

# THE 1955 TROJAN *Alumni* PRINTS

February 2002

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Issue 9

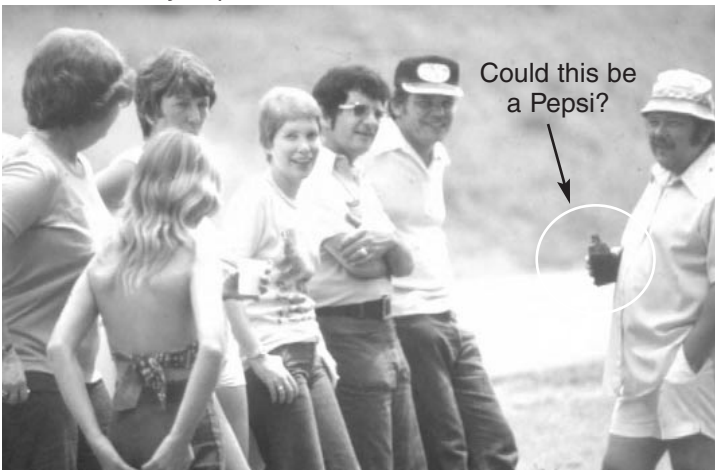
## Some Pictures from the 1980 Reunion



Sonny Stephenson, Gene Lucas and Bill Hobbs



Bill Clifford and Sonny (Murice) Stephenson



Could this be a Pepsi?

?, Lovel Pack, ?, Mike Zuliani, Jim Lauder, Bill Hilderbrand



Lovel Pack, Mike Zuliani, Jim Lauder, Ken Amick



Mike Zuliani, Jim Lauder, Phil Bickham  
Patty Conklin, Donna McFarland



Lovel Pack, Shirley Borders, ?, ??



### Support Our Web Site!

Everyone in the class (even if you are not "on-line" or own a computer) is encouraged to send photos or other matter to Tom Dupuy so that he can post it for the rest of the class and the world to see. Your class picture is already there. Now show or tell what you are doing now. This is the perfect way to keep in touch with old friends and to help find lost classmates. Please mail material to Tom DuPuy at: 1311 Hilllake Lane, Lebanon, Tn 37090 or email material to: tj@charter.net

## Noted Alumni

Many of us who hung around Mound Park will probably remember this gentleman. Or at least, we remember his father Herman who gave lessons in tennis and baseball to any kid who would pay attention. Particularly those of us who played tennis have always been in awe of him. He was a few years ahead of our class, but I believe all of our undefeated 1955 team had the privilege of watching him play. He would tear up his buddies like Jack Duchinski and Dick (or was it Dave) Chabot.



The following story was found on the internet. "Dick Klitch is a 1951 graduate of Portsmouth High School. While in high school, he won the Ohio High School State Tennis Championship. He is Portsmouth High School's only State High School Tennis Champion and has been inducted into his high school's Hall of Fame. Dick has served as an Ambassador for the City of Portsmouth. He attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He was the Number One Singles player and part of the Number One Doubles team all four years at Miami. During that time, he was both the singles and doubles champion of the Mid-American Conference. Dick actually attended Miami on a basketball scholarship and was part of three years of basketball championships in the conference. He graduated from Miami in 1955 and then served in the United States Navy where he was the All Navy Doubles Champion. Dick was inducted into the Miami University Hall of Fame. He continued his basketball with the AAU team at Akron Goodyear.

In 1961, he became the head pro at Northam Park. He was Swim and Racquet's first tennis pro. He has been the pro at Winding Hollow and Rocky Fork country clubs. Dick was the head pro and manager of Columbus Indoor Tennis Club and Windsong Tennis Club. He was the high school tennis coach at Upper Arlington and Columbus Academy.

Certainly a high-light was coaching his daughter, Jenny. She was on the Women's Tennis Association pro tennis tour for several years. He has coached over 20 Ohio High School state tennis champions and helped many young people attend college on a tennis scholarship.

It can truly be said of Dick Klitch, if a player has not had a lesson from him, the player on the other side of the net probably has."

Way to go Dick. PHS is proud of you.

## Address Goof:

In the last newsletter list of e-mail addresses it listed Peggy Cyrus Harvey's e-mail address as Siesta2ph@aol.com. Peggy Cyrus and Peggy Harvey are two different people. I'm not sure who Peggy Cyrus married [Harvey?], but Siesta2ph@aol.com is the e-mail address for Peggy Harvey.

## 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 Barley, or Bob Barker  
12. Tony  
8. Ed McConnell 9. Bert Parks or Bill Cullen 10. J. Carroll Nash  
ANSWERS

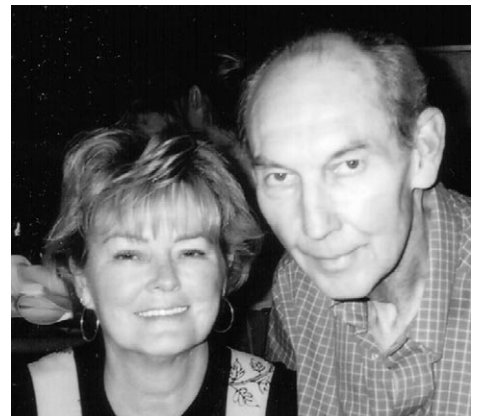
## Dr. George Obrist

Does anyone remember Portsmouth's unsolved murder? I do, because the day before it happened, the doctor victim made a house call at my home. I bit him when he tried to stick a tongue depressor into my mouth. He cussed me and my family out and left angry. I worried that I would be a prime suspect in his murder. Anyway, our "historian" Blaine Bierley, searched it out.

My mother says he spelled his name "Obrist." She graduated from Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in 1935 and worked with him while she was in training and says that he was "the Bierley (my grandmother & grandfather Bierley, who lived on 11th St. before they moved to Wayne Hills) family doctor."

She remembers that he was in general family practice and his office was on Gay Street, not in his home on Offner. She said that he was a good doctor with a big practice. She describes him as a stout fellow, big-jawed, and kind of sloppy, but a good doctor. He stuttered and when he started to stutter, he would cuss. She remembers that the suspect was his adult son. Supposedly they didn't get along, but nothing ever came of it. No charges were ever filed. Mother worked as a volunteer in the Portsmouth Red Cross with Mrs. Obrist after the doctor's death and Mother said that Mrs. Obrist had a hard time living down the "scandal."

## Sam Winters/with our Lord



Most of you already know that Sam peacefully passed away September 4, in our home, with Sam III holding his hand and the rest of us nearby. He is with God in Heaven and what a place to be on Christmas. We miss him every day but he will be with us in spirit and loving memories. We always planned our retirement in Arizona so I plan to stay here, as it feels like home.

I love getting calls and emails and can be reached by calling (602) 765-8030 or at Scottsdalerita@aol.com.

Please keep the Winters family in your prayers.

Rita Winters



Photo of Ray Mitchell taken at Talledega International Raceway as he fails to reach 110 mph.



## A Small World

I had a serendipitous experience on Christmas morning. I went to Scioto Memorial Hospital sorry, SOMC, to see Tom (Flip) Phillips, who is recovering from a broken femur. I had just delivered a small plastic bag of North Carolina giant red-skin peanuts, (which I had roasted in olive oil) and a copy of the 1955 newsletter to Flip. The newsletter contained a picture of Garfield Grade School's eighth grade football team, including Tony Price, who graduated in my class of 1957. I hadn't seen Tony for several years, and as I got onto the elevator, there was Tony. Unfortunately, he was at the hospital to be with his mother, who had just died at the age of 82.

Tony and I visited for several minutes, and I told him about the newsletter, and that Tom Phillips was in room 205, so I talked him into returning to Flip's room with me, so he could see the newsletter, and his picture. Tom, who has a remarkable memory, knew Tony right away, and although they had never been close, had a nice visit. Tony Price is today, what he was 45-years ago, one very nice person. He and his wife now live in Centerville, Tennessee. Tony was an outstanding athlete, and played quarterback on the PHS football team, and point guard on the basketball team. I'm sure he played baseball as well. Tony looked to be in playing trim. No weight gain for Tony. I was surprised he knew me, and he probably wouldn't have had I not said, Tony Price- I'm Jim Kegley. I was the voted the most-changed at most of my class reunions, I just matured earlier than most, because many of my classmates are now over-weight, and bald.

Oh, the roasted peanuts were the result of a gift to me of five 32 oz. Bags of raw peanuts compliments of Val Minch, of the PHS class of 1956. Val was in town to bring his father-in-law, Clyde Barney back from a visit to Val's Hickory, NC home. Val is married to another PHS graduate, Cheryl Barney, class of 1962.

Val and I ran into Jim Saddler, the retired Portsmouth fireman, and former U. S. Navy man, and Val and Jim got into a long discussion about tin cans, aircraft carriers, Med cruises, and

Norfolk, Virginia. Saddler told a serendipitous story regarding his time in or near the Suez Canal, back in the fifties.

"One evening we boarded one of those little Liberty Launches, that transferred sailors from one ship to another, or into port, and we got to go to another ship where they were having a smoker" A "smoker" in the parlance of the U. S. Navy, is an entertainment production, and the night Saddler was talking about, the smoker was to be a fleet boxing match. Jim said one of the boxers, a fly-weight, or bantam-weight was Ronnie Lodwick, who grew up on Mabert Road, and attended Garfield School. "I was really surprised to hear them say, "Ronnie Lodwick", Portsmouth, Ohio when they announced the boxers. Ronnie held up his end. He beat the hell out of the guy he was fighting. Then, they got down to the heavy-weight class, and they announced the boxers. "Ramblin, Wimpy Cooper", and I said, "I know him, he's from Portsmouth!" and sure enough it was the Wimpy I knew. Wimpy also beat the hell out of the guy he fought." Wimpy was Elza (Rick or Wimpy) Cooper.

Jack Rickman, of Portsmouth, was also on "The Shenandoah" (aircraft carrier) with me.

On another occasion, Jim Saddler was at Charlestown, Rhode Island, and was working crash-boat duty, in the bay, and one of those submarine hunter, two-man planes ditched, and the two flyers were bobbing in the water.

We got out to them, and I can remember reaching down into the water and pulling one of the pilots out by the scruff of the neck. He was a small, and a very young man. Well, they whisked both of them off to hospitals, and I didn't see them again. Years later, when I was in the U. S. Navy reserves, on Charles Street, I was walking down the hall one day, and a lieutenant was walking my way, so I saluted him. He stopped me and said, "Aren't you Jim Saddler?" and I responded "yes," he said, "I was the pilot you picked out of the drink in Charlestown Harbor. my name is Dennis Rider." Dennis Rider still lives up in Sciotoville, on Bonser Road, I think," said Jim. *Jim Kegley*

## Old picture finds a real hero



Bob Hobstetter, Fred Ramsey, Frank Hunter

Jane and I were car shopping Saturday and ran into Bill Hobstetter at Oberlings, I told him about this pix and sent him a copy of it and he confirmed that it was Charles "Bob" his brother. Bob died tragically in attempting to save another persons life in the Washington D.C. area. While serving as a fireman and the rescue of five people during a flash flood, Bob tried to save a fellow fireman and they both lost their lives. He made the heroic effort and sacrifice at the age of 30.

Bill states that Bob worked For WTTG TV in Washington D. C. and was a volunteer for Chillum-Adelphia Fire Dept. He died in Aug. 1969 leaving his wife Nina who has remarried and now lives in Maine, and a Daughter Diana, who was 5 yrs. old when he died. She now lives in California and is an artist. She went through college with a grant from heros anonymous. Bob enjoyed being a fire fighter and had been hurt before so he knew the risks of his job. The Bride they died at in the flood is named for them. *Fred and Jane Ramsey*

## Seeing General Ike

It was September, 1952, when General Dwight D. Eisenhower came to Portsmouth, Ohio. He was the Republican Party's candidate for President of the United States. His campaign in Ohio was being conducted by railroad train "whistle stops" all across the state.

Ike stopped in Portsmouth for about an hour on his way to Columbus and Cleveland from Cincinnati. The entire town was in an uproar. I was a sophomore at Portsmouth High School and the entire school was dismissed about 10 am to go down to the Norfolk and Western Railroad Depot to see and hear him. I remember walking over to the depot with Bob Boorman and Jim Bodmer that morning to see this legendary man and his wife. Everyone in the crowd, there must have been several thousand of us, tried to get as close to the rear of his campaign railroad car as we could. Local Republican campaign officials were passing out "I Like Ike" campaign pins. I took several of them for souvenirs. I'm proud to state that I still have one of them in my "memento" box in my "junk" drawer. I saw one just like it in an antique shop in Lebanon, Ohio, last summer. It was \$6.00!

I have no recollection of what the General said that day. I do remember his famous grin and he and Mamie waving to the crowd as his train pulled away from the station heading to Columbus. I also clearly remember the crowd chanting, "We like Ike!" There should have been a band playing, but there wasn't. I was glad that I got a chance to see General Ike and equally glad that we didn't have to go back to school for the rest of the day.

The thing that helps stick this mid-September, 1952, event in my mind is that it was that next weekend that Senator Richard M. Nixon, the Vice Presidential Candidate with Ike, made his famous "Checkers" speech to the nation on television from his home in California. I remember watching it on Sunday evening. Nixon talked in detail about his personal finances—he wanted the audience to know that he was "poor." At the end of his speech he told us that no matter what happened, his family was going to keep their Cocker Spaniel dog, Checkers, that they had received as a gift.

Ike was in Cleveland that Sunday night and asked Nixon to fly to West Virginia to meet him later that week. Nixon's place on the Republican ticket was secured after that.

Needless to say, Ike and "Tricky Dick" won a landslide victory in November over the Democratic candidates, Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois and Senator John M. Sparkman of Alabama. The electoral vote was 442 to 85.

Also, needless to say, General Ike carried Portsmouth by a wide margin.

*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 welcome to subscribe and submit items.



Patty Conklin on the now torn down U.S. Grant Bridge



Peach Thompson and Marlene Larch

### **A Note From Ray Mitchell**

Hi Frank, I haven't talked to you since high school. Guess that was back in 1955. Wow! I guess even then I was not much of a talker. I see Clayton Howerton once in a while. I just live down the street from him. I did take him to Portsmouth this summer to Bill Clifford's restaurant. Some of the classmates meet there. We saw a bunch of people such as Bill Clifford, Gene Lucas and his wife, Dave Marting, Donna McCally. I know I am leaving out some of our friends and for that I am sorry. My memory is not there sometimes. The meeting was great and I am glad that I took Clayton. I think he enjoyed himself too. Dave Marting looks just the same. He was one of my best buddies.

I went to the football reunion this summer too. It was really great seeing everyone and everyone told great stories. I was particularly glad to see Bob and Nancy (Cox) Otworth, Jim Gardner, Bill Meade, and good old Preston Smith. I want to thank Don and Lois Wallace for being thoughtful and kind enough to host this event and to even

think of having it while we could still go. I just wish Mike Zuliani could have been there. He was and is a great person. he sends me jokes once in a while that I share with my dealers.

I ran into Jack Burgess and his son at the local Kroger store a few weeks ago. He looks and acts the same as always. We had a nice talk about the last fifty years in just five short minutes.

I could ramble on but I won't. I received a photo of a bunch of old people. There was no cover letter or names to the photo. I could not recognize one person. I put the picture down to use the rest room. While washing my hands, out of habit I looked at myself in the mirror. I was shocked. I realized that I was as old as the people in the photo. Then it became apparent. The people were my classmates. I began to put a few names to the pictures.

I had always felt that I was too busy to attend the many class reunions we have had. If I had only known the truth. In short, if still living and God willing, I will be at the fiftieth reunion.

*Ray Mitchell*

### **Seniors**

I'm the life of the party... even when it lasts until 8 p.m. I'm very good at opening childproof caps with a hammer. I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going. I'm good on a trip for at least an hour without my aspirin and antacid. I'm the first one to find the bathroom wherever I go. I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up. I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a word you're saying. I'm very good at telling stories... over- and over and over. I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not as bright as mine. I'm so cared for: long term care, eye care, Medicare, dental care. I'm not grouchy, I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds or politicians. I'm positive I did housework correctly before my mate retired. I'm sure everything I can't find is in a secure place. I'm wrinkled, saggy, and lumpy and that's just my left leg. I'm having trouble remembering simple words like... I'm realizing that aging is not for sissies. I'm walking more (to the bathroom) and enjoying it less. I'm going to reveal what goes on behind closed doors, absolutely nothing! I'm sure they are making adults much younger these days. I'm in the initial stage of my golden years: SS, CD's, IRA'S and AARP. I'm a walking storeroom of facts... I've just lost the key to it. I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!!



Jim Elliott and Patty Conklin at the pool

### **From Kate Doty Collier**

These pictures were taken this past October. Ron, Joanne, Judy and I along with our spouses were on Sanibel Island, Florida for vacation. Flossy and Patty live close enough to meet Joanne and Ron for dinner.



Ron Horton, Judy Hartshorn Amos, Katherine Doty Collier, Joanne Doty Horton

Flossy Lehman Factor, Ron Horton, Joanne Doty Horton, Patty Brown Wheeler