

THE 1955 TROJAN *Alumni* PRINTS

October 2004 • Send news articles and/or photos to Frank Hunter, 3379 Hidden Haven Ct., Tampa, FL 33607 • Email fhunter@sptimes.com • Issue 25

Football Game and Picnic Photos Class of 1955



Before the Game: Jackie Buffington, Frank Hunter, Clayton Howerton, Jerry Warren, Don Mercer's wife Marilyn, Gene Lucas, Don Mercer, Larry Boren, Donna McCally Boren

After Game: Gene Lucas, Kenny Lane, Harry Parker, Bill Meade, Clayton Howerton, Liz Lane, Linda Howerton, Harry Parker's wife Nancy, Shirley Borders Meade



Bill Clifford



Gwen Mowery Johnson



Jackie Buffington Carpenter



Jo Russell

Peg Jenkins

Billie Kirby



Ron Woodruff

Gladys Hatton



Lovel & Dave Marting

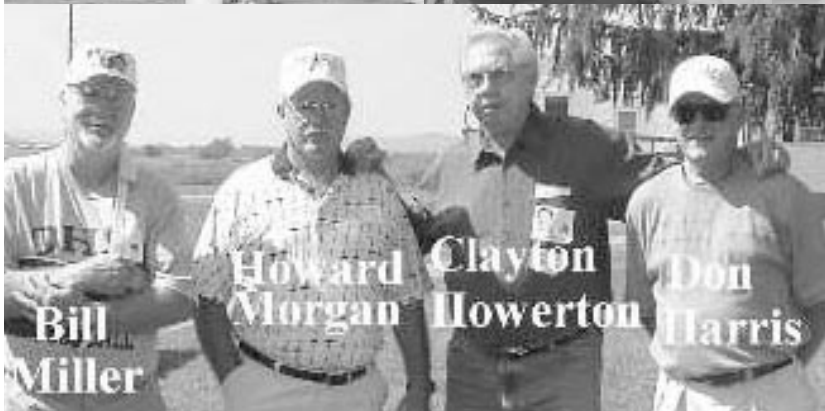


Frank Hunter

Jackie Brown



Raymond Lenegar



Bill Miller

Howard Morgan

Clayton Howerton

Don Harris



Blaine & Carolyn Bierley



Billie & Bob Kirby

A Note from Lee Lansing

There have been several pictures of Wilson and Grant schools in this letter, so I thought I would send a picture of Highland fourth grade class of 1946-47. There are six students that I cannot name. If anyone can tell me their names, please send them to me or to Frank so that he can print them later.

I got married shortly after graduation, raised six children who are now grown with families of their own and each of them have good jobs. After twenty-four years of marriage, we divorced and went our separate ways. Sometime later, I met and married my high school sweetheart. We have been married for twenty five years. Together, we have nine children, twenty-eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

My life has been very rewarding and fulfilling. I had the privilege of coaching baseball and football for a total of thirty years. That has been a great honor.

We are now retired and spend six months in Portsmouth and six months in Florida, with visits to Arizona and Kentucky to see our children. I enjoy deep-sea fishing, golfing and playing shuffleboard, plus living close and visiting with four of our children in Florida.

We enjoyed the picnic and the comradery of class mates so very much.

Lee & Delores Lansing
8225 Areeve Drive, #327
New Port Richey, FL 34683

A Lost Note From Bob Gin

Some grade school memories: during our 7th and 8th grade at Scudder, we did integrate with a single black girl. We were informed of her coming - don't recall any problems with her attendance. I remember Marjorie Leach, our principal setting up school dances (once a month or possibly once a week?) at the All Saints Episcopal Church for 7th and 8th grades. I learned to dance there. She also helped form a boys choir for the church. Boys and girls going to Massie school for woodshop and home room. City-wide clean up drives (Scudder won and purchased playground equipment with the prize. Remember our first male teachers after the war - Jack Gee (later assistant basketball coach at PHS) and Mr. Tolley (I recall he had a glass eye. Nice memories.

Bob Gin

A Note From Jackie James Evans

Finally, my computer is up and running again after about two months of problems. My new e-mail address is cynthia.evans@earthlink.net

I STILL have not learned to send to everybody in my address book the same message at one time. I know it is a very simple procedure because I have done it once or twice, but can never remember how I did it when I want to send a message to more than one person.

Jackie James Evans

A Note From Mary Gail Drake

I am currently on a sabbatical leave from my law firm and am enjoying the leisure and time to travel with my husband Jerry. We are just home from a combined trip to California (San Mateo) where our older son, David works for NASA and has two daughters aged 10 and 7, then on to Kaneohe Hawaii to visit younger son, Keith, who teaches Marine Biology at Hawaii Pacific University and just became a father this summer with the birth of son, Elijah. Getting back on the Eastern time zone here in McMurray Pa and plan to return to work November 1. Also have had time to visit more with daughter Carol who lives about an hour away- north of Pittsburgh- with her husband and their two sets of twins, ages 12 and 8-- a very busy household.

I have just switched over to a cable provider for email which I hope will be faster and better. Please change my email address in your computers to: mkorsmeyer@adelphia.net thank you and I am sorry I was unable to attend the picnic and want to keep on your lists for news. Best wishes to you all.

Mary Gail (Drake)

A Note From Harry Clyburn

Have read Blaine's list of familiar businesses, etc. in the last issue. Unless I missed them I think we should include The Shawnee Restaurant "Home of the Big Chief Burger", and Richard's News "Largest selection of Hallmark cards in the city". Many of us can recall cruising through the Shawnee parking lot time after time regardless of the weather. You were sure to see many of your friends taking up all the parking spaces for hours for the price of a coke. I have a particular fondness as well for Richard's News since I was privileged to work there starting in the 7th grade and continuing until my senior year in school when I became part of Miss Wittenburg's Co-op class. Seems like everyone came to Richard's News at one time or another. We had many "regulars". We got to know the customers so well that we would have many of the items they habitually purchased on the counter for them when we saw them pull up outside or across the street. We sold an enormous amount of out of town Sunday papers. Valentine's Day was a biggie. Sold so many heart shaped boxes of Schraft's chocolates and cards. I could write a book on all of my experiences and the people that I became familiar with in that place. Jim Richards and A.H. "Hetz" Rayburn were the owners, and I have often credited whatever success I had in my career in sales to them. I learned early the value of a satisfied customer.

A couple of other notes on the Shawnee. It was a great place to sober up late at night with their "bottomless" coffee cup. It was 10 cents a cup. Along with the Turkey Shoppe it was also a popular place to take your date after the movie. They used to serve a small steak dinner with fries, salad, and roll for \$1.39. Such a wonderful time!!! Glad I was there.

Harry Clyburn

"Lazarus"

The passing of the downtown Columbus Lazarus Department Store (like the passing of Martings in Portsmouth) was an occasion of looking backwards in time for me to remember an era that we, most probably, will never see again.

When I was growing up in Portsmouth in the late 1940s and early 1950s, a trip to Columbus to shop at Lazarus was a real first class adventure. We usually went with Aunt Nell Harrigan and made a day of it. From a kid's perspective these are a few of the things that come to mind: First, was parking in that massive parking garage--we never had anything like that in the Portsmouth area. I remember those seemingly endless display windows that stretched all the way around the building. I rode my first escalator at Lazarus -what a wonder. A toy department that you could get lost in and never worry about having to find your way out. The many fancy restaurants they had with so many food items to choose from.

I can remember that my mother and Aunt Nell considered it to be a real "dress up" occasion to go to Columbus to shop at Lazarus. I don't think that they went so far as to wear hats and white gloves, but I do recall seeing many women dressed in that attire.

One of the revelations that I had when I got to Ohio State was going down to Lazarus on a football Saturday. As I recall I had given my football ticket to a fraternity brother so that he could take his father to the game. Anyway, as I rode the electric High Street bus downtown, I fully expected the place to be deserted. In my mind's eye I figured that everyone in Columbus was in Ohio Stadium. Was I surprised to see that commerce was bustling at High and Town Streets despite what Woody Hayes and his boys were doing on campus.

After we established our residency in Columbus, my wife and I took our daughters to see Santa Claus and the Talking Tree at Lazarus each Christmas season for many years. And, if memory serves, Lazarus was the place where the kids got their first "official" haircut. You got a certificate and some hair trimmings in a little plastic envelope as a souvenir.

Depending upon your perspective, I guess, as more and more Lazarus branch stores were opened in Columbus (Westland-Northland-Eastland-Kingsdale), it became less and less necessary to travel downtown. Like so many things from the past - I'll miss this venerable institution that I remember with fondness.

Blaine Bierley

Address Changes

Dick Hansgen:

Dear Friends, Relatives, Nine-Ball-Shooters, and Saints, I wanted all of you to have my new address and telly: 332 Westhampton, Danville, VA 24541 434-797-3987. My email stays the same: hansgen@bluffton.edu. The latter is one of the few perks for having Professor Emeritus status

Nancy Bower Sommers: new address: Unit 911 of Hunter Ridge - Hart Circle - State College, Pennsylvania 16801 no phone there yet

Bob Otworth: Change of e/mail address - NEW E/M ADDRESS IS reo54@bellsouth.net



Highland School

L to R from top: Sonja Lewis, Charles Parker, Laura Cook, Ray Mitchell, Freida Thompson, Bill Knittle, ?, Janet Patterson, David Boehm, Betty Midoff, Jack Johnson, Shelby Rousch, Lee Lansing, Judy Davis, Janet Morrow, Sam Winters, Charlotte..., ?, ?, Harlan Davis, Nancy Rammel, Jim Stockham, Betty Hill, Mary Altman, ?, ?, Clayton Howerton, Lois Kitchen, Earl White, ?.



Nauvoo School

Gene Lucas and Phyllis Scaff Circled.



Wilson School

Dave Coll, Blaine Bierley, Ray Harper, Annette Burgess Lewis, Thelma Maxie Mott, Patty Conklin, Don Payton, Mike Brown, John Wood



A Note From Pat Webb

I have moved to Lexington, KY and am selling real estate for remax realty and love my profession. I retired from nursing after 20 years. I was staff nurse for Mercy Hospital and Scioto Memorial Hospital. Also, staff nurse for Portsmouth Receiving Hospital and Hillview Retirement Center. I also worked for Portsmouth City Schools as a school nurse and for Portsmouth City Health Dept as a public health nurse. My last position was with Scioto County Health Department as a public health nurse for 11 years.

If any of you come to the "BlueGrass", give me a call.
Pat Skaggs-Bender Webb



Sam Winters, Lee Lansing and John Lee

Remembering Fast Pitch Softball at Mound Park

Wayne Widdig, fireball pitcher for the Ramey Feed team. Don Keys restaurant from Ironton Ohio fielded a team. Other teams: Williams Mfg. Co., ...fill me in with the others

Jack Hurst

who broadcast our Trojan games is still active. Once the Atlanta Falcons announcer is sports director on WFOM.



Dreaming...

The PHS class of 1955 was in town last month to celebrate their fifty ninth reunion. Gene Lucas, class president told the Times that around Eighty classmates attended the fun-filled weekend beginning with a luncheon cruise on the Portsmouth Belle Friday afternoon followed by the Trojans-Chillicothe football game that evening.

Saturday morning the group met at the Mount Damron Incline to view the area from the newly constructed 100 foot tower at the top. The first incline trains began at 9:00 daily, so classmates arrived before 8:00am to avoid the tourists.

Special arrangements for the time had been made with the attraction.

Later that afternoon, the group toured the Portsmouth Historical Society to see how their old school building had been converted to one of the finest museums in the tri-state area. This was followed by their annual picnic.

For the sports minded among the group, a limited number of tickets had been made available to attend the Portsmouth/Louisville baseball game at Branch Rickey Stadium beginning at 7:00pm that evening. Most had never seen a class A major league baseball game at Portsmouth.

Sunday morning they met at the Esplanade for

a streetcar ride down Chillicothe Street proceeding to Front Street and onward to the Floodwall Murals and the Bonneyville shopping area.

A Sunday afternoon option was a round trip ride on the Southern Ohio Peavine Railroad to Pebbles and back. The group met at the old Portsmouth N&W depot which has been moved to the other side of the viaduct. A tour of the old building was conducted before the departure time of 2:00. After the trip, the group toured the rail museum collection of old passenger cars and engines.

A farewell dinner was held at the Original Hamburger Inn at 9:00pm. Yeah.... you wish!

Frank