

Class of '57 Newsletter

September 2006

Volume 20

New Look

You will notice that the newsletter has a new and different look. After Joe and Dee Yoder returned from a month's visit to the farmlands of Indiana this summer, Joe discovered that his trusty, old (1995), computer had crashed, big time. Not being really very knowledgeable about new computers, (even his wife's lap-top is new to Joe) he fumed and fretted about what to do to publish this newsletter. Joe worked and worked to create an addressing system. He thought and thought about how to get the computer to do the work for him. After a month and a half of fuming and thinking, Joe realized that he could do it. He found the instructions imbedded in Dee's lap-top. They were not too different from the old ones of with which Joe was familiar. So he set to work and indeed created a program that did the work of addressing the envelopes.

Over the years Joe has learned or realized that when one wants to do something bad enough one usually can get it done.

You will notice that there are no black lines around the articles, and the e-mail addresses are no longer printed. We will try to update any changes that we know about. This may be difficult as some of this information got pretty banged up when Joe's computer crashed.

Mission Statement

It is the purpose of the Class of '57 Newsletter to keep our class members informed as to address changes and minor/major happenings.

Lucky Find

During the recent winter months Thom and Barb Feit traveled around the United States in an RV that they bought from a man in Chicago. The Feits were gone for several months during which time they visited with Joanie Schang Blain in San Diego, CA.

The Feits traveled around the southwest U. S. and eventually landed in Mesa, Arizona. They immediately fell in love with the area for several reasons. There were plenty of interesting places to go in every direction and not too far away, possibly two hours at the most. The dry air was quite agreeable and helped Thom conquer his allergies which continually nagged at him in Indiana and also in Florida. So they started inquiring about places to live in the Mesa area. They soon found a single wide house trailer that looked to be in decent repair and the cost was great! They were able to purchase the place fully furnished for an (unbelievable) \$750.00. Needless to say they wrote a check and became the new owners. Thom will continue to make trips to Indianapolis where he works with the Lilly foundation in funding monies for computers in the school system.

When asked, "Who of the two is the more adventurous?" Thom said that it was his wife Barb. He feels lucky to have found her when he first worked in Peru, Indiana. If he had not found Barb, he said, "I'd still be stuck in Peru, Indiana teaching English and Theatre."

CCHS ALUMNI DAY

The Columbia City High School Alumni Association will hold its annual CCHS "Alumni Day" on Saturday October 7, 2006. The event will be held in Columbia City in conjunction with the special 130th Anniversary Celebration and Homecoming of CCHS.

The event will be held at the school on Saturday with the help of current CCHS National Honor society students decorating the cafeteria and giving guided tours of CCHS.

County Historian Travels by Motorcycle

By Jenica Schultz
Post & Mail staff writer

When county historian Jeanette Wince Brown doesn't have her nose buried in history books she's out riding her motorcycle.

The 66-year old retired great-grandmother once rode her motorcycle all the way to Canada.

"I was never so cold and so tired in my life," she said.

Brown enjoys the sense of kinship she's experienced riding with groups. She said any trip made on a motorcycle is far more memorable than a trip in a car.

"You really have to watch the cars. You pretend that they're all aiming at you because often they are,"

Jeanette can't remember when she got into riding motorcycles just as she can't remember when she first became interested in researching Whitley County's history.

A lifelong Whitley County resident, she said she's always had a passion for history, which she majored in as a student at Manchester College.

The Whitley County Historical Society nominated Brown to be the county historian, a position appointed by the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Bureau.

"It's not much pay, but it's a lot of fun – in fact, there's no pay at all," Jeanette said.

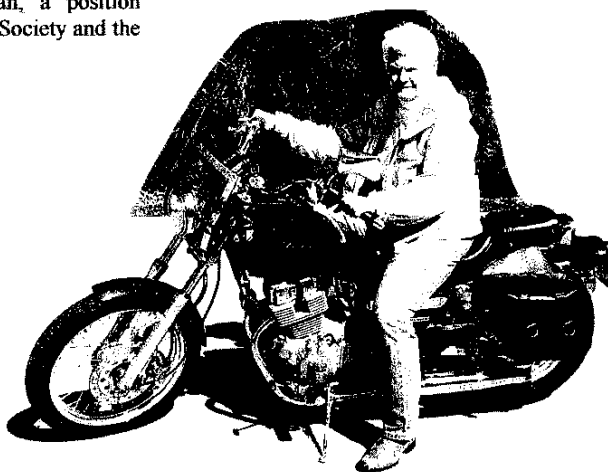
County historians coordinate historical information sources for their areas. Brown helps people find what they need to know about Whitley County's past. She said she works with archives 30 to 40 hours a week. "When you get older history means more to you."

Jeanette has been helping with a county project to transcribe records from the archives into a computer system.

Jeanette said part of what inspired her to take the county historian position was an interaction she had with an 80-year old woman years ago. When she was a case manager for the Council on Aging, she once paid a visit to an elderly woman late in the evening. When the woman didn't answer the door, Jeanette assumed the woman was getting ready for bed. It turned out that the woman was getting ready, not for bed, but for a meeting.

Jeanette said she does just about everything she did when she was 30 years old, although she sometimes doesn't last as long doing them. She takes long walks, bikes, goes to the YMCA, rides her motorcycle and takes her golden retriever, Misty, out for rides on the paddleboat.

"I'd try most anything once, except skydiving"



Back into the Trash Business

Gene Heckman had experience collecting garbage & trash back in the 1940's when he would go with his father to the old YMCA camp on Round Lake to get garbage that was fed to the Heckman's hogs. Heckman's dad said, "Son you've always wanted a way to get into the trash business, and I thought this was a good way to go." Gene had been in the trash business for 20 years in the past. His dad bought a garbage route in 1957 and Gene bought it from his father in 1971. He owned the route until 1991 when he sold it to a company called ServAll. The route served 8,000 residential contracts and 160 commercial clients. Heckman has also been in charge of Fort Wayne's waste removal for several years. This served more than 50,000 clients. Gene has now taken the position of the new director of the Whitley County Solid Waste District.

Another Dream Fulfilled

Bob Hall has fulfilled another of his dreams which is to fly over the Rocky Mountains in his Cessna. While on his trip, Bob was able to stop and visit with Barbra Carver Fry in Utah and Judy King Yockey in Montana. Bob reports that Judy is hopefully going to attend the 50th class reunion next fall, on September 8, 2007.

On the Road to Recovery

Patty Cerbaugh Seivers is very sick. She needs your prayers, thoughts & cards. Patty's address is 1103 S. Raber Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725

Pat Gibson Conrad is recovering and doing well after having a cyst on her midsection. Larry did well in nursing her back to health.

Plans in the Making

Plans are being made for the 50th reunion for the Class of '57. The following was taken from the Columbia City High School Alumni Association's web sight.

The 50th reunion for the Class of 1957 is set for Saturday, September 8, 2007, at Eagle's Nest Event Center in Columbia City. Mark your calendars now. More details to follow in the months ahead.

Serving on the reunion committee are: Rex Carpenter, Rosalie Farber Kleespie, Eugene Heckman, Shirley Hosler, Carol Schuman Krider, Janis Smith Kelly, Barbara Snapp Klopfenstein, and Patty Winebrenner Goldsby (who will be in charge of decorations).

Rex Carpenter, chairman of the 50th reunion event, requests that anyone interested in helping with the 50th reunion contact him by email to rexcarpenter@msn.com or phone 683-422-0390 (winter) or 260-248-8408 (summer).

Hopefully most of you will find a way to be attendance on September 8th. You will be receiving information about separate township gatherings like we had for the 40th reunion. If you think that we might not have the correct address please contact Joe Yoder at 3636 Country Club Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33904. Or Carol Schuman Krider, 4590 W. Platner Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725

Washington Center Reunion

Pauline Juillerat reports that the Washington Center Alumni Association is having an all school reunion on October 1, 2006. Reservations are due to Pauline Scott 406 S. Pumpkin Ridge, Columbia City, IN by September 20. Cost is \$20.

Did You Know

The following is a collection of trivia that has been supplied by various class members. Each fact pertains in some way to different classmates.

Indiana's most important livestock commodity is hogs. But, they are no longer fed garbage!

The coldest spot in the United States is Cut Bank, Montana. There is a statue of a penguin which is holding a plaque stating this fact. Larry Wolf lives in Cut Bank, Montana.

Lloyd Douglas, the author of "The Robe", "Magnificent Obsession", and "The Big Fisherman" was born and raised in Columbia City. The house in which he lived is now gone, but is close to where the Dairy-Queen is now located.

Harold Yoder reports that there is a Columbia City, Oregon. More is known about fruit flies than any other species because of their use in scientific experiments. Harold also reports that Salt Lake City, Utah gets a higher average snowfall than Fairbanks, Alaska.

Our parents, if they brushed their teeth, had to use toothbrushes in which the brush part was made with hog bristles from a boar. Nylon bristles were not introduced until 1938.

A fly's blood is a clear or yellowish liquid. The little bit of red that appears when you squash a fly comes from its eye.

Address Changes

A former classmate has been found and added to our list of addresses.

Anita Eddingfield Osborn
1105 Laguna Lane
Greenwood, IN 46143

Ruth Ann Bowie Davis (starting October 1, 06)
400 Lane 201 Ball Lake
Hamilton, IN 46742

Ruth Ann Bowie Davis (starting May 1, 2007)
104 Martinique Rd.
North Port, FL 34287

Thom Feit
120 N. Val Vista Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85213

New Email Address

Anita Eddingfield sosborn1@visteon.com
Pauline Juillerat Bruch pbruch@kconline.com
Thom Feit thomfeit@cox.net

Keith Prichard

Mr. Keith Prichard is alive and well and living in Kentucky. In a recent letter to the Post and Mail, Mr. Prichard said that he has fond memories of his two years in Columbia City. After leaving the area he attended Harvard University where he obtained his Doctorate Degree. Mr. Prichard taught at Wake Forest University, the University of Virginia, and University of Nebraska. His fondest memories are of his time teaching in Columbia City.

Mr. Prichard's address is 3423 Woodspring Dr., Lexington, KY 40515

Farewell to Family & Friends

Judy King Yockey's father Herschell King passed away on July 2, 2006. Herschell was 94 years old. The following are excerpts from the obituary published in the Columbia City Post & Mail.

Herschell led a varied and very interesting life. To start with he weighed 12 lbs at birth which was performed on the kitchen table. He was born on Flag Day, June 14, 1912 which was very appropriate because Herschell was a patriot and very proud of his country.

When Herschell was a child he really enjoyed fishing. He spent many hours walking the banks of Pipe Creek, which was located behind his home, fishing for small mouth bass. His parents, had lost an older son to diphtheria and feared for Herschell's safety. They forbid him going to the creek to fish, but Hersch would not be deterred from his desire to catch the big one, so his parents chained him to a tree in the yard. Hersch bribed a younger sister to bring him a file with the promise of some candy. He used the file to free himself so that he could go fishing.

Hersch knew the meaning of timing. As a teenager he was riding in a car with three friends who decided to go to a silent movie in Elwood IN. While he was changing his clothes the friends drove around the block and were hit by a train and killed. Herschell led a full and fortunate life.

Herschell attended Purdue and Ball State University. He earned a degree in Industrial Arts and also guidance and counseling. Although Hersch played a lot of basketball, baseball was his favorite. Just hours before his cardiac arrest at the hospital he told his granddaughter that he was so upset that the NBA selection show had preempted the baseball game on ESPN.

Herschell did have one misfortune which occurred during his first year of teaching industrial arts. While trying to save a student from an accident with a power saw, Hersch cut off the index and middle finger of his favored hand. He was therefore unable to throw baseballs from the catcher's mound. This ended his future in baseball. Even with this disappointment, perhaps his only regret in his 94 years was that his Chicago Cubs never won the World Series.

Herschell's first job was to coach the Frankton basketball team to a 30-24 record, losing 15 games by 4 points or less. When he resigned from the Frankton Schools, he said that his players were very talented and the reason for the close losses was the coach. Years later he would help to mold lives in the Columbia City school system coaching basketball, baseball, and golf.

Herschell King was a true educator, insisting that curriculum be designed to meet the needs and varied abilities of all students. As a counselor he worked with those who were destined for college, military, and various walks of life. He challenged many students by finding jobs for students with different businesses and industries in the Columbia City area.

Herschell King is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, his daughter Judy, and his son Tom King.

Mr. King touched many of our lives while in the Columbia City school system.

Another Farewell

Marsha Sevits Brady and her husband John bid farewell to their daughter, Dannel, who died of bone cancer on April 30th. She was 48 years old and is survived by her husband and two children.

Treasurer's Report

August 2006 Statement

Beginning Balance	02/01/06	\$661.57
Receipts		
Checking Balance		\$661.57
Disbursements (Eagle's Glenn)		\$100.00
Total Checking Balance		\$561.57
Flower Fund Account		\$130.21
Disbursements		\$27.56
Balance		\$103.21
Newsletter Account		\$91.86
Donation		\$25.00
Disbursements		\$75.30
Newsletter Account Balance		\$41.56
Checking Account Balance		\$706.34
Treasurer		
Janis Smith Kelly		

Donations Needed

- As you can easily see by Janet's report, funds for the newsletter are running low. Some of you, that Joe Yoder talked to while in Indiana during the month of June said that, "I really have intended to do something for the class or for the newsletter". Well here is your chance to send a monetary donation to Janis Smith Kelly, 804 E. Jefferson St., Columbia City, IN 46725. Indicate what your donation is for; flowers or newsletter. Money for this publication will come from the general fund.

Travelers

Tom and Bonnie Felger have returned to their home in Ft. Wayne, IN after spending two and half weeks in England, Scotland, and Wales. They were in London during the "shut down" because of terrorist movements. They were unable to travel on the subway, but got around just fine on the double-decker busses. They were most impressed with Edinburgh where they and 8,998 other travelers watched an event called the "Tattoo" which is a very big event in Edinburgh. To view this festival, the Felgers climbed a very steep hill. Tickets had been sold out for six months previous to the big event, but the tour on which Tom and Bonnie were traveling supplied their tickets. There were people from all over the world who were entertained along the way, up the hill, by street entertainers and bag pipers (Scotland). They heard "God Save the Queen" and people cheering when their country was called out by a person on the loud speaker. There were dancers from China, singers from Africa and bands from Australia. Near the end of the festival the bagpipers and the Scottish dancers played and performed the Highland Fling. The castle, built in the 1200's, was all lit up with choral groups singing in the doorways. The evening ended with everyone singing Aulde Lang Syne. Tom and Bonnie were impressed with the conduct of the people around them. There was no shouting, pushing or lewd comments as there might have been in our country.

The Felgers also had the opportunity to tour the castle used in the Harry Potter movies. And they also visited Stonehenge.

Because of the crackdown in the airports the Felgers had to have their film developed and in their suitcase before leaving. They also had to bag up their cosmetics to be carried in their suitcase. Bonnie had taken along plastic bags.

They say they would return to the UK only after traveling to other places. They have gotten the travel bug and intend to do more traveling overseas.