



## Summertime!

Most of us are experiencing our 81<sup>st</sup> or 82<sup>nd</sup> summer. Things slow down, and we look for places to get cooler. Incidentally, a recent poll of Floridians' fears ranked loss of air conditioning 51% of the time – far greater than the rest of all fears combined.

One activity that has picked up steam this summer is the replacement pier in downtown St. Pete. After years of delay, construction is well underway.



This aerial view shows many pilings driven and part of the new deck in place on the project.

## April Reunion Luncheon

The quarterly luncheon at PJ's on St. Pete Beach was well-attended – 27 classmates and guests enjoyed visiting with each other. PJ's Restaurant is very hospitable. They hold a drawing for our group and award certificates for \$10 off for two of our members.

Jon and Lynn Fogarty traveled the farthest, coming from Kingsland, Georgia.

Our class photographer, Jim Lyn Provo, provided a pictorial record of the event, below and on our class webpage:



Jon Fogarty and wife, Lynn.



Nancy Cramer Litten and Emil Sales.



Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher and June Ward Fleisher







Lona Mae Herndon and Mary Stark Pruitt.



Don and Ginny Bogue.



Fran Ellinwood

## Classmate Notes

**Nan Spaulding Hess** wrote: "Thank you for keeping us 'up to date' with each other. This past Sunday, 3/18/18, the *New York Times* had a very complimentary article about St. Pete. and the Grand Prix – 'Florida at 200 M.P.H.' by Laura Lee Smith.' Great free publicity."

"I had a quadruple coronary arterial bypass graft (CABG) surgery on 2/19 at Bayfront Medical Center. Am doing well and recuperating at home. Family support has been incredible; however, I am more comfortable as caregiver not a patient. Thanks for all the prayers and well wishes." Wrote **Myrtle Siemers Larson**. Ed Note: Myrtle had a slight setback, but is now almost up to speed ☺

"My husband, John MacBeth, died in December as a result of an auto crash, after a month in the hospital. His children are being a blessing to me at this difficult time. For now, I am staying in our home, but plan to downsize a little later. I just want to say he was an outstanding person and leaves a giant hole in the universe. **Fay [Strain] MacBeth**"

The **Green** and **Gold** Banquet was held on June 6 at Carrabba's Restaurant. Women from SPHS and BCHS Class of '54 gathered and shared the good time.



Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher, one of the organizers, took this photo of the ladies at the banquet.



## Graduations

**Shirley Ann Clark Tomlin** passed away on March 27, 2018 in Brevard, NC. She had brain cancer. Thanks to Jean Dickinson Gibbons for notifying us.



Joseph P. (Joey) Chamberlain died on April 11, following a long illness. He was a native of St. Petersburg and attended local schools. He served two years in the Coast Guard before attending college. Graveside services were held on Friday, April 20 at Sylvan Abbey Memorial. Park in Clearwater He is survived by his wife Pat and a number of stepsons, a stepdaughter grandchildren and great grandchildren. His brother Harry is also a survivor. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Sally.

Many of us recall the 35<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> class reunions held jointly with Boca Ciega High School. Our main contact with their class was **Charles Currie Patton**. Regrettably, Currie passed away on April 23, 2018. He had a career in the US Army, rising to Lt. Colonel before retiring in 1978. He then taught JROTC at Plant High and Dixie Hollins High until 1999. He received many commendations, including the Purple Heart, and was active in several veteran organizations. He is survived by Claudia Queen Patton, three sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Memorial services were held on April 28 at Pasadena Community Church.

**John Patrick** (we knew him as John Hillyer) passed away on May 29, 2018 in Hudson, FL. He was a 10-year USAF veteran and had been in a VA nursing facility. John had also been a St. Pete firefighter and had started two volunteer fire departments in his surrounding community. He was manager of several Little League teams for 10 years and was an active member of Croom a Coochee

Baptist Church for 16 years. Survivors: wife Kathy, two children and two grandchildren John & Kathy loved his class and enjoyed several class reunions.

## Classmates Care

This newsletter helps us keep track of classmates. Our classmates generously help pay newsletter printing and postage costs, and the costs for the Internet website. We try to acknowledge donors in each edition. Thanks, this time go to:

- **Jon Fogarty**
- **June Ward Fleisher**
- **Roy Kaple**
- **Suzy Fisher Poucher**
- **Evelyn Griswold Pinckney**

## Missing Classmates

We currently have 50 classmates for whom we have no address – postal or e=mail. Of those, there are 18 for whom we never had an address since graduation. Some of those are heartbreaking because their families don't know where they are either. ☹

Over time, we have lost track of classmates who moved without forwarding address information. We suspect these have moved in with family or into assisted living facilities. If you recognize a name and can share information about contacting them, it would be appreciated:

- Esther Morrison Welte
- Ed Dickerhoof
- Charlotte Harper Laxon
- Marion Heiser Lancaster
- Bill Jones
- Kenneth Kerns
- Paul McSheehy
- Faith Olson
- Robert Robbins
- Carol Sue Sailors Shaw
- Frank Sheron
- Barbara Strong DiCarlo
- Laurel Wright Jockel



### Class Contacts:

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

**Reunions Chairman:** Boyd Acklin, 1110 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33703, (727) 527-0361 or [eacklin1@gmail.com](mailto:eacklin1@gmail.com)

**Contributions:** Donations are a big help and they keep this newsletter coming. (15 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 [r.rasmussen@ieee.org](mailto:r.rasmussen@ieee.org)

### Next reunion luncheon is Saturday, July 14, 2018

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., July 12. Nancy's phone is (727) 201-9862.



**7490 Gulf Blvd,  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706**

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