball, cross country and track teams. In 1971 he returned to West High as an assistant to Jim Stevens. In 1992 he was voted "Coach of the Year". He was inducted into the Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2001. Roger is survived by his wife Nancy; children Jon, Mark and Kristin and five grandchildren.

**Address Changes Sent
By Classmates**

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Sandi Nelson Johnson (*Winter only*)
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Richard Porter
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New E-mail Addresses

Some removed to maintain privacy.

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Betsy Williams Polousky
Tom Zingg

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Mini Reunions in Sarasota and Minneapolis Area

A mini reunion was held in Sarasota, FL on March 18 at Sweet Tomatoes. Classmates attending were: Tom Schmelzer, Bob Merry, Fred Nelson, Lynn Connaughton Barlow, Karen Weatherwax Miller, Carol Brigham Kahne, Jeanne O'Neill Skilton, Bill Piltz, Chuck West, Neal Rosinsky, Barry Gaberman and Elaine Statz Penpek.

A Minneapolis area mini reunion was held on August 27 at Lord Fletchers on Lake Minnetonka. In attendance were: Jim Strand, Joe Schmitz, Jill Clemens Smith, Pam Grassman Sohlberg, Bonnie Isabella Dehring, Sandi Nelson Johnson, Fred Milverstedt and Roger Sweet.

Check our Web Page for Reunion Updates

Remember to check our web page for more information about the 55th class reunion. The address is: <http://personalpages.tds.net/~rdannelson9/index.html> Dan Nelson will add new information as it becomes available.

Classmate News

Jim Strand – jamesstrand@gmail.com

As for attending the reunion, I give it a 70% chance. Oops now that I have talked to my wife, the estimate has gone up to 90%; she likes my class better than her class. Guess my class has more class. No life changing events but our garden was just selected for a feature article to be run this winter in the Minneapolis Star Tribune. I guess you know where our time is spent.

Pat Tobin Kasten – ptkstn@charter.net

Celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary June 8th in the Wisconsin Dells with the whole family. Wonderful weekend.

Jean Dudley Bass – jean.bass@parkprinting.com

I'm still working full time. Why would I want to retire? I see my son and daughter, my nephews and nieces, my grandchildren and grand-nieces and nephews every day! It's wonderful!

More Classmate News

Don Lautz – dmlautz@aol.com

Unfortunately since the last reunion I've had one cornea surgery and three retinal surgeries on my "good" eye. I can read (I still sing in the local community choir), use a computer (with large print), drive during the day (not fast, and only in familiar territory), enjoy travel, movies and watching TV. Though distance is blurry, I can't really complain as it could be far worse.

Annie Mannering – annieoflyons@yahoo.com

I would say that the September 2013 flood was a significant life event. We are now getting ready for the first anniversary. Lyons was the epicenter of the catastrophe. It will take a long time for the town to recover but there are still many blessings. Next May and June I will be traveling in Europe and need a house sitter. Perhaps a classmate would like a free, charming place to stay for two months. Lyons is a small artistic community, especially musical, against the foothills, about 20 minutes from Estes Park.

Lynn Hogan Case – lcase2008@yahoo.com

We are celebrating 50 years of marriage on September 5, followed by a river cruise trip to China in October. We will have extra days in both Shanghai and Beijing to explore on our own.

Margaret Thompson Hanson

My husband Chris passed away from pancreatic cancer in June, 2013 after being diagnosed in March. It wasn't the cancer that got him but pneumonia (pneumocystis). His immune system was just too overwhelmed. I am fortunate that I have lots of friends and support so life goes on. It's good to know that I still have ties of my own that will continue to keep me strong.

Elizabeth Rutherford – eruther4d@dslextreme.com

I am in training for a sprint triathlon coming up August 24, 2014. It will include an ocean swim of 500 yards, a bicycle ride of 6 miles and a run (walk for me) of 2 miles. I will have a real team with me consisting of my oldest daughter Coralin and her wife Chresten and my middle daughter Gwen. I have never done anything like this in my life so wish me luck.

Robert Schaedla – schaedlar@yahoo.com

I wrote several years ago that I plan to retire in Colombia with my wife Rosalinda. Well, we are still in Boulder, Colorado and we are still watching the situation in Colombia to see if the political situation stabilizes. At least it has improved and become more peaceful. If it doesn't stabilize we'll have to choose another place south of the border where we can live "sano y salvo" I probably will not be able to attend the next reunion but if anyone is vacationing in Colorado, please contact me via email.

Sharron Schensky Wartinger

Tom and I won't be able to make the 2015 reunion. He continues to battle heart disease and I'm trying to avoid back surgery. I'm not sure whether the back problems are due to my years as a professional ballet dancer or if it's genetic. I hope to add "author" to my resume if or when I finish writing my book for the elderly. I didn't know there would be so much to it when I decided to write it. Fortunately, my work as a researcher, writer and package producer for CNN is a help.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please send your correct address to Elaine Statz Penpek at P.O. Box 241, Egg Harbor, WI 54209 or send an email to empenpek@hotmail.com. We will be using these addresses in the directory of classmates and for mailing the 55th reunion invitations in January 2015.