



Winter 2015 Reunion

Classmates gathered for our winter quarterly reunion luncheon on January 10 at the Courtside Grill in the Carillion area north of St. Petersburg. This location is more central to classmates who live north and east of St. Petersburg, as well as to most that live in St. Petersburg.

Reunion Lunches are Fun



Class photographer James Lyn Provo captures classmates enjoying our luncheons. Shown here are Maggie and Karl Maier.



Don and Ginny Bogue are seen frequently at our reunion events.

Nancy Stiles Lefebvre is out of the hospital after two weeks and tests show she does not have bone cancer. She and her husband have moved to a villa with skilled nursing. She appreciates prayers.

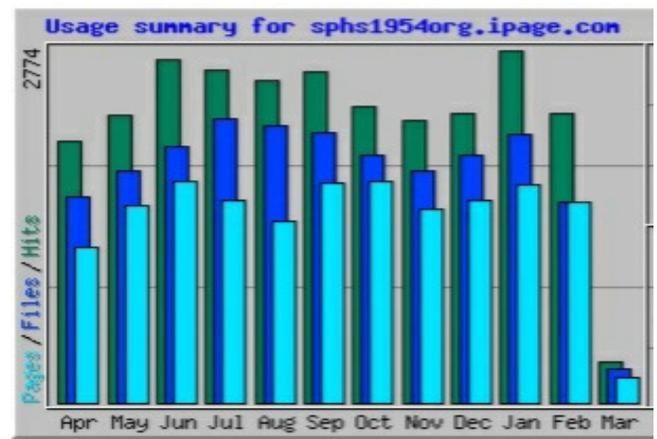


Here is a memory from a picnic in March 2003 where former SPHS band members Lamar Owens and Lil Olsen Classen were remembering old times.

Our Class Website

For several years, we have had our class' information on line and available for all classmates to use. This website can be accessed on the Internet at <http://sphs1954.org/>

Home computers, smart phones and computers in public libraries can access this site. It contains our most current data on where our classmates are located and **how to contact them**. This is a chart showing how much the website is used each month.



The bar chart shows how the class website was being used for the last year. Dark Green is hits on the site (max. of 2,774 in Jan); dark blue is files opened and light blue is pages accessed.

In addition to contact information, there is information about upcoming events, photos of reunion gatherings and an archive of newsletters. There is also space to post notes from classmates

who want to share. Classmate contributions pay fees for this site. Thanks go to William White and Warren Kendall for their class support this quarter.

Memories

From the first issue of the *P&P* in our senior year 61 years ago, comes this article in the Friday, September 11, 1953 edition. Recall that school started after Labor Day back then.

Palmetto & Pine

“Hall of Fame

By Ann Stuart



Sandra Puryear

Starring in Hall of Fame this week is Sandra Puryear, better known as Sandy, who made her first appearance on April 4, 1936.

Just before school opened she returned from a glorious vacation to New York City, but she is already deep in work – being the editor of the annual this year. Besides that she is active in Service Club, Keyettes, and El Circulo Eldorado. Last year she was a hostess and served as assistant chairman of Career Day.

Sandy's favorites are football games, because there is so much spirit and fun involved, but running close seconds are French fries and Triplets. She said that her happiest moment came when she found she had been elected to the position

of Annual Editor. Her only remark was “golly,” her most frequently used expression

When embarrassing moments came up, Sandy turned five shades of red, but it seems it goes something like this – the Puryears were on their way to Colorado when they stopped at a filling station for gas and other essentials but found herself in the wrong room. Her only remark to this was, “It was worse coming out than going in!”

Her schedule this year consists of English IV, Home Economics, commercial Spanish, art and phys. Ed. Her future plans concern Tally, but as for a career she hasn't decided



Boyd Acklin

The tall, friendly blond sharing this week's honors is Boyd Acklin, who appeared in this world just fifteen days after Sandra, April 19, 1936.

Boyd got an early start in school activities when he was elected sophomore councilman, followed by vice-president of Student Council in his junior year and finally serving as president of the Student Council for the coming school term. He also belongs to the Key Club and Les Aigles, besides being active in sports. Last year, Boyd played end on the Green Devils' football team and did a pretty good job of it. He's still continuing in his position this year; but football wasn't his only sport – he held the position of outfielder on the SPHS baseball team. Boyd's favorite activity, as you can guess, is sports, but eating ranks mighty high, especially when it's fried chicken. But what really sends him is the latest record of *C'ect Si Bon* and that Cadillac

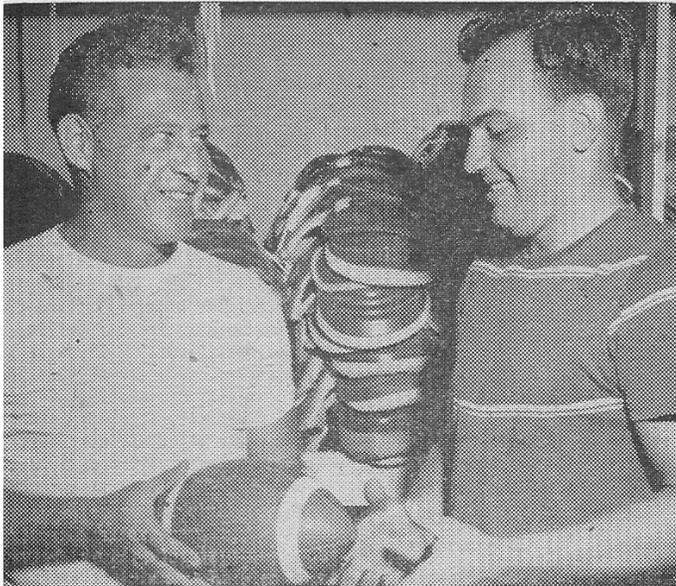
car! Among the highlights of his eventful life was the Inaugural Ball when his election victory was announced.

Remembering embarrassing moments recalls to his memory a time at Disston Junior High when Boyd was rushing from the showers to the locker by way of the girls' phys. ed. class with only a towel for decency. It seems a friend thought it would be a good joke to pull one end of the towel and away it went. Amid shrieks and horrified stares, Boyd ran for the nearest exit, breaking all speed records.

Boyd is carrying a full load this year of English IV, trigonometry, French II, physics and phys. Ed.

Sportraits

By Gail Willingham



Coach Jenkins and Walt Lettau

This first week of school the Sportrait's spotlight is focused on Walter Lettau, better known to us as Walt. This honor is reserved for Walt because of his captaincy of the 1953 Green Devil football team.

Baltimore, Maryland was the place of Walt's beginning in 1935. Since he came to St. Petersburg, Walt has attended many of our schools beginning with St. Paul's, Harris, Disston, Mirror Lake and now he is in hopes of ending this year with St. Pete High. As for future schooling, he's undecided, but college is a must. When I asked his favorite expression, believe it or not, "Hey-ho-delina" was his answer. (What a job he must have getting it out!) Spaghetti tops his list of food he likes, and

Frankie Laine gets his vote for crooner. His most thrilling moment was starting his first varsity Green Devil football game and being elected team captain for 1953. It is no surprise that football is his favorite sport.

Since coming to St. Pete football has been foremost on his mind. He played in 8th and 9th grades on the City Recreation teams; first string on our own Imps his sophomore year and played many games last year as a varsity 1st stringer. Everyone knows Walt plays rough and ready tackle position."

Walt's schedule includes Service English, Senior Social Studies, Shop II, Personal Typing and Physical Education

Graduations

William A McCormick passed away on January 10 at his home in Johnson City, TN. He is survived by his wife, Joan, a daughter Marti and three stepchildren. He also has a brother Marty and sister Sherry McCormick Lyon. After four years in the Air Force, he attended Wheaton College, USF, Northwestern University and Fuller Theological seminary, where he received a master's degree. He served as Dean of Fraternities at Northwestern, and Dean of Students at King College. He loved music, played clarinet and the piano, and was an avid photographer.

Fred Larson, husband of our classmate, **Myrtle Siemers Larson**, passed away on March 6, Fred had been in poor health for some time and on our prayer list. He and Myrtle had been married 60 years and had three children - Bonnie, Connie and Frederick II. They also have 14 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. Fred had served in the army on Okinawa, and returned to a career with the St. Petersburg Fire Dept. Fred also owned a wholesale distributorship. Myrtle and Fred were RV'rs for 12 years. He was interred with Military Honors at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Frank R LoBue, husband of classmate **Bette Jackman LoBue**, also passed away on March 6. Frank was a 1951 SPHS grad and served four years in the Navy. He studied music at SPC and was an electrical contractor. Frank and Bette loved music and often sang together and in choirs. In addition to Bette, he is survived by daughter Susan M. Funk and son Michael. Services were at Faith Presbyterian Church in Seminole.

Class Contacts:

Class of 1954 web site, where you can find it all:
<http://sphs1954.org/> . Help us keep your data current!

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. (12 years, so far.) 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) 544-2374 or ronr@alumni.ufl.edu

Next Reunion luncheon is Saturday, April 11, 2015

Location is the Courtside Grill in the Carillon area of north St. Pete. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know by Thur., April 9. Nancy's phone is (727) 392-7417.



<http://www.courtsidegrille.com/>

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 Address Service Requested