

The Bethlehem Star

Volume 1, Issue 2

May 29, 2008

From The Island

No, I'm not in the Caribbean. I'm standing at the island in my son's kitchen working on this issue.

It's been about a month since the first issue was emailed and I've had some positive feedback and notes from folks I haven't heard from in a very long time. It's been nice to reconnect with good friends. I have always thought that we were an extraordinarily close group and these notes confirm it. A lot of the friendliness and warmth that comes through makes it feel like we're still in touch.

We have two new features this month: The President's Corner by Rudy Zwicklbauer and Signs of the Times by Wayne Groesbeck. I hope that you enjoy them. If you do, please think about submitting an article. We can always use more writers and articles.

Please submit a mini bio, especially if you don't plan on attending the reunion or even if you do plan on attending. It's a great way to keep in touch with the storied BCHS Class of 1963! Drop me a note at wdanza@rochester.rr.com and let me know what's on your mind.

Thanks for reading,

Bill D'Anza

Reunion Update

Reserved block of rooms going quickly

Hotel reports only 9 remain available

(Frommer's Review from The NY Times May 20, 2008) "Tucked into a quiet location among the tall trees of the Saratoga Springs Spa State Park, this stately old 1930s hotel is popular with conventions and conferences but is also good for families. It has stately grounds, an impressive exterior, and elegant common areas... Sports enthusiasts, though, will appreciate the adjacent 18-hole and 9-hole golf courses, eight tennis courts, swimming-pool complex in the park, and miles of nearby walking and cross-country skiing trails."



As you can see The Times finds a lot to like about our headquarters hotel. There is still time for you to get an accommodation there. Join our classmates Geoff Hutchinson, Carol Henry, Roger Kerr, Jeannine Parker Case, Dick Brown, Joan Wawrousek Schoff, Dennis Emery, Paul and Linda Bradley who have already reserved their rooms. You can make

your reservation today by calling 518.584.3000 or 800.732.1560 and mentioning our class reunion to get the special reduced rate of \$169.00 per night. You will have to use a credit card to reserve the room, however it will not be charged at this time. Reservations can be canceled according to the resort policy, should your plans change.

The President's Corner



What does one write about after all these years?

First: Thanks for giving me the opportunity to serve as "President For Life"--as a few of you have dubbed this position. Bill D'Anza wants

to call this column the "President's Corner" but, if I'm President for Life, it should be entitled "From the President's Throne!"

It's really been a treat and an honor connecting with each of you throughout the years while being the catalyst in planning our reunions.

Second: Thanks to you who have kept in touch throughout the years. It certainly is interesting to learn how our lives have taken us in so many different directions. Comparing adventures and families, rekindling old friendships and building new ones are certainly highlights of any reunion. Often times, reunions even spark romances!! Will this be the one??? (cont'd on p.3)

Signs of the Times Observations and Commentary by Wayne Groesbeck



This edition of the STAR, and the reunion it commemorates, is about the time we've had in common; shared experiences, large and small, define the Class of '63. Even though some of us haven't been face to face since graduation, we've had a common history ever since. "May you live in interesting times" is an ancient benediction, perhaps both a blessing and a curse. Here are some of our common experiences over the last forty-five years; please take a moment to reflect on any additions you would make, and on how they've shaped our generation.

A National Quagmire: Our grandparents and parents often defined their times in terms of World Wars One and Two, respectively. Our parents were part of the "Great Generation" that defeated totalitarianism. Our war was different. We were still students when our government chose to stop the spread of Communism by defending the former French colony of Vietnam from China. Some of us fought, some of us protested, some of us may have done both. All of us lost.

The End of Camelot: Anxiety about Vietnam was countered for a time by our faith in an eloquently idealistic young President. When John Kennedy was assassinated, time stood still for us all. We mourned, and our optimism was crippled.

We Shall Overcome: It may have taken us a while to appreciate what was happening; Delmar was a long way from the institutionalized segregation of the deep South, or even the South End of Albany. In our time, southern blacks refused to let the denial of their civil rights be ignored. Martin Luther King Jr., their most inspired spokesperson, was assassinated not long after JFK, but the awareness they generated within our society has since extended to migrant workers, native Americans,

women, black South Africans, Polish unionists, Chinese students, homosexuals, and others. We certainly didn't resolve all these issues, but the concept of human rights has been indelibly branded on the world's consciousness.

Exit the Bogeyman: We were raised to fear Communism (remember those "duck and cover" bomb drills?). It seems the nations of the world didn't fall like dominoes to that ideology, after all. Bankrupted by the "Cold War" and stymied by "Solidarity," the Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan, the Berlin Wall was dismantled, and the Soviet empire collapsed under its own weight. Nuclear war was proved blessedly unnecessary. Russia is now just Russia, and the few remaining Communist states are either becoming less ideological by the day, or more conspicuously dismal in their isolation.

Coded for Almost Everything: We were grade schoolers when the double helix of DNA was discovered. We can now read the genetic codes of white mice, fruit flies, and ourselves. We eat broccoflower, make sheep without parents, and just might recreate a woolly mammoth. We have gone from barely understanding evolution to directing it. Along the way, we've discovered genes and gene interactions that profoundly influence our health, personality, aptitudes, and behavior. For now, nature trumps nurture. Wherever this is going, I hope it goes there cautiously.

Getting Wired: This publication (and reunion) is largely made possible by an informal communication system that has, within our time, grown from nothing to practically everything. Institutions, groups, and individuals exchange both wheat and chaff instantaneously around the world on the internet. Information is a commercial commodity. Students

now do homework, write reports, and take tests without putting pencil to paper. Nothing can happen anywhere without universal notice; we now observe and make history simultaneously.

Getting Greened: We owed our prosperity to the richness of the earth's resources, but while we were receiving our diplomas, others were beginning to discover the penalties exacted by that prosperity. Pesticides, herbicides, industrial and energy byproducts were poisoning our air, water, and soil. "The Hudson Wide" in our school song was dying as we "sprawled" into our most biologically productive places. We've since learned to be less rapacious, but our lessons continue, with the added urgency of global warming.

Billions and Billions: In junior high science class, we studied the nine planets of our solar system. Even with Pluto's recent demotion, the planetary count is currently approaching 200. Six years after graduation, we saw humans walk on another world for the first time, and later observed fantastic vistas from the Hubble Space Telescope. We know of the existence of unimaginably dense black holes that swallow solar systems like ours and send their residue to another place, or time, or maybe another reality. We've built a space station we can visit, but the loss of two space shuttles and crews reminds us of how alien space is to earth creatures.

Nine Eleven: We were attacked at home, not by a rival nation, but by a fanaticism we can barely comprehend. We are at war again, and some of our children are fighting it. We declared war on a worldview, and then invaded two countries. When we withdrew from Vietnam, I thought that if any good could come of it, it would be that our country would never enter another pointless war. Silly me.

The President's Corner (continued from P.1)

Third: *Most important of all*, a BIG THANKS to all of you who have helped plan this -- and previous -- reunions. There's NO WAY I could have done it without your help. THANKS!

Fourth: Special thanks to the spouses and significant others who have supported our reunion events throughout the years. Your patience and endurance are greatly appreciated!! How many times have you heard that special story that seems to linger in your partner's mind? Can you still muster a smile?

Forty-five years since we started this journey. "HOLY COW!", as they say here in Chicagoland. There are many of you who have known one another for several more years than that. Several of you have been

classmates since kindergarten—or before. Difficult to imagine, isn't it?

Now, it's time to celebrate these friendships. Call the Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa today (**518.584.3000** or **800.732.1560**) to make your room reservations. Certainly, if you live nearby, we hope you will still plan to join the festivities even if you decide not to stay at the resort. And, if the Gideon Putnam isn't to your choosing, please make your reservations elsewhere and plan to join the events.

Remember: Friends of the Class of 1963, significant others, teachers, siblings, good friends, etc. are all WELCOME to attend.

See you in October in Saratoga!!

Rudy

Found and Lost

We've lost contact with some of our classmates who attended the 40th reunion or with whom we were in touch. Perhaps they have moved or simply changed their ISP. If you have contact with someone on the list please ask them to update their contact information with us either by contacting Rudy, Eric Hamilton, or Bill D'Anza.

Those with whom we've lost touch are: Jerryanne Taber Bier, Debbie Foster Deasy, Frank Sterrett, Ken Darmer, Mary McColl Poplawski, Jane Ruid Vaughan, Sandy Phillips Curcurito, Bill Zimmerman, Marty Wenger, Malcolm Fordham, and Jean Swanson Dudley.

Keeping in touch with Gary Houck

Gary Houck, the former Gary Houck, left college well rounded (read; add 10 lbs. to the usual freshman 15). Did a little retail, worked with a developer in the Albany area, did some real estate (broker), and built a few houses.

In 1994 the family, wife Jancy and son Jake, age 5, moved to Gainesville, Florida and Gary took up being a University of Florida "Gator"

fan full time while spending a lot of time being the



"room mother" in Jake's grade school.

In '06, the same month we dropped Jake off at Georgia Tech, we moved to New Haven, Ct. where Jancy took

the job of getting into peoples pockets for the Yale School Of Medicine. Each day when she leaves for work she decides that Gary should actually do something. So we are on our 5th house restoration bringing up the question "Is it easier to give birth or raise the dead?"

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Saratoga in October. GO EAGLES. (That would be you Paul !)

Catching up with Carol Henry

I took my kids (ages 20 and 25) to Costa Rica for a 9-day vacation over Luke's (the 20 year old) spring break. We went to the deep rain forest near the coast of Panama for 3 nights then Tamarindo beach, near the Nicaraguan border for 4 nights, then San Jose (the capital) for 1 night. It was fabulous. The 3 of us get along very well and love to do the same things. Last year we went to Puerto Vallarta together. Now I'm busy working to pay for the trip! I'm working in my psychology private practice, mostly with couples, and doing Executive Coaching as well. I'll be working for many more years, but I don't

mind, since I'm still loving it. I'm working out a lot and generally having fun. Since I had children when I was older (37 and 42 years at the time of births) I don't have any grandchildren. My daughter lives in Long Beach CA and is a substitute teacher in the LA County school district. She was in graduate school for 1 ½ years also, but decided to stop because she no longer wanted to get a Master's in teaching. She's still trying to figure out what to do for work. She just started acting classes, but her real love is basketball.

Luke is in community college and wants to be a police officer after college.



At The Back

Who is it?

Who *are* these people? Do you recognize these class mates? The answer is below.

Do you have a picture from "way back when" that you would like to share with the class? Please email it, with the identifying information to: wdanza@rochester.rr.com



Catching up with Jeannine Parker Case

I've lived in Ohio since 1969, but have remained a Yankee fan in the midst of a family of Indians fans. One son, Todd, is a bachelor and lives in Las Vegas (my Yankee fan), and Jeff lives close by in Stow with his two sons Casey and Connor. Daughter Heather lives nearby, as well, with husband Bill and their daughter Abby and son Jack. They all keep us busy and very fulfilled. I moved my mother out here after Dad passed away back in Albany, and we shared



our love for music for the two years she was with us. Back in the 60's, I got a chance to use my bachelor's degree from Buffalo and taught elementary school for a couple of years before the kids came. Later, in my return to employment, I was in office work in a hospital, government, and a chemical company. Now retired, I'm loving helping Jim with his ministry in the Lutheran church he pastors in Sebring, Ohio (music and teaching again!), and babysitting for

my grandkids. It's nice to be able to travel now and then, and read whenever, and just enjoy life.... We're looking forward to our 45th reunion with friends I'm so proud to know.

Who is it? It's all of us! This is the official class photo from our 30 year reunion in 1993. Thanks to Roger Kerr for sending this in. Anyone know how Roger Kibbey got to surround himself with all of these beautiful women?

Keeping in touch with Bob Korn

Went to Syracuse University and met my wife. We have one son whose passion is Rock Music and is in 2 local bands! We moved to Northern California in 1973 after a long winter and 103 inches on snow in 3 days! Ugh!! My career was in High Tech first as a computer programmer, and later as a manager in various Marketing and Sales Ops roles. Worked longest for HP for 26 years which allowed us to travel around the world. I officially retired in 1/08 and decided to take the early SSI as you never know! Ha! My wife, Lin, is a Special Ed.

Teacher. She retired last year after 38 straight years of Dedication. She subs every now and then and her students really miss her! We live about 50 miles south of San Francisco. The town of Los Gatos has a population of 25,000. We really enjoy the mild weather and do many local shorts trips to Lake Tahoe, Carmel, Big Sur, Santa Barbara, Napa etc. Really enjoy the local wine and summer music including jazz, rock, country etc. I play racquetball 3 times a week. If you are planning a trip to Northern Ca. please let us know so we can link up!! We feel lucky to be healthy and alive. Thank God for those drugs! (statin's

etc). Lin and I look forward to seeing you all in the fall in New York.



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Since I obviously can't figure out how to delete it, how about sending me some pictures for a Picture Page? They can be current pictures with family or alone or vacations shots (like one of Gary Houck holding up the Leaning Tower of Pisa). It would be great to have some pictures from our days at BCHS. If you only have non digital photos you can send them to me and I will scan them and return them to you.