



## Spring 2015 Mini-Reunion

29 Classmates gathered for the quarterly mini-reunion luncheon at the Courtside Grill on April 11. Here is the list of attendees:

1. Pat Reeves & Boyd Acklin
2. Walt Lettau
3. Nancy Cramer Litten
4. Emil Sales (from Clermont, FL)
5. Gloria Ellinwood & Joe Flad (from Leesburg)
6. Lil Olsen & Bill Classen
7. Lyn & Suzanne Provo (from Trinity/Pasco)
8. Janet Sieck
9. Sally Cook Vazquez (from Lutz, FL)
10. Don & Ginny Bogue
11. David & Carol Beazley
12. Karl & Maggie Maier
13. John & Kathy Patrick (from Citrus County.)
14. Lois Gillies & Jack Phillips
15. Barbara Reed Thompson
16. June Ward Fleisher
17. Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher
18. Barbara Volley Bowen
19. Bette Jackman LoBue
20. Dan Abbott

You can see that several classmates come from a distance to enjoy the fellowship of long-time friends. If you are planning a trip to the St. Pete area, why not include our regular quarterly mini-reunion luncheons in your plans? They are on fixed dates each year: the second Saturday of January, April, July and October.



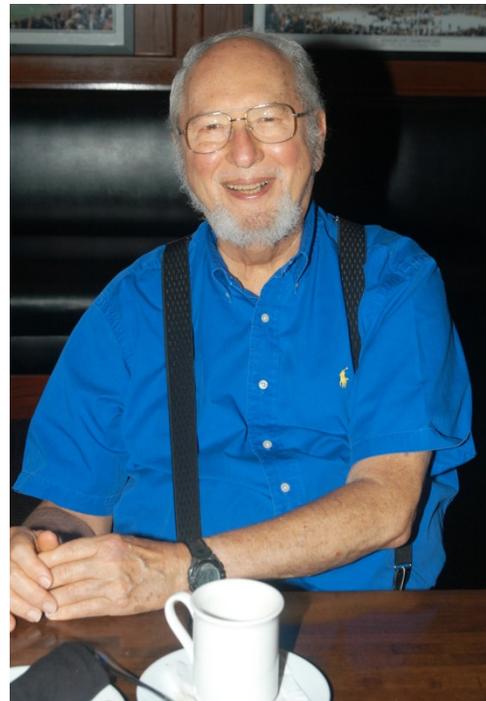
L to R: Walt Lettau, a now healthy-looking John Patrick and Kathy Patrick.



Class photographer James Lyn Provo captures happy times. Shown here are Dave and Carol Beazley



Emil Sales and Nancy Cramer Litten are seen regularly at the quarterly mini- reunion luncheons.



Dan Abbott rarely misses a luncheon with SPHS classmates.

## Behind the Scenes

Our class has been blessed with lots of selfless helpers. That is a major reason that our class still has tight connections with each other, and holds reunion events envied by other classes. When we have a major reunion, there are many who willingly serve on decorations, hospitality, arrangements, entertainment, etc. In addition, there are three classmates who serve *continually* in the roles of Treasurer, Secretary and Photographer for our SPHS Class of 1954.

**Lil Olsen Classen** handles our finances and maintains our bank account. She deposits donations and keeps track of disbursements for class expenses. She also set up debit cards to use for class expenses, thus avoiding the need to issue reimbursement checks. Lil has served as our defacto registrar for the big reunions, keeping track of who is coming, for what activity and meal choices. She issues an attendance report for use by the hospitality/registration desk.

**Nancy Cramer Litten** has been our class alumni secretary virtually since we started having reunions. She secures our venues for luncheons and notifies the restaurant of how many to expect. Nancy is the one to call when you are planning to attend a mini-reunion luncheon. Afterward, she files a report on who attended.

**James Lyn Provo** has been omnipresent at our class events, recording our activities with his camera. He has provided color prints to anyone who wants them at his own expense. Also, he makes the photo nametags for our big events. Our archives and publications are full of Lyn's pictures.

These classmates serve our class with little or no recognition, so we want to salute them here for their constant efforts on behalf of our whole class.



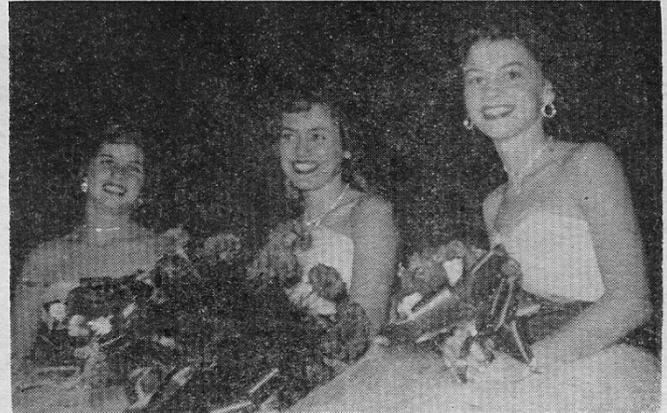
# Palmetto & Pine

## Memories

The December 4, 1953 edition of the SPHS newspaper featured information on Homecoming and student leaders. The Homecoming game was not very good, as Jacksonville Landon trounced the

Green Devils 32 – 6. However sports reporter Jim Hays said there were two bright spots: the band's half-time show and the crowning of the Homecoming Queen and her court.

### Joanne Bolton Chosen Queen



Homecoming royalty pictured left to right as they reigned at the Landon-St. Pete football game are: Gail Willingham, maid of honor; Joanne Bolton, queen; and Rosie Stephenson, maid of honor. They were chosen by popular vote from the six candidates proposed by the Student Council. Other members of the court were Betty Anne Cooper, Suzie Fisher, and Sylvia Hommer. Ann Stuart and Jim Booth, chairmen of the social committee, were in charge of the event. The court also reigned at the homecoming dance held at the YWCA immediately after the game.

## Hall of Fame

By Ann Stuart



Deane Mohr

Nancy Cushman

“This week's Hall of Fame man is that red haired, red hot, trumpet player Deane Mohr who hails from this city.

In his spare time this boy is a TV fiend, especially when it comes to watching Jill Corey sing [Jill appeared on Ed Sullivan, Johnny Carson and Your Hit Parade], but he also enjoys sport,

dates and playing his trumpet. And speaking of trumpet playing, he likes Glen Miller's *In the Mood*.

Besides making his mark in music Deane is President of Junior Civitan, co-chairman of the senior class cap and gown committee, on the Harvest Ball business committee, in Pan Am and Circulo Eldorado, and worked on the Prom decorations last year.

Every morning finds Deane racing for the comics in order to read *Pogo* and *Peanuts* but he certainly doesn't race to the table when potatoes are on the menu (his only dislike).

When embarrassing moments come up, like messing up while playing, Deane's face gets as red as his hair but the worst time was when he was attending a fair in New Jersey. It seems they had a new ride imported from France which spins you around high in the air. A force holds you against the wall while the floor drops out from under you. This gave quite a thrill to most people but Deane was different, It made him sick, but the most embarrassing part of it all was that he became the main attraction, not the ride.

His schedule for the year is English IV, Spanish III, senior social studies, physical science and band. College is in his plans and he would like to attend Emory or Tulane and major in Pre-med.

The girl who likes to spend her leisure time reading *Dennis the Menace* is Nancy Cushman, this week's Hall of Fame notable.

Nancy was born in Clinton, Oklahoma, but attended local schools and has made quite a mark for herself, to say the least! She is now managing editor of the annual, co-chairman of the senior class ways and means and gift committee; co-chairman of Pan Am refreshment committee; chairman of the service committee for Service Club and a member of Keyettes and NHS. Last year she served as junior class treasurer.

Nancy (or "Cushie" as she's better known by) likes to play miniature golf, swim, play bridge, shag and go to football games and Mexican night clubs (hum) in her spare time. For orchestras, its Xavier Cugat but "King" Cole and "For All We Know" get her record bid.

When dinner time rolls around you'll find Cushie sitting down to her favorite meal, fried chicken or steak (that is when she is not on a diet).

Her dislikes are few but strong: homework, slow drivers and lady wrestlers!

For Embarrassing moments Nancy has really had it – it seems that after swimming at camp, Cushie used to just wrap a towel around her in order to go out and hang up her suit. About the same time the boys came down to set the tables, so the other girls in Nancy's cabin decided it would be fun to grab her towel and lock her out, which they did, and while Cushie was racing around in her birthday suit she ran right smack into the camp director who was showing a group of visitors around the camp. I'll bet they got a lasting impression!!!

When I ask about future plans I got the nerve-racking answer, "you know" which is slowly driving all her friends batty! But they are Vanderbilt University or the University of Oklahoma. Best of luck, Cushie!"

Our thanks go to classmates Janet Sieck, Betty Anne Cooper Watkins, Laurel Wright Jockel, and Mary Liz Turner for generously donating for class expenses.

## Graduations

Richard Jemison has informed us of the passing of a person he re-discovered on the Florida East Coast who attended Disston, one semester of SPHS and then moved to Vermont. Perhaps you remember him:

**William R. Hauke Jr.** died April 1, 2015. He attended Disston Jr. High and his sophomore semester at SPHS. Graduating from high school in Burlington, Vermont, he attended MIT and graduated in 1958. He joined his father and uncle in the building business after graduation. He was very involved in public service: Scoutmaster (33 years), Board of Champlain College, Director of National Association of Home Builders, etc. He was a square dancer, Appalachian Trail hiker and supporter of the arts in Burlington, VT. On retirement to the Miramar, FL area he continued to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, condo president, and other charities. He and his wife of 53 years, Carole, had four children and 11 grandchildren.

### 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 42<sup>nd</sup>  
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 or [eacklin1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto: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 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632, (727) 544-2374 or [ronr@alumni.ufl.edu](mailto:ronr@alumni.ufl.edu)

### Next Reunion luncheon is Saturday, July 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., July 9. Nancy’s phone is (727) 392-7417.



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

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