

The Bethlehem Star

Volume 1, Issue 4

July 29, 2008

From The Island

The Gideon Putnam tells us that a limited number of rooms remain in our reunion block to help celebrate our 45 Year Reunion.

Rudy is trying to get more rooms added to our block, but they warned that this is a busy weekend between Skidmore College and the leaf peekers. The good news is that you don't have to stay at the Gideon to participate in the festivities and there are plenty of other hotels to choose from. There is still time to make plans to join us in Saratoga.

I'm taking a break from The Star for the month of August. My daughter is getting married and the family thinks I need to concentrate on that instead of reminiscing about my well spent younger days. In the meantime, please submit pictures and stories or drop me a note and let me know what you would like to read about in future issues. Tentatively, I'm thinking of featuring sports in the next issue similar to the Senior Play feature in this issue.

See you in September.

Thanks for reading.

Bill D'Anza

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The Class of '63 Takes Charge! By Bill D'Anza

I remember this issue of The Star very well. As incoming seniors we were taking over and we were ready to put our imprint on BC. A wild card for us would be our new principal. H.B. Smith ("Happy Boy" to some student humorists) would be succeeding Dr. Tompkins, but in the Spring of 1962 we were on the cusp of a great senior year. Junior year had been a blast with Championships in football and basketball and we looked ahead with optimism, enthusiasm and excitement. Over the summer we would visit colleges and plan for our futures and in the fall of 1962 we put on the Senior Play, "A Connecticut Yankee." Senior Year was gonna be great!

From the Throne



SENIOR DISCOUNT offered to Class of 1963!!!

Yup, that's right. We're all seniors...

like it or not. And, in keeping with AARP and all the other discount programs out there for seniors, we're offering a SENIOR DISCOUNT

for classmates who attend the "three main functions" of the 45th Reunion, October 10 - 13.

It's a 10% discount!!

The "three main functions" include the Friday evening Casual Get-together at the Saratoga Harness Track's RACINO.

We will have a private room overlooking the track and the horses will be running!! An extensive hot and cold buffet will be included and available from 7 to 10 PM. There will be a private cash bar in the room.

Another "main function" is the Saturday evening Celebration to be held in the Arches Room at the Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa.

The Turtle Fence Wars by Wayne Groesbeck



This tale began with an obscure rider attached to a federal highway bill in 2004. Because nobody understood ecology when the interstate highway system was built in the 50's, the rider allocated money to the states to lessen the damage of federal highways on natural systems. Funds were proportional to the miles of federal highway in the state, and a 20% match in state and private funds was required.

Like many other states, Michigan has been flat broke since 2004, so this money languished in a Michigan Department of Transportation account till it was in danger of being transferred to another state. MDOT asked the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (a non-profit organization for which I was then Secretary and am now Chairman) if it had any ideas for a project.

It did. When US Highway 31 built across the mouth of the Muskegon River, a cheaper culvert was installed, rather than a bridge. This caused a bottleneck in the river and created a huge wetland. Every turtle species in Michigan, including two considered threatened and another under consideration, have been found in that wetland. Some species need to be 15 years old to reproduce. When turtles thaw out in Spring, mature females look for a sunny slope in which to dig a nest, and instinct sends them up the embankment to US 31. Every year, 50 to 75 get flattened by 70 mph traffic, which will definitely cut into the turtle population over time.

We proposed the installation of a trenched fence along each side of the divided highway, forcing the turtles through the culvert, rather than up the embankment. The project was promptly approved, and was completed in the Fall of 2007.

Good for the turtles and the Assembly.

At that point, the Representative from

our U.S. Congressional District got wind of the project, and made it a key issue in his reelection campaign. In a half page newspaper press release, he called this kind of "pork" a perfect example of why the dollar is weak and the deficit is growing. This money should have been used to repair highways, replace bridges, or, better yet, supply our troops in Iraq. He further stated he might run for Governor to ensure that such profligate abuse of public funds never again occur.

Overnight, our lowly turtle barrier became the hottest potato in West Michigan politics. The local newspaper devoted a page called "The Voice of the Turtle" to the issue for five weeks running (even though Shakespeare was referring to a turtledove, not a voiceless reptile), and filled it with impassioned letters from readers. A cybergeek from a neighboring community created a turtle fence blog headed by a row of ninja turtles carrying a scaling ladder. At watershed conferences in surrounding states, I am implored to "tell us the turtle fence story." A local performer has even composed "The Ballad of the Turtle Fence."

I am gratified by the fact that (1) no flattened turtles have been found on that stretch of US 31 yet this Spring, and (2) the public appears to prefer turtles to our Representative by nearly a 3 to 1 margin.



Going Home Again With Carol Dalton Carnes

Who says "you can't go home again"? As of July 28th, I will be living in Delmar, at least part of the time. I am buying a condo right off of Delaware Ave. on Kensington Ct. My Mom died two years ago and my dad just died this December. So after Dad died, I had no reason to go to Delmar and no home to visit. So instead of investing my small inheritance in the stock market, I'm investing it in Delmar. I think we all agree that there is no place like Delmar and I would really miss not going back there. So I will be living there mainly in the summer. This year I will be staying till our reunion. A bonus to living in Delmar will be getting me within 2 1/2 hours of my son in NYC. He will then be able to use the condo during the year to get away from the very busy city. I really look forward to seeing everyone in October and if you live in the Delmar area now, I would love to hear from you. My cell phone # is 678-386-5053. My husband will be with me for part of the time, but he is still working, so I will be on my own for quite a bit of the time, so hope to hear from you!!

Who is it?

Who *are* these Snow Princesses? Do you recognize our class mates? The answer is below.

Do you have a picture from our high school days that you would like to share? If so please email it with the identifying information to me at:

wdanza@rochester.rr.com

Who is it? From the left: Kathy Adams, Barbara Barbarossa Schwebel, Kathy Braun Mankin, Bonnie Mason Stevens, and Jeanine Parker Case. Thanks to Kathy Adams and Barb Clark Eckhaus for submitting this photo.

The Throne (from P.1)

Starting the evening at 6 PM with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, the Gideon Buffet will be offered at 7:30 PM. This elaborate buffet includes: soup du jour, an assortment of salads, carved Roasted New York Sirloin, Tortellini with Pesto Cream or Marinara, Baked Salmon and Sea Scallops, Chicken Breast Florentine, vegetables, potato, assorted desserts and beverage. We promise: NO LONG SPEECHES...just lots of socializing and FUN...and a few extra special surprises.

The third "main function" is the Reunion After Glow at Linda and Paul Bradley's beautiful home on the shores of Lake George. From 10 AM there will be a light breakfast buffet of

cold cereals, fresh fruit, bagels, etc. followed by hot dogs and burgers from the grill around 12 Noon. (If you'd prefer a heartier breakfast selection, the Gideon Putnam offers a popular Sunday Brunch in their main dining room at \$22.95 per person. Reservations are suggested for the Brunch.)

Look for your reservation flyer in the mail. If you don't receive one by the end of July, please let me know. Remember to have your reservations mailed to me by SEPTEMBER 1... along with total payment. Make your checks payable to: BCHS Class of 1963.

Also included in the reservations packet is the order form for reunion mementos. This order form must be returned by August 22. Most of these items require minimum orders, so

please get your orders in quickly so we can determine if we have enough interest. If we do not meet the minimum requirements, your checks will be returned.

Check your reservations packet for information on the Golf Outing and the Travel Back in Time. Both of these events will be held Saturday morning. Remember, there are many things to do in historic Saratoga Springs....sightseeing, shopping, museums and great restaurants for lunch. Or, spend Saturday in The Spa at the Gideon Putnam!! Some folks, I'm certain, will spend the morning renewing old acquaintances by chatting in the elegant lobby....or walking the beautiful resort grounds. The time is drawing near. I'm looking forward to seeing you in Saratoga Springs!!!

Catching up with Paul Bradley and Linda Vandenberg Bradley



Paul Bradley and Linda Vandenberg had their first date after the Colonie football victory in our junior year. Paul had come to BC from John Jay HS in northern Westchester County the previous September and Linda from Hall HS in Little Rock the previous January. For both of us BC was wonderful. We both have warm memories of great teachers, coaches, friends and a wealth of great experiences.

Over the past 45 years, we have lived in many places and continued to do many things. Linda attended Green Mountain College before we married and took up residence in Hamilton, NY where Paul received bachelors and masters degrees at Colgate where he also got his first job, in Admissions. We then went to The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where Paul got a PhD while also serving as Asst to the President of an academic consortium. Then it was off to Calgary,

Alberta, Canada and The University of Calgary where Paul took a job in research, but became lonesome for upstate New York. So next it was a job at the then brand new Empire State College in Saratoga Springs for four years. When Paul accepted a job in 1976 to be the Campus Provost at NY Institute of Technology on Manhattan, Linda (always the wise one of the pair) said: "The kids have no roots. If we ever want them to come home to us, they need to have a "home." I don't care where it is, let's vacation in the same place every year, a place where we will eventually settle, and maybe the girls will see it as "home." Indeed, we then vacationed in either Saratoga or Lake George for the next 19 years (which included a stop in Honeoye Falls, NY near Rochester (and several of our classmates) before buying a house on Lake George in 1993. For most of this time, Paul has been a management consultant, traveling 250-275 days a year and working with over 400 companies and non-profit organizations of all types in 39 countries. Linda sold real estate on Long Island, but mostly has served as the rock that has kept Paul sane and provided all manner of support to allow his nomadic life to be livable. We both sing in a church choir and fish together, though Paul does not attend Linda's garden club meetings and she does not much care about his golf. We also share a relatively

recent hobby, owning tiny shares of racehorses, some of which have done pretty well.

We have two girls. Lisa is about to be married on August 30. An international businesswoman, she studied at Yale and then Michigan before joining Boehringer Mannheim, a German pharmaceutical firm, which was bought out by Roche Pharmaceuticals where she still works, though now in Nutley, NJ, an easy weekend trip. Even while in Germany, she would plan her year carefully to spend at least two weeks with her parents on Lake George. Our second daughter is Teresa, who like Lisa graduated Schreiber HS in Port Washington on Long Island. Both were serious track athletes there and were nationally ranked in hurdles events. Teresa went to Syracuse University before joining Staples as one of its earliest employees. She continues with Staples as a Regional Human Resources Manager. She and husband Mike Mosher, an engineer who oversees the dams in the Hudson-Black River basin, live in Saratoga Springs (proving the wisdom of Linda's declaration in 1976!).

We look forward to seeing everyone in October and to having as many as can make it for the Sunday get-together at our Lake George home.

CONNECTICUT YANKEE

by
Edith Cohen & Dianne Strickland

At 8:15, November 16th and 17th, the Bethlehem Central High School stage was the setting of this year's senior play, "A Connecticut Yankee." Utilizing the book by Mark Twain, Richard Rogers and Lorenz Hart, working with Herbert Fields, created this musical comedy which

was a Broadway hit a number of years back. Last year's highly successful senior play, "Babes in Arms," was also a "Rogers and Hart" musical.

Real Flashback!

"A Connecticut Yankee" is set in Hartford, Connecticut in the present day and Camelot, England fourteen centuries ago. A clever young actor, modern as anyone, is handily

whisked back through time to the year 543, and finds himself in the court of King Arthur. At first, he and the populace of Camelot are understandably baffling to each other, but the audience is soon shown how twentieth century technology can be advantageously (?) applied to a sixth century environment.

All-star Cast

Our enthusiastic "cast of thousands" was headed by **Bill Morgan**, who handled the role of Martin Barret, the yankee actor, and **Barbara Carroll**, who played his sixth century sweetheart, "Sandy." Complicating this romance was **Sheila Doyle**, as Morgan Le Fay. **Andy Rapp** took the part of Merlin the Wizard, while **John Hunter** portrayed King Arthur, **Gary Houck** was Sir Kay, a "Knight of the Table Round."

Supporting roles were handled by **Pete Flierl**, **Barbara Barbarossa**, **Malcolm Fordham**, and **Joanie Jernigan**.

Singers and dancers included **Jump Bradley**, **John Flinton**, **Nicky Klett**, **Larry McArthur**, **Bob Lanier**, **Jay Bolger**, **Bill Sharron**, **Linda Vandenburg**, **Carol Brown**, **Ellen O'Donnell**, **Paulette Zitko**, **Barbara Clark**, **Carolyn Ogden**, and **Louise Lundberg**, **Debby Foster**, **Sue Klett**, **Mary McDowell**, and **Sue Peters** did a "Camelot Specialty." **Mr. Frederic Adler** and **Mr. Charlie Roberts** were accompanists.

Executive positions were ably filled by Student Director **Stephanie Temshiv**, working closely with **Mr. Sidney Turner** on the acting. **Mr. Roland Truitt** and **Mr. Richard Feldman** supervised music and choreography respectively.

In addition to this corps, a large backstage brigade worked with lighting, make-up, costumes, scenery, publicity, and tickets.

Amusing scenes, bright and witty dialogue, and such tunes as "Thou Swell" and "My Heart Stood Still" made "A Connecticut Yankee" an important event on the school calendar.

The Inside Story

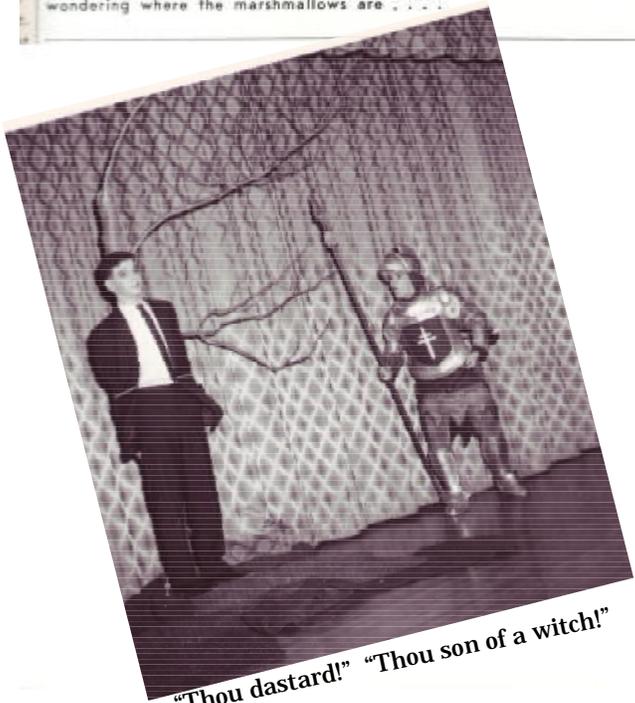
Personally, I find it difficult to imagine that the kids we've played and fought with for the past five or six years were on that stage, in front of us, actually performing in a Broadway-type production. It is almost unbelievable . . . almost. Yet it is a fact. For verification, we needed only cast a careful look about us these past weeks.

Under the watchful eye of Mr. Turner, I've pecked in to see our solemn senior thespians at work. Aha! What did I see from my dark

SEE PAGE 2



Martin Barret (Bill Morgan) will be "smoking more now, but enjoying it less" when Merlin (Andy Rapp) touches him off. King Arthur (John Hunter) is wondering where the marshmallows are . . .



"Thou dastard!" "Thou son of a witch!"

YANKEES FROM PAGE

corner of the auditorium? I saw **Bill Morgan** repeating that same word over and over again. Could it be that **Bill** had forgotten his lines? No, **Bill's** always one of the first to get his memorization down pat. Oh well! I also saw **Sheila Doyle** desperately trying to convince **Mr. Turner** that she's just not cut out for this sexy part. Who did they say was **Sheila's** stand-in? **Brigitte Bardot**??

Ginney Wiley has certainly developed some interesting muscles (each with a matching ache). It must be those exercises she did every day. I think they call it "Pick Him Up and Throw Him Over your Shoulder." Poor **Billy Sharron**; I wonder what would happen if **Ginny** missed. . . ?

Gads, by the time the fire to burn **Bill Morgan** at the stake is kindled, he'll have died of old age! It's the fault of those new fangled machines. . . cleave to the flint and steel, noble sirs, those ?!*:)*(-: cigarette lighters are hopeless!

From the remarks I've heard in the corridors, some of the people in the play were amazed at the awful voices of the individuals surrounding them; everyone felt the person next to him was off key. Could it be that everybody was off key? No, never, that can't be it!

A Singular Experience

All kidding aside, I have been greatly impressed by the remarks which have been made concerning the participants in the play. These seniors have known each other and been through many experiences together for five or six years. Yet, there never seemed to be time enough to really get to know and like many members of the class. First, tryouts, and later, rehearsals, broke the barrier which had endured over the years. It had been an unintentional barrier, true, but it had been there. With a common goal, this group has achieved a wonderful relationship. I'm sure the experience will be something no one who has participated in the play will ever forget, no matter what he or she does through in life.

Near capacity crowds enthusiastically received the senior play this year; after all, it couldn't have been anything but a success, since it was sponsored by the **Class of '63** (The last phrase of this article was written with **Rudy Zwicklebauer** holding a knife at the throats of our staff writers — Ed.)

Mary McDowell Truitt

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of our friend and classmate Mary McDowell Truitt. Mary died of cancer in Concord, CA, in June of this year.

In a biographical entry in the 30th Reunion Class Directory, she told us she had a daughter Cindy and son Glenn. At the time she and her husband, Glenn, were living in Estes Park, Colorado. Mary said, "I have owned and operated my own pre-school for 20 years and am now a real estate agent in the northern Denver area."



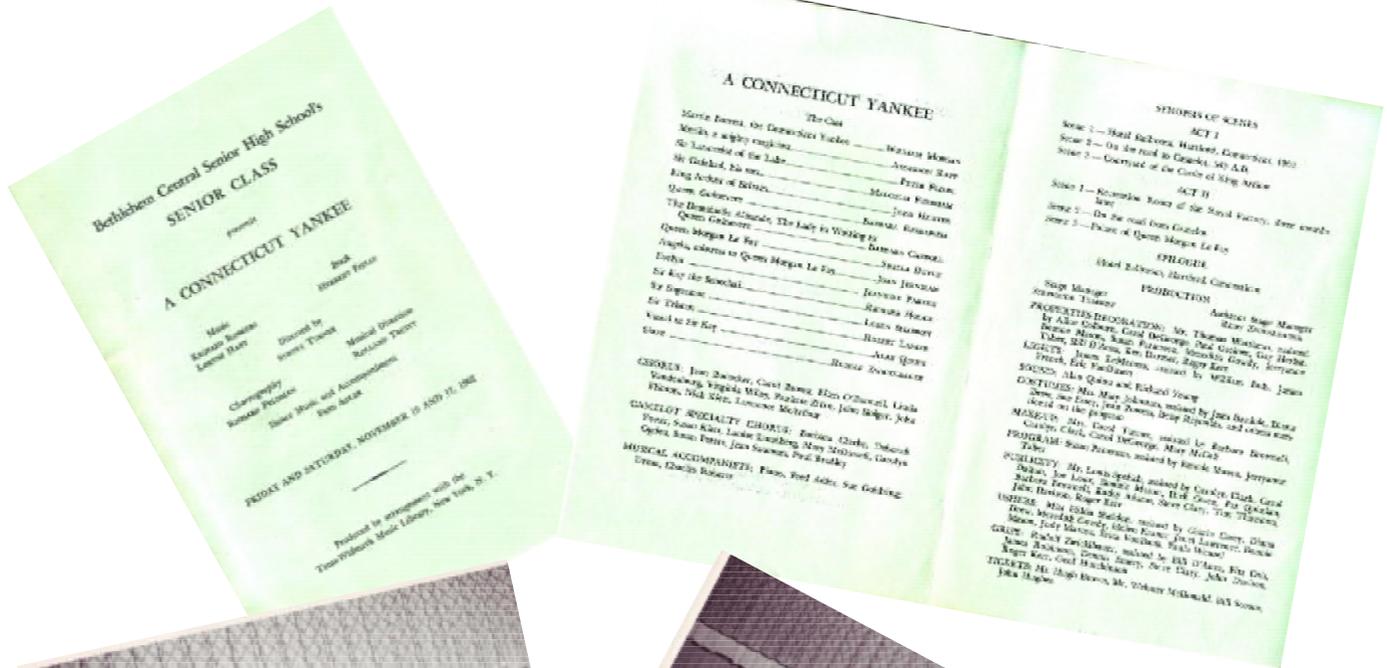
The majorettes in 1963; Erika von Bank Harger, Mary McDowell Truitt, and Barb Kundel Hamilton.



Together again at the 40th reunion

At the conclusion we were asked to capsulize what we had learned in 30 years. From the vantage point of 15 years later Mary's quote is particularly poignant: "Life is short so be grateful for all the good you see in it."

Remember when...





CLASS OF 1963-BCHS ORDER FORM

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER: SEND A COPY OF THE ENCLOSED FORM WITH YOUR CHECK FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT TO:

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 C/O RUDY ZWICKLBAUER
 200 N. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROAD
 UNIT 719
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60004-6051
 BY AUGUST 22, 2008

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