

Still Cruisin’



Do you recall the last time our class took an overnight reunion cruise? It was 27 years ago, when we were still fairly young whippersnappers. We left from the Tampa Cruise Terminal on the S.S. Veracruz. It was part of our 35th reunion activities that we held jointly with the Boca Ciega High School Class of 1954. Reminiscing, here is the passenger list (not including spouses/friends) for that 2-day “cruise to nowhere” in 1989.

SPHS 54 35th REUNION CRUISERS

E. Boyd Acklin	Fairfax VA
Shirley Beaupre Michaud	St. Petersburg FL
Nancy Berner Smith	St. Petersburg FL
William Bradshaw	Palm Harbor FL
Robert Braun	San Antonio TX
Covert Brock	Burnsville MN
William Buckingham	St. Petersburg FL
Dolores Carr DeWitt	St. Petersburg FL
Joseph Chamberlain	Seminole FL
Judy Chittenden Ray	Pinellas Park FL
Nancy Cramer Litten	Seminole FL
Carol Deuel Phelps	St. Petersburg FL
Barbara Drescher Broughton	St. Petersburg FL
Donald Fowler	Biloxi MS
Donald Gould	Pinellas Park FL
Evelyn Griswold Pinckney	Newport News VA
Nancy Harmony Schickling	Bedford VA
Barbara Hayman Briggs	Cookeville TN
Margaret Hellyer Jacobs	Clearwater FL
Judy Hirschberg Seifried	St. Petersburg FL
Coris Hustin Mohr	Murrayville GA
Richard Jemison	Stuart FL
Ruth Johnson Davis	Seminole FL
Robert Kaniss	St. Petersburg FL
Roy Kaple	St. Matthews SC
Sigmon Klein	Tampa FL
Nancy LeVangie Warrenfells	Anderson SC
Loretta Lewis Holiday	Tampa FL
Mildred Ligon Leadbetter	Boise ID
Joyce Lindsay Allen	Treasure Island FL
Karl Maier	St. Petersburg FL
Wm.(Bill) McCormick	Johnson City TN
Mary McCullough Driskell	St. Petersburg FL
R. Deane Mohr	Murrayville GA
Barbara Neale Touchton	Cantonment FL
Joan Nicholas Jaicks	St. Peteraburg FL
A. Lamar Owens	St. Petersburg FL
Doris Porter Ellinwood	Oneco FL
James Provo	St. Petersburg FL
Ronald Rasmussen	Treasure Island FL
Barbara Reed Thompson	Gulfport FL
Patricia Reeves Acklin	Fairfax VA
Phyl Reichelderfer Doescher	Kenneth City FL
Margaret Ritter Kellestine	St. Petersburg FL
Judith Rogers Owens	St. Petersburg FL
Wm.(Bill) Rothas	St. Petersburg FL
Harry Rothwell	St. Petersburg FL
Sandra Shoemake Buckingham	St. Petersburg FL
Janet Sieck	St. Petersburg FL
Myrtle Siemers Larson	St. Petersburg FL
Nancie Swope Crabb	San Francisco CA
Mary Theocles Helferty	Dunedin FL
Barbara Volley Bowen	Tarpon Springs FL
Robert Walton	Valrico FL
F. Fred Wheeler	Treasure Island FL
William Wright	Bartow FL

Our travel agent reports that there are 30 registered for the 80th Birthday Cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean *Brilliance of the Seas* on April 22 – 26. The ship departs from the Tampa Cruise Terminal and heads to Cozumel, Mexico, arriving the morning of the third day. In route, the ship is providing a cocktail party just for us at 5:00 p.m. on the second night out. It precedes the first dinner seating and leads up to the Captain’s Reception at 7:30 p.m. During the cocktail party, photos from the 75th birthday day-cruise out of Clearwater will be shown. The cocktail party and Captain’s Reception afford an opportunity to dress up some. However, current cruising fashions don’t seem to require formal wear – as it did years ago, i.e., tuxedos and formal gowns.

Our day in Mexico begins on the morning of the third day, affording lots of options for shore excursions and shopping. The fourth day is at sea, with us arriving back in Tampa on the morning of the fifth day.

January Luncheon

Harvey’s Fourth Street Grill was our meeting location again, as the previous luncheon there was well received.

Ever faithful classmate James Lyn Provo documented the event with his camera. There were 30+ classmates attending this time, as reported by also-faithful Class Secretary, Nancy Cramer Litten.



Enjoying the fellowship of the luncheon were Shirley Beaupre Michaud and her husband Bob.



Here, June Ward Fleisher is next to Harriette Bey Urbahn.



Around the table, clockwise, are John Marcellus (Judi Hirshberg Allen’s friend), Judi, Emil Sales, Nancy Cramer Litten, Bette Jackman LoBue, Bill Classen, Lillian Olsen Classen, Boyd Acklin and Pat Reeves Acklin.



Left is Karl Maier and right is Bette Jackman LoBue. Bette seldom misses a luncheon, even though she was one who transferred to Boca Ciega High School for her senior year. We always feel she is part of our class, too.



Ginny and Don Bogue are regulars at our quarterly luncheons.

Graduations

We have seen the largest number of our classmates slip away, ever, during the three months since our last newsletter. Opportunities to have fellowship with our classmates are dwindling and we should try to take advantage of our class reunion events before more classmates are gone.

Barbara Neale Touchton passed away on December 22, 2015 in Gainesville. She was married to Robert, had two sons and nine grandchildren. Although born in St. Petersburg, she spent much of her married life in Pensacola, where she was a popular artist and a member of the Quayside Art Gallery. Recently, she and Robert



L to R: Boyd Acklin, Don Bogue, Sally Cook Vazquez and Ron Rasmussen enjoying fellowship.

resided in Live Oak, Florida. Her memorial services were held in Pensacola on December 28 with burial also there.

Forrest E. Padley passed away on January 14, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 59 years Norma Jean, three children, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Forrest had been in the ministry for 60 years and appeared as Professor Clodhopper on the WCLF TV program *Joy Junction* in Largo. Services were at New Hope Church in Largo on January 23.

Colleen Turner King died peacefully at home on January 25, 2016. Her husband, Kenny, predeceased her in 2003. She is survived by three children and a brother, Robert (SPHS '56) who lives in Inverness. Memorial services were held at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witness on February 27.

Robert Deane Mohr passed away peacefully at Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg, January 30, 2016. Deane is survived by his wife of 58 years, Doris Hustin Mohr and a son, Robert. Deane was a Captain in the US Airforce in the 60's, followed by 30 years as a commercial pilot for Delta Airlines. A memorial service was held on February 3 at Memorial Park Cemetery. Deane and Doris were very faithful in attending class reunion luncheons over the years.

Joel (Bobby) Anderson of Reston VA passed away on February 16, 2016, following a long battle with cancer and Alzheimer's disease. Bobby served in the Army in 1959 – 1961 and then worked for the US Department of Interior until 1987. Afterwards he became a counselor for smoking cessation and other substance abuses. He is survived by his second wife, Ellen, two children, five stepchildren and twelve grandchildren. Memorial services were held at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Reston VA.

Our thanks go to Warren Kendall, Bill White, Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher and Jan Carns Eckford for donating to the class treasury for expenses.

Classmate News

We love to receive and share news about our classmates who are still active in their communities.

Jean Dickenson Fielden continues to be active in the Fielden Institute for Lifelong Learning at the Indian River State College. The extensive program for students over 50 years old is named for Jean's late husband, Dr. John "Jack" Seward Fielden, who founded the institute in 2006. Jean serves as an external advisory board member, and she endowed the institute in memory of Jack.

Jean met Jack at the University of Alabama when he was dean of the business school and she was chairman of the Applied Statistics program for over 20 years.

Another SPHS alumna involved in the Fielden Institute is **Lois Stein Patton**. She leads a course on writing your personal story and preserving memories.

Lois was a 1953 graduate and married **Ralph Patton**. During her career, she was a marketing manager and consultant. She authored a memoir of her childhood and has written newspaper columns and sales training manuals. While at SPHS she wrote the student handbook and was on the P & P staff. Today, she toggles back and forth between her winter home in Fort Pierce and her summer home in Wisconsin.

Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher has had a knee replaced and is undergoing rehabilitation. She is looking forward to the cruise in April and expects to be walking the ship's decks by then.

Missing Classmates

Out of our graduating class of 486, we currently do not have any address or knowledge of 53 classmates. For some of these, we have never had addresses since 1954.

We try to keep track of everyone by sending out the newsletter quarterly. We ask the post office to report any forwarding address – which costs us \$.56 for each one. However, when a classmate moves and does not give us a forwarding address, the newsletter often shows up at the old address and the current resident just tosses it in the trash – rather than telling the post office the recipient has moved on. One of the worst examples of this was when we sent a newsletter to a classmate in Chicago for over five years after he had moved to Kansas.

Recent missing classmates are Bill Rothas, Paul McSheehy and Betty Ann Cooper Watkins.

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. (13 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 9, 2016

Location is Harvey's 4th Street Grill in St. Pete. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know by Thur., April 7. Nancy's phone is (727) 392-7417.



3121 4th St N, St Petersburg, FL 33704

www.harveys4thstreetgrill.com

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