



SHS '44 Newsletter

Summer 2010

For Alumni of Shorewood High School, Shorewood, Wisconsin

Vol.11 No.1

Spotlights

9/13/09: **Jean Hawtrey Birnie** wrote "Once again you have come up with a most interesting newsletter. I have read it carefully with my 1944 Copperdome at my side. The names in the letter were all familiar to me, but sometimes I couldn't remember the faces. The Copperdome helped to recall these people even though 65 years have passed with the "growing older" stigma in evidence.

"Thank you for the research and the time spent in this wonderful endeavor. With that in mind I am enclosing a modest check to help in publishing this letter.

"I will just add that my husband, graduate of Thomas Jefferson high school in Richmond, Virginia also reads the letter. I think he enjoys it since his high school has no such Alumni Association and he does not keep up with his former classmates.

"We are very much enjoying living at Foxdale [State College, PA], our retirement home. There are many people, also from State College we have known in the 65 years we have lived in this town and we have met many people from other parts of the country who have heard about this wonderful place and have chosen to retire here. Its proximity to Penn State is also a draw with all of the activities that this University offers."

9/14/09: **Marion Mehigan Masek** sent a nice note thanking me for the newsletter. The notepaper was framed in cat sketches; has she forgotten what our mascot is? Oil and water, that sort of thing. She's done a lot of traveling recently: Russia, Egypt, France and Australia. She is enjoying playing bridge and gardening in

San Juan Capistrano.

9/8/09: Correction: **Melvin Bernstein** emailed "Thanks very much for the newsletter received today. It is always good to hear of the activities of the class members. There was an error in the small mention of us. We are not in a nursing home. What I said was that we are in a retirement community which is much different. The Glenview [Naples, FL] is an excellent place and we remain quite active. We walk, play bridge and have many interests. This place is spacious, comfortable and very easy living. Hope all is well with you."

9/16/09: **Marguerite Aylward Weaver** wrote "I don't write you often because life, while calm and pleasing, might not make very good copy. I don't care much for travel, but am enjoying retirement immensely; still swim three times a week and have a new/renewed interest in ballroom dancing. The garden club also keeps me busy as do a couple of women's clubs.

"All in all, no complaints; just grateful for good health and vitality.

I'm in close touch with my sons Paul and John and daughters Mary and Ann, despite their being scattered around the country in California, Missouri and Florida as well as here in Illinois. Daughter Annie has finished her second book and writes a popular column in the St. Petersburg Times about "her" dolphins in the Tampa Bay.

"I also have a granddaughter who is in her last year at University of the Pacific in Anchorage, Alaska.

"I've been sorrowed by the loss of more of us passing but thank you so much for letting us know."

9/26/09: **Art Gaulke** wrote “We continue to maintain and enjoy our lake home in Northern Wisconsin during much of the summer. Gayle and I have sold our California condo (in 2005) and now rent for several months in Rancho Bernardo (northern San Diego area) where we enjoy being with old friends - with a bit of golf and tutoring reading to second graders a day each week as a part of our schedule while we are there. The balance of our year is at our retirement apartment in Milwaukee near our son's family. We plan to expand the Milwaukee time as dictated by our health and personal needs.”

9/23/09: **Lenore Meyers Clark** sent an email “... I moved to a retirement community in Evanston, Illinois a little over a year ago, after 55 years of living in Norman, Oklahoma. With the death of my husband and the breakdown (literally!) of my body, I reluctantly faced reality. Huge change! I miss my home and many good Oklahoma friends, but there are upsides: A marvelous neighborhood right in the middle of downtown Evanston, an apartment with some 55 compatible residents, abundant activities and services, and the opportunity to see more of my family and a few old friends. Give my best to everybody.

10/15/2009: Duane Thorson sent a nice note about his wife **Corky Wilcox Thorsen**. “I wonder how wide a swath she cut in high school. But I want you to know she was a true brilliant gem in her life with me.

“She volunteered and she cooked and cleaned and mothered and grandmothered and you name it, she was there. She loved to cook. Her friends said many wonderful things about her. She always wore a skirt. She kept track of her bridge club. And she was nice and laughing while doing it. Well, you get the idea.

“I feel humble at times. I was so lucky to meet her on a blind date at her home on Morris Blvd.”

10/18/09: **Udo Hilbert** says “The last time I wrote to you I said my goal was to make it to age 80. Now it’s to make it to 84 which is a bit of a

Deaths:
Mannie Hassel, December 19, 2009

stretch. I’ve added six more stents and had my left carotid artery cleaned out that the surgeon said was 95% plugged. In spite of that thanks to my cardiologist of 32 years, I am still active and in otherwise good health.

“I am still living in the home I built myself in 1955 and take care of my yard work except I hire a neighbor to mow the lawn. I have a big yard with about 250 feet of garden around the perimeter. I may need help next year.

“Speaking of neighbors I have a widow to my left (west), a recent widow next to her, a Sr. Flight attendant next to her. Across the street is a young lovely nurse, next to her are two women, one who was married for 25 years, divorced and decided she prefers a woman partner. I have become quite a tolerant person and we are very good friends. They often cook dinner for me, really great meals. On my right is an internationally known Celtic harpist and her partner is a concert violinist. They are also good friends and comprise our three-family social group. Throughout the fall we cook out often. My violinist friend is somewhat of a wine expert so that is always part of dinners. One of the women across the street is involved in the Indian summerfest and can get me free tickets for any of four various music or ethnic fests. The violinist gets me free tickets to the Milwaukee symphony. I also get all of the harpists CDs free. I now have eight and the music is beautiful. Now if I could only find someone to pay my taxes I’d have it made.

“I now have eight grand children and three great grandchildren. Never thought I’d see the day. All of the above women are single but of no interest to me with the exception of Kim the harpist but I could be her father and besides there is no one who could take the place of my wonderful wife (Lois Leer, class of ‘46) who died six years ago.”



Udo sent along a picture of the house he built. "I became a carpenter, stone cutter, plumber, roofer and a few more occupation person, took 6 months but it was worth it. My mortgage payment was \$66 a month."

10/3/09: Lois Grabin Hurwitz reports "This past weekend I attended an art fair that was held on the grounds of S.H.S. Among the many booths was an S.H.S. Alumni booth.

"Enclosed are the pamphlets that they were giving out. I thought you would be interested in reading them. Also the doors to the school were open, wandering through brought back great memories of many years ago.

PS: Notice that the S.H.S. newsletter is still called the Ripples!!"

[Note: The "Summer 2009/Eighth edition" pamphlet "The Shorewood Connection" had no reference to anyone prior to 1960. It included an email address to which I sent a message and have not received a response as yet. The group has a web site at <http://www.shorewoodalumni.org> at which you can see their newsletter. Membership is \$20 per year.]

10/1/09: John Faville sent "... I guess I missed your email about "reporters." I'll help if I can. As I've said before, many of my friends were in the class of '45 as I entered as a sophomore.... Do you suppose we'll have a 70th in 2014?"

[Probably no 70th - I gather that it's not been possible to find enough volunteers to organize

one, and then too, since so many of us are finding it difficult to travel these days that the people who were involved in past reunions believe attendance would be very low.]

6/28/10: Fred Beutler sent along some photos of the Hobo Day our class enjoyed. One of my class email correspondents said she'd never heard of Hobo Day so it sent me off to the '44 Copperdome where I found a couple of hobo day pictures. I'll include here some of the pictures Fred sent my way - see if you can recognize anyone.... I can, at least one, and not just because Fred identified it either. Look at Fred's identifications on the last page.

Hobo Day #1:



Hobo Day #2, 3



He tells me that he's having a one-man show of his photography in the Ann Arbor Public Library in October. If you'd like to see some of the photography work he's been doing you can see it on his web site - <http://web.me.com/fbeutler>.

Hobo Day #4



As usual I can only beg being very busy these days as an excuse for getting this newsletter out much later than I wished; given the post office's criteria I lose track of people if I don't publish at least once every six months - and usually the only time I find out that someone has moved is when the newsletter is returned. The delay has nothing to do with funds, I have plenty in the kitty for more newsletters.

Keeping me busy, besides running four active web sites, has been getting two projects going for the town of Dewey Beach, DE,

where we spend most of our time in the summer. One was setting up the real-time video streaming of the town meetings to its web site and the other was setting up and running the BeachCam - a camera showing random pictures of the beach at Dewey. If you're curious you can see it by first going to the internet site <http://www.deweytown.us> and then following the camera link.

OK, now here are Fred's identifications: In the first photo he says the participants are Jim Heller, Carolyn Sheets, Beverly Becker and himself. He isn't sure about #2, but says the same thing I would - very familiar and a look through the Copperdome would tell me. Well I was wrong - my moldy (went through a flooded basement) copy didn't help. Neither Fred nor I had any problem with #3 - Ruth "Cookie" Offsen.

For #4 we are both completely lost. I recognize the girl in front, but I can't put a name to her. Can You? If interested I'm sure Fred would send you copies via email if you asked - [fbeatler@comcast.net](mailto:fbeutler@comcast.net).

As usual I'd like to ask you to send me news - not only of yourselves but of other classmates you remain in touch with. The only real trouble I have with putting this newsletter together is taking the time to get the content. If you'd like to be a reporter I can provide you with a list of classmates and their last known address and phone number for you to contact. Oh yes - statistics: 111 living, 127 deceased, 10 missing.:

Richard Cleaveland
35010 Cadbury Circle West
Lewes, DE 19958

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**Shorewood High School Class
of 1944 Newsletter**
Check our class web site:
<http://www.rgcle.com/SHS44>