



Looking Forward to Fall

It seems like summer was exceptionally hot this year. That has spawned more Atlantic storm activity than usual, including hurricanes. The two major storms that hit the mainland US were the first ones in ten years. Unfortunately, Irma chose to swing by Tampa Bay and work us over on September 10. Many citizens evacuated, and many in non-evacuation zones hunkered down and waited it out.

The main damage in the Tampa Bay area was caused by downed trees and power lines. One report said that four out of five Pinellas County residents were without power. In the peak of summer heat and humidity, lots of people suffered until the power was restored. Also, gasoline supplies were depleted by those leaving and then returning to their homes. Long lines were experienced at gas station.

People in low-lying areas were evacuated, but the storm surge was mercifully lower than had been forecast due to it coming at the time of low tide. Actually, the Tampa Bay area had far less storm damage than areas of South Florida and the islands in the eastern Caribbean.

Flooding is a big problem on the Alafia and Peace Rivers. It took about a week for full flood stage to arrive after Irma left, causing more misery for homes in those river basins.

Hopefully, our next luncheon at St. Pete Beach will not have been damaged by the effects of hurricane Irma.

Reunion Luncheon

Attendance was a little thin for the July reunion luncheon, but fun was had by those who came. Here are a few photos taken by class photographer James Lyn Provo:



John Lamb and his wife Patsy came all the way from Mobile, Alabama to the luncheon.



Clockwise from left: Joe Flad Gloria Fernald Flad, Emil Sales and Nancy Cramer Litten.



Left to right: Bill Classen, Emil Sales, Fran Ellinwood and Suzanne Provo



Left to right: John Lamb (holding our 1954 *NoSoWeEa*), Fran Ellinwood, Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher and Gloria Fernald Flad.



Seated from left: Harriett Bey Urbahn, JoAnne Schindler Biringner, Lil Olsen Classen and June Ward Fleisher.

Classmate Notes

An e-mail from **Marlene Matouk Haugland** described the events in Salem, OR for the total eclipse: “Perking along in Oregon which will be inundated for the solar eclipse. People sure do spend \$\$\$ on weird stuff. You can’t find a square inch of space anywhere for watching. But you can buy eclipse glasses decorated in red, white and blue or mountains or moon/sun... you name. it. University football fields are being rented out by the foot for campers/viewers!!!! Ever hear of private B&B rates going up to \$800?????”

“Best to all of you... [September 9]. stay safe ...if you're hunkered down, hunker down tight... **Marv Krupp** from the NC mountains”.

Phone Call from **Lucy Jacobus Bean**: “Thanks for keeping me updated with the newsletter. When I think back to SPHS days, I smile about Mr. Goodrich calling the roll in his History class. He memorized the part about Rautenstrauch, Reichelderfer and Rigelspaugh and seemed to enjoy rattling off that sequence of names.” [Fred Goodrich went off to Boca Ciega and later became Principal there. He also attended one of our joint reunions with the Boca Ciega Class of 1954.]

Carolyn Brimley Norris entertained a SPHS classmate and members of his family in Helsinki, Finland, in July. She toured the group of eight around the city center, seeing the university where she taught, the main church and square, and the open market on the waterfront. A ferry ride out to an island was also special. The group used public transportation which is fabulous in Helsinki. There is even a trolley which has a full on-board bar that serves beer! Ah, those Finns.

Carolyn is still teaching English to medical and Dental students and has virtually adopted a family of medical students who have two children. She lovingly views them as the children and grandchildren she never had. 



Carolyn Brimley Norris prepared a sign to welcome classmate Ron Rasmussen and his family to Helsinki, Finland.

Myrtle Siemers Larson alerted us to “**save the date**” for the planned Green and Gold Luncheon in December: “As you may know, lady grads, class of ’54, from both SPHS & BCHS get together for lunch a few times a year. Our next event will be held Wednesday, December 6 starting @ 1:00 pm (later start time per request of attendees @ last luncheon). Location to be announced later, as we (**Phyllis Doescher** & others) are still researching locations). Contacts for more information, and reservations will be **Phyllis Doescher** phone: [727-541-5406](tel:727-541-5406) or e-mail (pjladybug@verizon.com) or **Myrtle Larson** [727-642-4095](tel:727-642-4095) (l Larsonmyrtle@gmail.com) AFTER Oct. 30, 2017.”

How About This?

The *New York Post's PageSix* is reporting that O.J. Simpson is preparing to move to St. Pete, Florida upon his release from prison.

It is believed Simpson will reside close to his children and that the family has already purchased a house in a gated community for the ex-NFL star.

Simpson was a Heisman-winning running back for the University of Southern California. In addition to his professional football career, Simpson was a pop culture icon in the 70's and 80's, starring in movies such as *The Tower Inferno* and *The Naked Gun*.

In 1995, after a lengthy and highly publicized trial, he was acquitted of murdering Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

In 2008, Simpson was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to 33 years in prison with the possibility of parole after 9 years. His parole was granted back in July, and Simpson is now expected to be released in early October 2017.

Class Website

Your classmates provide an Internet website just for the SPHS Class of 1954: <http://sphs1954.org>. It is easily accessible and free for every member of the class. The website is independent of any other high

school websites, including the general SPHS membership website,

<https://www.alumniclass.com/stpetersburg/>

or

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

If you missed an issue of the class newsletter, you can read it on-line in the archive. Also, classmate latest addresses and status (living or dead) can be seen for everyone who we have located. About 10% of our classmates are missing and we do not know their status. If you check the on-line page of missing classmates, and know anything about one, please let us know. Sometimes, a friend, brother or sister of a missing classmate can provide information to help us update their status.

Financially, the website costs the class about \$130 a year, so please use it. ☺.

Our Classmates Provide for Each Other

This newsletter helps us keep track of classmates near and far. Often, a survivor of a classmate informs us of a classmate's passing and 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 pages. 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,**
- **James Neil**
- **Anonymous**
- **Nancy Cramer Litten**
- **Margaret Ritter Kellestine**
- **Jon Fogarty**
- **Jane Ann Miller**



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, October 14, 2017

Location is PJ's Oyster Bar on St. Pete Beach. The menu includes non-seafood, if you have an allergy. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know by Thur., October 12. Nancy's phone is (727) 392-7417.



**595 Corey Avenue,
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706**

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