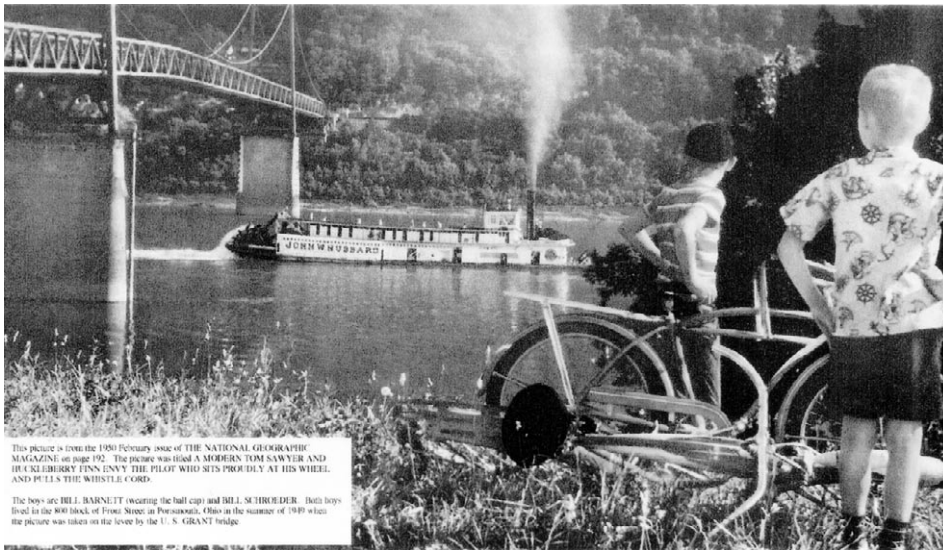


# THE 1955 TROJAN Alumni PRINTS

April 2002

• Send news articles and/or photos to Frank Hunter, 480 Bosphorus Ave., Tampa, FL 33606 • Email fhunter@sptimes.com •

Issue 10



This picture is from the 1949 February issue of THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE on page 192. The picture was titled A MODERN TOM SAWYER AND IT CLEVERLY FINNISHES THE PILOT WHO SETS PROUDLY AT HIS WHEEL AND HELLS THE WHISTLE CODE.

The boys are BILL BARNETT (wearing the ball cap) and BILL SCHROEDER. Both boys lived in the 800 block of Front Street in Portsmouth. One in the summer of '39 when the picture was taken on the levee by the U. S. GRANT bridge.

Bill Barnett and Bill Schroeder in 1949 photo appearing in National Geographic Magazine.



## **Class Reunion Picnic Planned For Late Summer**

We have planned a class picnic for Saturday, August 10, 2002 at Earl Thomas Conley Riverside Park on Rt. 52, three miles west of Portsmouth. We will begin the picnic at 12pm and eat at 1:00. The rest of the afternoon will be spent listening to music (to be provided by Clayton Howerton) and catching up on old times. Those living locally might want to bring a lawn chair.

We are hopeful that many class members as well as members of other classes will attend. Please pass the word and feel free to invite anyone you feel would be interested. We will furnish fried chicken, soft drinks, napkins, and table service. Those planning to attend should let Gene Lucas know so that we will know how much to provide.

We will keep you updated in subsequent newsletters.

## **Class of 1957 Reunion**

Colleen Quinn Sturgil has informed us that the 1957 class has scheduled their 45th year reunion for 8-23 & 8-24-02 at Shawnee State Lodge. Those interested should contact Colleen Sturgil, Joyce Theis or Jim Kegley. Many of our class of 1955 had very close contact with these "Sophmores" through dating and other means. We have had alumni from 1957 contribute more than a few items to this newsletter and we encourage even closer contacts in the future.

## **Old Schools Demolished**

Due to the passage of a new school bond issue in November of 2001, the following is or will be taking place.

All Portsmouth City School buildings are tentatively scheduled to be demolished and the land lots are to be sold, with the exception of PHS and Highland. The gym and auditorium at PHS (refurbished by donations from PHS alumni) will be utilized. School Board and related offices will be housed at the PHS building. Highland school has been purchased by the Community Action Organization for the purpose of operating a "headstart" program.

For updated info, go to [phs1955.com](http://phs1955.com) and hit "other" and then click Portsmouth City Schools.

## **David Warren**

Our sympathies to Jerry Warren and the rest of the family on the death of his brother Dave in Cincinnati on March 23rd. Dave was one of the really great artists to come from PHS.

## **Support Our Web Site!**

Please mail material to Tom at:  
1311 Hilllake Lane, Lebanon, Tn 37090  
or email material to: [tj@charter.net](mailto:tj@charter.net)

## Dollies Follies

Who in the class remembers Dollies Follies? Dollies Follies was the dance recital produced by Babette Delheimer Hurth and Helen Shaw to showcase the talents of their students in the Portsmouth area. We rehearsed and practiced all year long to prepare for the shows, usually held in the spring. The costumes were elaborate and professionally designed by Mrs. DuPuy. (Tom's mother) Tickets for all shows were always completely sold out. Many of our school mates performed in these shows. Some of them went on to be professionals and were gifted dancers such as: Phyllis Lewis, Judy Baker, Sandy Keys, and Margy Hays, and some others chose not to go on with dancing, but were so talented such as Kay Ann Keys, Marilyn Johnson, Bob Hurth, and Judy Ashe. Marilee Keeney and I danced a lot together in the follies, good or bad. If anyone has photos or articles, I would love to see them.

*Donna McCally Boren*

## That Picture

Where did that picture of Peach Thompson and I surface. I remember it was taken in the downstairs girls bathroom at PHS. That is the same bathroom that Ms. McBroom caught me while skipping class. Lovel, Nancy and I skipped class (I had never skipped a class before - they were pros). At any rate they were smoking and blowing the smoke out the window. I arrived late and proceeded to light up. They finished their cigarettes and left, I was going to meet them at that little shop next to the school (can't remember the name); anyway, I was alone when I heard McBroom's footsteps - I went in a stall and locked the door and stood on the seat so she wouldn't see my feet. The bathroom was filled with smoke so she looked under the door and ask me to come out. I had to work in her office every afternoon for 1 hour after school for 2 weeks! You can believe I never cut class again! I had to walk home and I lived on 20th street. That picture certainly brought back memories!

*Marlene Larch Brinkley*

## Morton's Quitting Business

Morton's Restaurant, a Portsmouth institution on Chillicothe Street since 1950, will close its doors for good on Monday, March 4, 2002.

According to Peggy Morton, the 69-year-old proprietor of Morton's, her health is forcing her to close the doors of the popular eatery opened by her husband's parents.

The current Morton's building, on Chillicothe Street, was opened in 1957 to replace the original drive-in restaurant. According to Morton, the restaurant originally had car-hops on roller skates to take orders. She added, "I'm sorry for the community because we don't have too many restaurants anymore. I feel like a dinosaur because there aren't many homestyle restaurants anymore." She also said that she will place the restaurant up for sale. One customer said that she would now go to either Bob Evans or Patsy's Inn. (ed. note--good plug for Billy Clifford)

## 1940-1950 RADIO TRIVIA

8. "The Buster Brown Show" was produced by Buster Brown shoes, which used the character of Buster Brown and his dog, Tige, as its trademark. This children's show ran from 1940 until 1953 on Saturday mornings. Wonderful characters on the show included Froggie, the gremlin, and Squeakie, the mouse. The program host's nickname was "Smilin" Ed. What was his full name?

9. "Stop the Music" was a half-hour musical quiz program which was on the air from 1948 to 1952 and again from 1954 to 1955. It featured songs sung by Kay Armen and Dick Brown, who would sing all the lyrics of a song except for the title, which contestants were suppose to guess. It was sponsored by Anacin pain reliever, Smith Brothers cough drops, and Spidel watches. The show had two hosts during its run who would call out "Stop the music!" when it was time for the contestants to try to identify a song. Name either of the hosts.

10. "Life with Luigi" played on CBS from 1948 until 1953. The leading character of this half-hour situation-comedy series was a childlike, innocent, gentle Italian immigrant named Luigi Basco, who spoke broken English. The sponsor was Wrigley's Spearmint gum. Luigi was played by what veteran character actor?

11. "Truth or Consequences" was on radio from 1940 until 1956. It later became a successful television show. Its audience-participation format was a variation of an old parlor game in which a player had to pay a consequence if he or she didn't "tell the truth" by answering a question. "Beulah" the buzzer would signal a wrong answer and the contestant usually had to perform some outrageous stunt in front of the studio audience. Sponsors included Ivory soap, Pet milk, and Duz detergent. During the show's run it had three hosts. Name any of them.

12. The "Tom Mix Show" ran from 1933 until 1950, usually at about five o'clock in the afternoon. Tom Mix was, of course, a popular cowboy star in the movies. Interestingly, Tom himself, was never heard on his radio show. His part was played by a variety of actors over the years. The episodes usually had Tom tracking down outlaws and fighting cattle rustlers. Ralston cereal was the program's long time sponsor and many premiums, such as badges, decoding rings, and photos, were sent to those who mailed in a Ralston cereal box top and "one thin dime." What was the name of Tom's "wonder horse?"

11. Ralph Edwards, Jack Bailey, or Bob Barker 12. Tony

ANSWERS



## Massie School Alumni Reunion - June 4, 2001. Taken before demolition of the school building.

Row 1: l to r - Joyce Goodman Foster, Louise Joseph, Jackie James Evans, Pat Barker Bell and friend.  
Row 2: l to r - Edward Holland, Gene Hollis, Glen Hollis, Bill Barnett

Mary Ann Hamilton Mowery and I went to Florida and visited Donna McFarland harris in New Port Richey and Mary Thomas Hamilton in Boca Raton. We got together for a girlie reunion and had such a good time.

*Patty Conklin*



### **A Great Reason to Own A Computer**

Mary Ann Hamilton-Mowery, Patti Conklin-Newsom, Donna McFarland-Harris and I all ran around together. I was especially close to Joyce Neal-Baer. I was her maid of honor at her wedding to Ted. Joyce and I lived next door to one another and in later years we both we in scouting and church activities. We stayed in touch much of our adult life until I moved to Florida.

I had lost contact with my buddies until last July when I bought my first PC. I started to try to find them. I came across the Classmates Web Site and registered and the very next day I had an e-mail from Gene Lucas. Surprise doesn't even describe what I felt. I then asked him about Patti, Mary Ann and Evelyn Brannan. He put Patti in touch with me and in November I flew to Ohio for a two week visit with the girls and a reunion with my brothers and sisters. Then Patti and Mary Ann came to visit with me. It has been so great. This PC is the best thing I have even bought. We stay in touch via e-mail almost every day now.

*Mary Thomas Hamilton*

### **More Dr. Obrist**

As usual, I enjoyed your article in the Alumni Prints. My sister, Nancy was in the Portsmouth Public Library and ran into Dr. Obrist's Grandson. He is working for the State of Ohio as Head of a large Juvenile Facility (I think Nan said it was in Jackson County). Anyhow, he has asked for and got some of the Police and Court records on his Grandfather's murder and is doing some research into it. I know not why - maybe he is writing a book. I remember dear Dr. Obrist very well, as a few months before he was killed, he took my tonsils out (Nan's too). Our regular family doctor was drafted into military service so we ended up with him. He used to come to the house on Williams Street to make house calls after the surgery. I had a very hard time recovering from that surgery. He was so nasty - let us put it this way - his bedside manner needed a lot of work. His children apparently suffered a great deal at his hands - he was brutal.

*Phyllis Storey Van Quill*

### **Gene's Niece**

This is my niece, Jenni Wessel, who graduated from Shawnee State University in 1995. She still holds a number of scoring and rebounding records at the school. She was first team NAIA All American two years in a row and was elected to their hall of fame last year. She played basketball from 1991-1995 and is the all-time leading scorer in SSU history with 2,280 points. She holds the SSU records for points in a game (48); field goals made in a career (977); field goals made in a game (23); and rebounds in a game (20). Her .594 career field goal percentage and 1,092 career rebounds rank second in Shawnee State History. The 23 field goals made against Urbana University on January 15, 1994, stands as the NAIA Division II national record. She was the 1995 Conference Player of the Year earning All-American Honors in 1994 and 1995. Jenni was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2001.



### **World War II Ends-- August 14, 1945**

My mother, who lived on Charles Street in Portsmouth for more than sixty years, recently sold the house where I grew up and moved into a retirement center. As we were packing her belonging, I came across a copy of The Portsmouth Times for Tuesday, August 14, 1945, that she had kept as a memento. The Times loudly proclaimed in three-inch headlines: "WAR IS OVER!" and detailed Portsmouth's plans for celebrating the end of the war the next day.

The citizens of Portsmouth were to gather at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday at Municipal Stadium to cheer the victory over Japan, the greatest conflict in the history of mankind, which lasted three years, eight months, and six days. A parade was to form at Tracy Park at 7:00 p.m. and march to the stadium. The parade route was south on Chillicothe Street to the Gallia Street Esplanade, then east on Gallia Street to Offnere Street, south on Offnere to Jackson Avenue, and east on Jackson to the stadium.

It was announced that most area churches planned to open their doors for silent worship and prayers of thanksgiving for the war's end.

In a proclamation, Portsmouth Mayor John M. Salladay set aside "V-J Day" as a "public holiday" and urged all Portsmouth citizens and residents to observe this great day in a sane and intelligent manner and to confine our celebration to the organized plans of the various civic organizations of the city.

Ohio's Governor, Frank J. Lausche, expressed the sincere hope that the people of Ohio will not indulge in unbridled demonstrations leading to disorder and possibly to injury and damage.

The Victory Parade was to be headed with an American flag that had a unique history because it also led the Armistice Day Parade in 1918 at the end of World War I.

At the stadium plans were for a concert, speeches, and fireworks. The director of the Portsmouth American Legion Band invited all musicians in the county to augment the band for the occasion. Funds for the celebration were contributed by James Dickey Post of the American Legion and Elks, Eagles, and Moose Lodges were to provide the fireworks.

The Times also reported that the Portsmouth Retail Merchants' Association planned to keep their stores closed all day Wednesday and state liquor stores would not open until further notice.

*Blaine Bierley*

### **Dues Reminder from Gene**

Please take a moment and send your \$5 to Gene Lucas at 1419 Second St., West Portsmouth OH 45663.

In addition, we need you to send newsy items and any photographs (old or new) for publication. This is a great way to renew old friendships. And remember, all PHS classes and interested parties are also welcome to subscribe and submit items. Send to Frank Hunter at 480 Bosphorus Ave., Tampa FL 33606

## From Bridget Goetz Bonzo

After leaving Portsmouth in 1974, Ron and I have made our home in quite a few places. Our present home is in Littlestown, PA (right on the Mason-Dixon Line) and this has probably been the most interesting place that we have settled in. Our house is six miles from Gettysburg, Pa. I will never forget the plaque in the downstairs lobby at PHS with the Gettysburg Address on it. Remember, we all had to memorize it! It amazes my grandchildren that I can still quote some of it. Even after many visits to Gettysburg you always see something different or learn a little more history or folk lore. There are several restaurants in the area that have kept all the local charm and decor from that period in history. Some even serve menus that have foods that were served during the Civil War period. On any given weekend that are re-enactments and the streets are filled with ladies in their full finery from the era and both Yankee and Johnny Rebs in complete military regalia. Some are quite impressive. We are always happy to give friends a tour.

Not far from Gettysburg - about 15 miles South are the Catocin Mountains and that is where Camp David is located. You can see the mountains from our back deck. We drive through often; of course you cannot get near the site itself but there are identifying items. Former President Clinton played golf in the valley below and ate at several restaurants. Now when President Bush is there we are always aware of it because F16 jet fighters are over the entire area for the entire time. They just keep circling the area. Since 9-11 there have been many rumors, etc. of foreign intrigue around the Gettysburg and Camp David areas.

We are 50 miles north of Washington D.C. and go down as often as time permits. We have been to the Cherry Blossom Festival for the past five years and it is so beautiful and so crowded! So many nationalities are seen in Washington, especially at the Tidal Basin when the cherry trees are in full bloom. One very special way to see the city is by going on a dinner cruise along the Potomac river. When the grandchildren are visiting, we always take them on the trolley car tours.

Ron and I have been to ground zero in NYC and have seen the horrible, gaping hole in the Pentagon. September 11, 2001 has changed the lives and the attitudes of so many. May God truly bless America. Being that history has always been one of my favorite subjects, I have really enjoyed our stay over here. Now Ron is retiring and when we return from Florida, we will be selling our home here in Pennsylvania and return to Portsmouth. I do hope we can keep coming back to this area to visit. Especially in the Springtime!

*Bridget Goetz Bonzo*

## Last minute bulletins

- Blaine Bierley is recovering from a broken leg.
- Class of 1958 alert: Dot Thomas is trying to locate Ruth Ann Mussetter thru us. We don't know if she has a married name. Let Gene know.

## Grant School Clock

We've had a mobile home in Dunedin for the last couple years, and for many years have vacationed in the Tampa Bay area during the winter. I will be here until at least the first of April, perhaps longer, before returning north. I had heard that Grant and other grade schools were going to be torn down; that's what reminded me of the clock. Does any one reading this know what happened to the large regulator clock that hung in Grant school's principal's office when Richard Hopkins Sr. was the principal during the 40's and 50's?

Bill Meade and I often talk about that clock in Hopkins office and how we got into trouble with teachers at Grant and were made to stand in the hall outside the classroom or sent to the principal's office. Invariably Hopkins left the office, leaving you to stand and wait there until he returned, lectured you and sometimes gave you a few whacks with his paddle, before sending you back to your classroom. I remember waiting in his office, for what seemed an eternity, listening to the ticking of that clock.

If you know anything about it or can find out anything, please call me collect at 740-746-8944.

*Don Wallace*

## Note from Curt Gentry

Frank, I enjoyed reading your piece about Dick Klitch; however, part of the article was not true. Dick was not the only PHS student to win the Ohio singles tennis championship. In 1963, a black youngster by the name of Johnson Battle, the brother of world famous opera diva, Kathleen Battle, was the state singles tennis champ. Again, I hope to see you in October.

*your buddy, Curt Gentry*

## 1st EUB church

Glendon Herbert was the minister when we were in high school. Different people took turns leading the singing for Sunday school. Ella Brown was the one that gave as a hard time. Remember how she would try to pound the timing out on the hymnal.

Sad times: The church is empty and up for sale. The Trinity church on Gallia and Offnere Sts. which is now called Wesley talked our old church and Franklin Ave. church into merging. All the services are held at Wesley. They actual merged the service about one month ago. This way Wesley gets any money the other two had. They did the same thing with Bigelow about 10 or 12 years ago. They acquired the very large sum of money left Bigelow by the Selby family.

I hope another church buys the building because I sure would hate to see it torn down for another parking lot. That is what this town has turned into. Parking lots and empty buildings.

They are going to build a new high school and elementary for the Portsmouth students. They say they are not going to tear down PHS. It will be interesting to see what they do with it. The new building for high school will be built across the street taking in from Gallia to 9th street. Grant will be torn down and a new school built between Waller and Glover Streets.

Lots of memories in those buildings. Take care,  
*Jackie Buffington Carpenter*

*Editor's note:* During our high school years, Jackie played piano accompaniment for Al Oxley, Sam Skaggs and myself as we played trumpet trios every Sunday morning at First Evangelical Church at 7th and Gay Sts. After playing, we went back to the pastor's study where we sneaked out the back door until services were over. Confession is good!



## Donna McFarland Harris sent this from Wilson School

Row 1 at top : l to r - ?, James McGlone, Opal ?, Butch Carlson, ?, Janie Poole, ?, Miss Scaggs

Row 2: l to r - Danny ?, Delores Kempton, Bob Maple, Luther Irwin, Patty Lair, ?

Row 3: l to r - Donna McFarland, ?, Betty Fyffe, Juanita ?, ?, ray ?, ?, Harold Lawson, Gerald Lawson, ?, Jim Layton, Charles Gammon. *Ed note; there seems to be a mix up here, but that is what I was given.*