



SUMMERTIME!

Another summer is upon us. How many summers is that now 80, 81 or 82? Those of us raised in St. Petersburg remember the afternoon summer rains to cool things down. Most of us did not have air-conditioning and eagerly went to the movies to get some relief from the heat. Today, kids mostly have air-conditioned homes and have less need to seek refuge in a cool movie theater.

Speaking of those theaters, all the theaters we remember have disappeared from St. Petersburg: The Cameo, The Pheil, the Florida, The Roxy and La Plaza are all gone. In fact, the entire city block that included the Pheil and Florida theaters, bounded by Central Avenue, First Avenue South, Fourth Street and Fifth Street, has been razed and is covered with grass! It is a strange sight, indeed. The Capitol theater is still standing, but it is hosting an indoor market this summer. The day of the single-screen theater has gone and has been replaced by multi-screen theaters at the malls.

April Luncheon

The venue for the quarterly reunion lunch moved to Largo, to a Chili's Restaurant that has a back room for groups. It was also somewhat quieter for us to converse with other classmates. The location afforded those who live north of St. Pete to have a shorter drive for a change.

For the luncheon, we had live entertainment! Bette Jackman LoBue and Emil Sales sang a duet based on Julie Andrew's memorable song "My Favorite Things" from the 1965 movie *The Sound of Music*. However, lyrics were changed somewhat to reflect a few favorites of seniors. ☺



The Class of 1954 has talent!



Lil Olsen Classen, June Ward Fleisher and Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher were sharing at the luncheon.



Class Photographer James Lyn Provo and wife Susanne (SPHS '56) even get to be in the pictures sometimes.

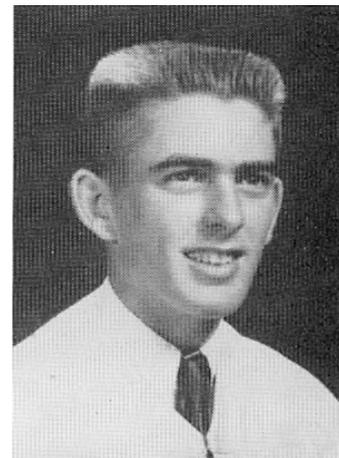


This is an overall view of the gathering room available for our luncheon at the Chili's restaurant.



Chatting before lunch are L to R: Don Bogue, Ron Rasmussen and Phyllis R. Doescher. In the foreground are Sherry Rasmussen (SPHS '55) and Ginny Bogue.

Lee Lessard. Nancy graduated from St Petersburg HS, and was active in school clubs, plays, and music. She attended Florida State University, was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority and graduated in 1958 with a Bachelor of Music Education. Nancy moved to Houston in 1959. She was a teacher of music in the Fort Bend Independent School District, Alief School District and Stafford Municipal School District. Retiring after 36 years of public teaching, she then continued to teach piano to individual students. Nancy is survived by her husband of 21 years of marriage, Ken Parker, her son Jeff Bowlin, her two grandchildren: Courtney Bowlin and Graham Bowlin, all of Houston, TX; cousins Judy Daly, Susie Chichester, Sally Carson and **Phyllis Doescher**, all of Florida. A celebration of Nancy's life was held at Chapelwood United Methodist Church.



Graduations

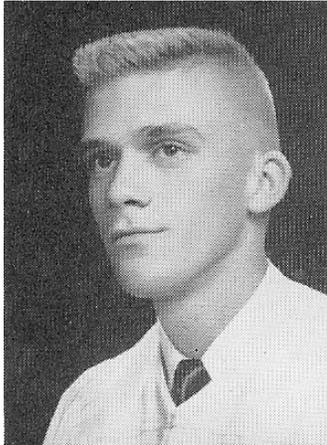


Nancy Carson Parker went home, March 13, 2017. She was the love of Ken Parker's life, his companion and his wonderful beloved wife. Nancy fought cancer for the last three years and finally lost the fight on March 13, 2017. Nancy was born in St. Petersburg Florida on June 13, 1936 to the late Erma



Richard Lawrence Chaple, 80, of Lake City, passed away on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at the North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville after an extended illness. Dick was born in St. Petersburg, FL on August 21, 1936 to the late Vernie Ray Chaple and LaNora Mansfield Chaple. He was a graduate of the University of South Florida with a BS in Business and worked for Honeywell Aerospace many years. Dick also was a United States Air Force Veteran. He was an Eagle Scout; part of the Air Force Rifle Team and earned a High Master Ranking with the NRA. Dick was a member of the Ft. White Gun Club; a range officer of the Wyoming Antelope Club, Skyway Trap and Skeet Club and a member of the World Skeet Shooting Team. He was preceded in death by a son: Michael Chaple. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years; Marie Chaple of Lake

City; son; Richard "Ray" Chaple of Clearwater and daughter; Lisa Chaple of Eagle. Dick also had three grandchildren. Funeral services for Dick were conducted in the Chapel of Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home Interment followed in the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.



Thomas Bruce Sheppa passed away at home on May 29, 2017, after a long illness. Tom was a resident of Safety Harbor, FL and had been active in our 50th reunion committee. His wife, Stephanie, notified us of his passing. He is also survived by two grandsons, Ned and Jonathan Sheppa. Interment was at the National Military Cemetery in Jacksonville, FL.

Our Classmates Provide!

This newsletter helps us keep track of classmates near and far. Often, a person informing us of a classmate's passing will tell us how much the newsletter was appreciated by their loved one.

Our classmates generously help pay these newsletter costs, and the costs for the Internet web page. It eliminates the need for "subscriptions", which would require too much bookkeeping and postage. We try to acknowledge donors in each edition. Thanks, this time go to:

- **Marlene Matouk Haugland,**
- **Mary Liz Slater Turner,**
- **June Ward Fleisher,**
- **Joan Shafer Hammill, and**
- **BetteAnne Cooper Watkins.**

Classmate Notes

Bev Furman Praschan wrote, "Thanks so much, always am glad to receive all the news and love the pictures. [It was] so nice you put in a picture of Doris Chew like we all remember her. Loved it. So sorry she's no longer here with her loved ones. God bless you...my hubby enjoyed the pix of the race track in downtown St. Pete as well as the articles and pix about the changes at the Pier. He was a Clearwater (Tornadoes) High School Grad. 1952 (we met at church - Open Bible Tabernacle in St. Pete.)"

Carolyn Brimley Norris assures all that she is still very active in her 32nd year of residence in Helsinki, Finland as a professor at the University of Helsinki. She has dual citizenship and still teaches a full schedule in the fall and spring terms - with a busy summer as well. Check out her syllabus on Academic Writing:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/kksc/language.services/AcadWrit.pdf>

Carol enjoys dancing once a week, including jive! She and Jyrki attend lots of social and cultural events in and around Helsinki.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Your classmates like to know what you have been doing lately. Most of our class never get to attend a big or small reunion, so this newsletter is the main way to keep in touch. Take a moment to drop a line and update us on your life, family, trips, etc. We welcome these by e-mail or the US Postal service. Thanks!

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. (14 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 r.rasmussen@ieee.org

Next reunion luncheon is Saturday, July 8, 2017

Location is Chili's at US 19 & East Bay in Largo (with a Clearwater mailing address) Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know by Thur., July 6. Nancy's phone is (727) 392-7417.



5430 E. Bay Drive, Clearwater, FL

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