



Fall Class Reunion Luncheon Rocked!

Thirty-six classmates gathered at the Columbia Restaurant on St. Petersburg's historic pier on Saturday, October 13. The view of the waterfront was spectacular and it was difficult to stop the visiting to free up the tables for the following diners.



Enjoying the fellowship and the view are, L to R: Gloria Fernald Ellinwood, Deane Mohr, Doris Hustin Mohr and Marlene Matouk Haugland.

We don't have space to show photos of everyone who attended, but here is a list of attendees that is indicative of the wide classmate interest:

St. Pete area:

Nancy Cramer Litten
 Gloria Fernald Ellinwood
 Geri Martin Willingham
 Lyn and Suzanne Provo
 Ed and Joan Parsley
 Lil Olsen and Bill Classen
 Ron and Sherry Rasmussen
 David and Carol Beasley
 Joe and Pat Chamberlain
 Karl Maier
 June Ward Fleisher
 Sally Cook Vazquez
 Lois Gillies and Jack Phillips
 Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher
 Dan Abbott
 Pat Reeves and Boyd Acklin
 Carol Deuel Phelps
 Bob Walton

These classmates traveled farther to the lunch:

Walter Lettau – Polk County
 Marlene Matouk Haugland – Oregon
 Doris Hustin and Deane Mohr – Georgia
 Dick and Sonja Jemison – Ft. Pierce, FL
 Joe Flad – Leesburg, FL
 Merilyn Sweet Johnson – Bushnell, FL
 Emil Sales – Clermont, FL

**Why not add your name to the list of classmates attending the January 12, 2013 luncheon?
 Join the fun.**

Graduations

John “Jack” Hedman passed away on September 26, 2012. Jack was a lifelong resident of St. Petersburg and practiced optometry here for 52 years. He is survived by his wife, Carol, three children and six grandchildren. Jack's Requiem Mass was held at St. Philip's Anglican Church in Pinellas Park. Jack and his ready sense of humor, will be greatly missed.

Jack often attended our class events and earlier this year enjoyed our luncheon at The Hangar Restaurant at Albert Whitted Airport.



L to R at the Hangar Restaurant in April are: Don Bogue, Ginny Bogue, Jack Hedman and Joe Chamberlain.

Jean Lewis Richardson, wife of our classmate **Jim Richardson**, succumbed after a long battle with cancer, on October 27, 2012. Jean was in the SPHS Class of 1955 and was a Registered Nurse. She has two children, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Services were held at Northside Baptist Church in St. Petersburg.

Lona Herndon Love has told us of the passing of her beloved Max Love on September 16, 2012. Max suffered from COPD for about five years. Their home is Winter Springs, FL. Lona has traveled to a number of our class reunion events.

Judi Hirshberg Allen's brother, Sherwin, died October 5, 2012. He had been on our prayer list and succumbed to cancer. Sherwin was in the SPHS Class of 1951 and had a career in the Navy. He played the saxophone was a member of The Second Time Rounder's band. His wife, Betty, died in 2001 and he is survived by a daughter and Judi's family.

Letters & Notes

Recall that we had a prayer request in the prior newsletter for the great granddaughter of **Bev Furman Praschan**. Bev reports that Ruthie is doing just fine at home. "She doesn't even need to wear a helmet. She is 4 months old [late September]. The surgery was necessary to make room for her brain to grow. One child out of every 2,000 births has this problem of the bones fusing too early and requiring surgery. They have been doing this procedure for 40 years! We had never heard of it before and are just glad it is over. Thanks so much for praying. We really appreciate it."

Roger Fleming expressed his thanks for the last newsletter and says that he and Jean plan to visit St. Pete in early 2013. He hopes to make one of the luncheons.

Harvey Lee Latshaw has been located after many years that we sent the newsletter to the wrong Harvey Latshaw. ☹ The wrong one is in Topeka, KS and our classmate is in San Diego, CA. An Internet online search revealed him in California after the latest newsletter was returned. The Post Office failed to notify us of the address error for the eight previous years! Anyhow, we are now connected with him and he is connected with us.

Joanne Bolton Knight has given us permission to report her recent engagement to Gene Armstrong. ☺ Gene came back into Joanne's life after 34 years. He is a Georgia Tech and U of Tenn. grad, served in the US Army and did new product development for Proctor and Gamble for 20 years. He loves to hunt, fish, golf and do woodworking. Archeology and

astronomy are also his interests. We wish the happy couple all the best.



This is Joanne with Gene at a recent event in Nashville, TN, where they live.

Betty Zinsmeister Keith reports by e-mail, "Your web site is extremely well done and the newsletter is also. Great job! After all these years, memories of SPHS need a lot of help coming to the forefront, so I will have to search for the yearbook and peruse it to refresh. I came to SPHS from Pennsylvania and didn't have the early friendships many of class enjoyed. I have only been in SPHS once since graduation - to attend a cello concert by a friend of my youngest grandson (He and she met through the Tampa Bay Performing Arts orchestra). There had been lots of changes, even then, and I guess that it will be redone again due to the recent fire. [For those not in the St. Pete area, there recently was a fire on the auditorium roof, caused by a roofer's torch. It also damaged some labs on the third floor.] Betty and Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher unexpectedly renewed acquaintances at a volunteers meeting at St. Pete College*: "When we finally realized that she and I were in the same class, Phyllis was so happy to be able to communicate contact info to you. She has lots of enthusiasm!"

* SPJC is now a four year college and the *Junior* has been dropped from the name.

Prayer Concerns

John Patrick's wife, Kathy reported to Phyllis Doescher (10/24): Thank you for the card and the

others you sent too. We love you very much and really appreciate you. Wish we could have made it to the luncheon but John just didn't feel like going anywhere that day. He just got his blood work back and now has a problem with his kidneys functioning properly. According to the test he is in the 3rd. phase of kidney disease with a GFR of 44 - the minimum it should be is 60. We think some of the medications he has been taking and also the super strong antibiotics he was given in the hospital is what caused it. I read on the internet about the antibiotics they gave him in the hospital through the veins, and those antibiotics are commonly known to cause kidney failure and kidney disease. It makes him extremely tired and of course being anemic makes him tired as well so at least we know now why he has been so tired for so long. If kidney function goes below 15 he will have to start on dialysis. It scares him just to think about it and really scares me too. We will have another test done ASAP so perhaps they can change his medications and bring it back up some. Sure hope so! Please forward this to the gang. Love you all. "

Irene "Mike" Hillengas Barger is undergoing tests (10/9) for an undisclosed condition in the abdominal area.

Helping Out

Many thanks go to these SPHS '54 classmates for donations to the class treasury in the previous quarter. Donations pay the printing and postage costs for this newsletter, and to subsidize our 60th reunion costs:

Dan Richardson
Gloria Fernald Ellinwood
Geri Martin Willingham
Robert Bradford
Dick Jemison

We Have a New Class Website

Since our last newsletter, the SPHS Class of 1954 website has migrated to a new location on the web. This was necessitated by changing Internet Service Providers (ISP) from Roadrunner to Verizon. Roadrunner had been hosting our website. Verizon also hosts a free website for customers, but their storage is small and it would not come close to holding all of our on-line photos of luncheons, etc. Thus, we had to contract with a web hosting provider

and now we have unlimited storage for our photos. Check out on line all of the photos James Lyn Provo takes of our activities in high resolution and living color. The new website is located at:

<http://sphs1954.org/>

If you have visited our class web page, you know that it contains everything we know about our classmates – whether found, missing or deceased. It has home addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers by which to contact them.

Lady Classmate Mini-Reunions

Did you know that a group of our classmates has been getting together for lunch, fellowship (galship?) and more every month for about the last three years? These ladies form the core of our reunion committee and generate most of the arrangements for our reunions. Myrtle Siemers Larson, Lois Gillies Phillips, June Ward Fleisher, Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher and Sally Cook Vazquez form the "permanent" group. Sometimes others join in the fun. Most recently, on October 20, Nancie Swope Crabb, Joan Cradic Slusser and Jackie Goss Potter joined them for a big slumber party at Phyllis' lake house in Citrus County, near Inverness.



L to R at the Olive Garden: Kneeling in front are Joan Cradic Slusser and Phyllis. Standing left to right are Nancie Swope Crabb, Myrtle Siemers Larson, Jackie Goss Potter, Lois Gillies Phillips, June Ward Fleisher and Sally Cook Vazquez.

Put May 2-3, 2014 on your calendar for the 60th reunion. Hilton in St. Pete is the site. More details will be announced later.

Class Contacts:

Class web site, where you can find addresses:
<http://sphs1954.org/> . This is new, so update your browser favorites.

Reunions Chairman: Boyd Acklin, 1110 42nd Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33703, (727) 527-0361 or eacklin1@tampabay.rr.com

Contributions: Donations are a big help and they keep this newsletter coming. Please send them to Lil Classen, Treasurer, at 8037 Elbow Lane N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710. Please make checks payable to: "SPHS Class of '54",

Classmate updates, news-to-share, etc., should be sent to: Ron Rasmussen, Editor, 10212 58th Street, Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632, (727) 547-6857 or ronr@alumni.ufl.edu

**Next luncheon is
Saturday, January 12, 2013**

We will meet at The Columbia Restaurant on The Pier. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know no later than Tue., January 8. Nancy's phone is (727) 392-7417.



SPHS Class of 1954
10212 58th Street
Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632
Address Service Requested