



# Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XIII No. 23

July 1994

## WHY PAY ALUMNI DUES?

This question comes up each year as new graduates receive his or her first alumni newsletter. There is no requirement to becoming an alumnus other than your diploma. But, to provide you with information on various activities, goals, highlights, etc. about future happenings, a scheduled newsletter provides the details. As you know, there is a cost for this service. A considerable amount of membership dues goes towards the costs to publish and mail this periodical four times each year. We also award a scholarship each year to a deserving senior. Drama Department support for plays and musicals has been a strong focus the past few years as well as buying hats and overlays for the Taft Marching Band and a laser printer for the Journalism Department. These funds came from fund raisers and donations. It is an advantage to have your name listed in our alumni file, as it will be available for a class reunion notice when one of your class members (or even you) decide to probe such a possibility. With Alumni guidelines and assistance, this venture is much easier to arrange. As a "Sponsoring Alumni" you can help make this association the largest, most responsive group of high schools in the area. It shows that Taft graduates are dedicated to the school's principles and carry forth a tradition which no other high school can compare. We "got" our roots at Taft and they are strong and enduring. I urge the 9,000 non-paying Taftites to get on the "band wagon" and join the 3,500 supporting Eagles. We go forward with Pride and Determination, and your added financial aid will strengthen our treasury and give added confidence to our Alumni volunteers. We work closely with the

PTA and Local School Council helping where needed. We look forward to continuing help where needed. With everyone's cooperation, we can sing "GO TAFT GO" with more enthusiasm and vigor. LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

## WELCOME CLASS OF 1994

Congratulations to the graduating class of 1994. You are now part of a special group of people known as the Alumni of Taft High School. The purpose of the Taft Alumni Association is to provide a means for Taft Alumni to continue or renew friendships begun at Taft, provide service to the school and most importantly, to preserve its history. We publish the newsletter four times per year to keep you informed what other alumnus are doing and invite you to special events at Taft. As you continue your education, work a full time job or get married, remember us. Drop a line to let us know your new name or address and what you've been doing since graduation. This information will be very helpful for your first class reunion 5 or 10 years from now. An application form to join the Association is on the back page of this newsletter. The membership fee is \$10 for two years. Best of luck to you. Be proud to say you came from Taft High School.



### **Caribbean Island Home**

Spacious, private, fully equipped  
2 bedroom, 2 bath villa  
in beautiful tropical setting.  
Daily maid service. Snorkeling/scuba  
off private dock. Management on site.  
For brochure and rates,  
contact June Ploen, '47,  
at (312) 775-6703, M-F, daily.

**GIBSON POINT**

**ROATÁN  
THE BAY ISLANDS**

### **POST OFFICE CURVE BALL**

Wonders never cease! Just when the U.S. Postal Service has the lowest customer satisfaction in its history, it is giving us another reason to question its purpose of being. Last month we received notice by way of a postal bulletin that a bill was passed in October, 1993 changing the way non-profit organizations may use the bulk mail service. Special Bulk Third Class Eligibility Restrictions prohibit the use of advertising in our newsletters, effective September 4, 1994. No warning. No explanation. No chance to protest. Just a flat "NO"!

The mandate covers any and all products or services advertised must be substantially related to the exercise or performance of the organization of one or more purposes with the basis of authority of the organization to keep that special rate.

Therefore, all our alumni supporters such as those included in this newsletter (with the exception of the "Class of 42") will no longer be allowed. We will be contacting each of the current advertisers personally regarding the handling of the balance of their advertising contract.

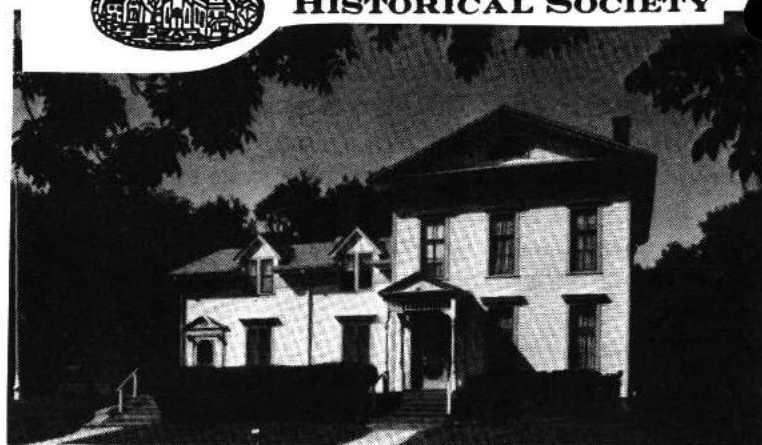
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### **COMMEMORATIVE PLATES**

The Norwood Park Historical Society issues from time to time commemorative plates depicting various landmarks of Norwood Park. One that is of particular interest to us shows Taft from a 1942 photo facing Natoma Avenue that commemorates the 50th Anniversary of Taft's founding, 1939-1989. A capsule history of Taft is on the back. These collector plates are fired in limited quantities, so can only increase in value as time passes. If you are interested in obtaining one for yourself, a few plates are available on a first come, first serve basis. Cost is \$25, which includes a plate hanger and all shipping and handling costs. Call or write to Tom Spenny (class of January, 1958) at the Norwood Park Historical Society, 5624 N. Newark Avenue in Chicago Illinois 60631. Phone 312/631-4633. Or you can visit the museum any Saturday from Noon to 4 P.M. Proceeds benefit various renovation projects of the Norwood Park Historical Society.



### **NORWOOD PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



We are now ready and waiting for your private party. Our facilities can accomodate:

- \* A sit-down dinner up to 30 guests.
- \* A buffet party up to 60 guests.
- \* An outdoor/indoor event up to 200.

Tables and chairs, pots and pans and miscellaneous outdoor equipment are available for your use. For further information or a donation schedule call Tom Spenny at 312-631-4633 or come during our open house time, Saturdays from noon to 4:00 P.M. We are located just 1 block west of Taft High School at 5624 N. Newark Ave.

## UPCOMING REUNIONS

### CLASS OF 1947 50TH REUNION

Date: To be advised

Location: To be advised

Contact: June Brenkman

See next newsletter for further details.

### CLASS OF 1949,

Date: October 1, 1994

Location: Embassy Suites O'Hare Chicago

Contact: Class Reunions 708/677-4949

### CLASS OF JANUARY, 1955

Date: November 12, 1994

Location: O'Hare Plaza Hotel

Contact: Meg (Goodell) Magee

9918 Windflower Ct.

Elliott City, MD 21042

OR

Don Mellema

708/825-4128

### CLASS OF JANUARY, 1959

#### 35TH REUNION

Date: October 1, 1994

Location: Sages, Sages

Arlington Hts, IL

Contact: 708/437-1923

### CLASS OF 1984

Date: August 13, 1994

Location: Embassy Suites O'Hare/Chicago

Contact: Class Reunions 708/677-4949

### CLASS OF 1985

Date: Plans under way

Location: To be announced

Contact: Class Reunions 708/677-4949

### OTHER REUNIONS:

### NORWOOD PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

#### CLASS OF JUNE, 1937

Date: To be advised

Location: To be advised

Contact: Nina (Christensen) Hansen

312/282-3910

## ALUMNI CHORUS

The Alumni Chorus of Taft High School has begun plans for its annual Winter Holiday Concert. The chorus will be under the direction of Mr. Tony Camacho, class of 1980.

Rehearsals begin Saturday, September 10, 1994, at 9:00 in the morning in the Taft Drama Studio. All present members, as well as anyone interested in participating are requested to attend. Have an enjoyable summer, and we hope to see you in September.

Pericles Georgopolous  
Class of 1985

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are proud of **Jorge Gonzalez**, class of 1994 who was one of three high school students selected to participate in a paid internship program in Washington, D.C. for this summer. Jorge competed against Whitney Young students and Lace Tech students to become a finalist.

**Sam Ozaki**, 70, who retired in 1989 as Taft High School principal, was the first Japanese American principal in the Chicago Public School system. He was among this year's inductees into the Chicago Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. Chicago's Department on Aging paid tribute to him in May citing his work with the Japanese American Citizens League (JASC) Human Rights Committee. He tied with founding principal Leo Hoefer for the longest service as Taft's head administrator.

## SCHOLARSHIP FINALIST

Graduating senior, **Jozel Campagna** was the recipient of the 1994 Taft Alumni Scholarship. You may have seen her if you attended one of the drama performances at Taft these past four years. She is the bubbly young lady who always has a cheerful smile for everyone. Two pages were needed to list all the activities she participated in while at Taft. We wish her well in her career goal of upper level elementary history teacher. She plans to attend University of Illinois, Champaign this fall.





## YEARBOOKS FOR SALE

From time to time, we acquire yearbooks that are duplications to ones in our archives. We are offering them for sale to Taft alumni on a first-come, first-serve basis. Currently we have the following yearbooks available: 1975, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987. If interested, send \$25 to:

Taft Alumni Association  
c/o Kay Kuciak, President  
47 W. Lancaster Lane  
DesPlaines, IL 60018

## STARTING A DRAMA CLUB

For the past four years, the Taft Alumni Association has served as producer and provided a drama program as an extra-curricular activity at Taft. An effort was made this year to begin re-establishing an in-school program, which hopefully will eventually be in the Communication Arts house. Anne Lunde (class of 1969) worked as the alumni representative with a series of Taft faculty members including Kathy Klink, Mark Hankins, Susan Gross, Mona Hansra, Ruby Carlson and Judy Simmons, counselor Pam Lewkovich, and student teacher Raymond Wohl, to develop the groundwork for a new Taft Drama Club. A cast of nearly three dozen students was assembled for "Crowd Control", an evening of one-act plays, some traditional and some original pieces. Anne Lunde and Raymond Wohl served as directors. It was one of the largest, most diverse casts in recent years, and offered opportunities for a number of students to get their first stage experiences. Two in-school performances presented selected pieces in previews to more than 400 students May 19 and 20; evening performances May 20 and 21 were open to the public. It was also very encouraging to see a new "generation of drama alumni", veterans of our recent casts and crews, returning as volunteers in a variety of capacities--Patrick Benson, Lisa and Patricia Rodriquez, Tracey Jarred, Jennifer Wolf, Renata O'Connor and Eric Rosegay--and their help was much appreciated. It's an important way to carry on traditions that have been special to us and share them with our future alumni.

## LEAVING TAFT...

Taft is losing some familiar faculty faces this year, many of them under the 5+5 early retirement provisions offered by the state. Leaving Taft this year are Assistant Principal Norman Bakall (who started as a social studies teacher here in 1960), English and film studies teacher Patricia O'Keefe Daniels, librarian Betty Cockett, English teacher Carol Fink, teacher John Gasiencia, math teacher Richard Hanus, counselor and School Within A School house coordinator Caryl Heinichen, math teacher Anthony Kisinski, P.E. teacher Dewel Lewis, English teacher Daniel Lyons, English teacher George Mishkin, business teacher Paul Reibman (who most recently served as school-wide coordinator for the School Within A School program), English and Humanities teacher Julio Tiritilli, science teacher Monroe Saffold, and math teacher Jerry Patt. Also leaving under a surprise move is the principal, Dr. William Watts, who announced he accepted a position to be principal of the Morton East High School. This forced the Local School Council to scramble to notify appropriate agencies to advertise the vacancy. They have a busy task this summer to interview and approve a new principal before the school reconvenes in the fall. Meanwhile they have appointed Thomas Brown to be acting principal until a replacement has been hired. Mr. Brown currently heads the Communication Arts House in Taft's School Within A School program and also served as Dean of Students for several years. He has been a teacher representative on the LSC since October, 1991.

## ALUMNI OFFICERS

*President*  
*Vice President*  
*Secretary*  
*Treasurer*  
*Publicity*  
*Special Events:*

*Directors:*

*Kay Kuciak (1963)*  
*Jerry Bloom (1962)*  
*Sarah Welk (1988)*  
*Ron Olle (1985)*  
*Anne Lunde (1969)*  
*Mike Guercio (1978)*  
*Sarah Welk (1988)*  
*Irene Fransen (1944)*  
*Cliff Raiman (1947)*  
*Tom Kuciak (1962)*  
*Barb Rodriguez (1970)*  
*Judi Lenihan (1973)*  
*Kim Blackstone (1973)*  
*Perry Georgopolus (1985)*

*Newsletter Editor*  
*Editorial Staff*

*Jerry Bloom (1962) 312/774-5320*  
*Kay Kuciak (1963) 708/824-4747*



# CLASS NOTES

## 1940s

JANIS (FISCHER) FORSTER (JUNE 1941) graduated from Mesa Community College RN 1985, has 3 children, lives in Mesa, AZ and is a nurse.

DON LEUTZ (JUNE 1941) has 3 children, lives in Daytona Beach, FL and is retired enjoying lots of fishing and golf.

RUTH (QUIRAM) TOMASLAS-RIGG (JUNE 1941) lives in Camarillo, CA, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 3 great children. She is a housewife who remarried in 11/92 after losing first husband to cancer in 1991.

VIVIAN (SPITZ) WETTER (JUNE 1941) lives in Chicago, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 1 great grandson and is a homemaker.

WILLIAM LESSMANN (JANUARY 1942) lives in Barrington, IL, has 1 child and 2 grandchildren and is a retired purchasing agent from Union Oil Co.

WARREN DRITLEIN (JUNE 1942) graduated from IIT & Know College, MARRIED MARJORIE CROCKETT (JUNE 1943), they have 3 children, live in Naples, FL and are retired.

BEVERLY (SINGER) ELLSTRAND (JUNE 1942) graduated from Chgo Academy of Fine Arts AA 1944, Northeastern BA 1978, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children and is an art instructor at Oakton Community College and a practising artist.

GERTRUDE (STROZEWSKI) GANDER (JUNE 1942) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 2 children and 2 grandchildren and is an executive secretary.

DOROTHY LA GORIO (JANUARY 1943) graduated from Northwestern PhB 1965, lives in Schaumburg, IL and is retired.

KENNETH DAVIS (JUNE 1943) graduated from U of I BS Marketing 1950, he lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children and 2 grandchildren and is a retired VP from Rockwood Co.

JUNE (BAGGESEN) KNAUSS (JUNE 1943) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children and 1 grandchild and is a housewife.

ROY QUIRAM (JUNE 1943) graduated from Wright, Utilities Engrg 1948, lives in Birmingham, AL, has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren and is President Sls Engrg Firm.

GLADYS (BARBARA) URBANEK (JUNE 1943) lives in Long Grove, IL, has 2 children and 1 grandchild and is retired.

AL GNASKI (JANUARY 1944) lives in Buffalo Grove, IL, has 5 children and is retired after 36 years with the post office.

GENEVIEVE (JEWELL) HANNEMAN (JANUARY 1944) lives in Redding, CA, has 3 children and 5 grandchildren and is retired.

DOLORES (ANDERSON) JOHNSON (JANUARY 1944) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 2 children and 4 grandchildren and is a housewife.

CORINNE (CLEBAN) DONKERS (JUNE 1944) graduated from U of I BS Bus. Admin. 1965, has 4 children, lives in Arlington Hts, IL and is a self employed accountant.

ROBERT WARNER (JUNE 1944) graduated from Northwestern BS 1949, married FRANCES KLUG (JUNE 1947) who graduated from U of AZ BA 1952, Northwestern MA 1956, they live in Friday Harbor, WA, have 2 children and 3 grandchildren and are retired.

NORMA (BRAWNER) COOKSEY (JANUARY 1945) lives in Meridan, MS, has 3 children and has a silk screening business.

NANCY (KNIGHT) COWSER (JANUARY 1945) graduated from Roane State AD 1980, has 3 children and 2 grandchildren, lives in Oak Ridge, TN and is a retired school secretary.

LOIS (GATES) RISCH (JANUARY 1945) lives in Win-

gate, NC, has 3 children and 7 grandchildren and is a retired secretary.

DEAN BURTON (JUNE 1945) graduated from U of I BS 1950, has 2 children, lives in Arlington Hts, IL and is retired.

WALLY KOOKEN (JUNE 1945) graduated from Northern BS 1952, MS 1964, he lives in Wood Dale, IL, has 3 children and is retired after 18 years as teacher and counselor in Chicago and 13 years as counselor in Wood Dale.

THOMAS LEACH (JUNE 1945) graduated from Eureka College BA 1950, lives in Lombard, IL, has 1 child and is retired from sales & marketing.

DEWEY SNART (JUNE 1945) graduated from Whitewater 1951, has 2 children, spends part time in Poynette, WI and Palm Springs, CA and is a retired PE Teacher.

CORALYNN (MANCHEE) MARRIED JOHN STEFFEN (JUNE 1945) John graduated from U of I BS 1950, they live in Marion, IL, have 4 children and are retired.

MARY HELEN (SMITH) BEIGER (JANUARY 1946) lives in Champaign, IL, has 2 children and 3 grandchildren and is a retired library clerk.

MARLIS (BRUNNER) BREISCH (JANUARY 1946) graduated from Carthage College BA 1950, lives in Picayune, MS, has 3 children and is a housewife.

CAROL (SIMONSON) FITCH (JANUARY 1946) graduated from Iowa State BS 1950, U of I Med 1958, lives in Bethesda, MD, has 5 children and 6 grandchildren and is a program coordinator/retreat leader for a church conference center.

JEANNINE (TOWEY) HENDERSON (JUNE 1946) lives in Midway City, CA, has 1 child and 3 grandchildren and is retired.

BETTE LOU (FILLEBROWN) HIRT (JUNE 1946) has 4

daughters and 3 grandchildre, lives in Kewanee, IL and is retired.

CAROL (GERHARDT) HORSCHKE (JUNE 1946) graduated from William Woods College 1948, lives in Barrington, IL, has 3 children and is a fashion co-ordinator and commentator.

MARY JANE (PADDI) STRUBERG (JUNE 1946) lives in Rancho Palos Verde, CA, has 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

GRACE UTT (JUNE 1946) lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, has 5 children and is a sales order administrator.

SIRI (CARLSON) MC DORMAN (JANUARY 1947) lives in Ft Myers, FL, has 2 children and 3 grandchildren and is a retired secretary.

DOLORES (ANDERSON) MORNING (JANUARY 1947) lives in Escondido, CA, graduated from De Pauw 1951, has 3 children and is a retired Librarian.

BETTY (GREULICH) RUBOYANES (JANUARY 1947) MARRIED PETER RUBOYANES (JANUARY 1948) they live in San Jose, CA, has 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

DONALD BROKAW (JUNE 1947) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 5 children and 2 grandchildren and works for Il Range Co.

WALLACE GAARSOE (JUNE 1947) graduated from Roosevelt BA 1954, Northwestern MA 1955, lives in Brookfield, WI, has 3 children and is a retired consultant.

SHIRLEY (KLAIBER) ZAK (JUNE 1947) graduated from Wright AAS Data Processing 1980, lives in Chicago, has 7 children and 7 grandchildren and is a computer operator and word processor.

NANCY BURNS) HALLQUIST (JANUARY 1948) lives in Palatine, IL, has 4 children and 5 grandchildren and is a CMO at Motorola.

# CLASS NOTES

EILEEN (QUAN) CASSERLY (JUNE 1948) graduated from Wright AA, lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 3 children and is an executive asst/office mgr. Enjoys raising Labradors.

ROBERT MACHON (JUNE 1948) MARRIED MARILYN (KANE) (JUNE 1948) he graduated from Michigan State BA 1952, Northwestern MBA 1968, they have 3 children and he owns an insurance agency.

MARILYN (BRAWNER) FRANKENBERG (JUNE 1949) lives in Piper City, IL, has 2 children and is semi retired and enjoys remodeling old homes with husband.

## 1950's

CAROL (NORDENGREN) LARSON (JANUARY 1950) graduated from North Park AA 1952, MARRIED ROBERT LARSON (JANUARY 1950) they have 2 children, live in Chicago and Carol has been a real estate agent for over 20 years and is a board member of the Norwood Park Historical Society.

DORIS (ANDERSON) ALLISON (JUNE 1950) graduated from Augustana BA 1954, lives in Wheat Ridge, CO, has 3 children and is a retired teacher now secretary of husbands oil co.. MYRA (ANDRES) FISHER (JUNE 1951) graduated from U of I, Ohio U, BS Journalism 1956, UCLA PR Designation Program, has 2 children and 1 grandson, lives in Woodland Hills, CA and is a free lance writer.

LOIS (VAN NATTA) GALLI (JUNE 1951) graduated from Merritt JC AA Nursing 1970, lives in Castro Valley, CA, has 3 children and is a retired Neonatal RN, won 2nd place in county fair with padded albums.

BARBARA (KRELLER) SHANE (JUNE 1951) MARRIED THOMAS SHANE (JUNE 1949), they has 3 children and live in Orlando, FL.

RENEE (VERPLAMCKEN) SWANSON (JUNE 1951) lives

in Chicago, has 2 children and is a legal secretary.

DON FISHER (JANUARY 1952) graduated from U of Chgo BA 1956, Boston U MA Communications 1957, Claremont Grad School MA Ed 1970, lives in Clearwater, FL, has 2 children and is a "generic social worker", Peace Corp Volunteer in Venezuela 1962-64, taught English at U of Zulia in Maracaibo, Venezuela.

DIANE (KREBS) DASH (JUNE 1952) graduated from IL Masonic Hosp RN, lives in Elmhurst, IL, has 3 children and 2 grandchildren and is a retired RN.

RONALD KELDER (1952) graduated from U of I BA, Colgate Divinity School Mdiv 1960, lives in Bolingbrook, IL, has 2 children and is retired.

GLADYS (WESSELS) HINRICHS (JANUARY 1953) has 3 children and 1 grandchild, lives in Arlington Hts, IL and works part time at the Hersey HS Cafeteria.

PATRICIA (COLLINS) SMITH (JANUARY 1953) lives in Chicago and is a medical records clerk.

CAROL (UHL) CONNOLLY (JUNE 1953) graduated from U of MN BA 1958 Architecture, has 2 children, lives in Chicago and is self employed, space planning and design.

JOANNE (KRAUSE) MEISSNER (JUNE 1953) lives in Villa Park, IL, has 6 children and is a receptionist/secretary.

PETER LAURIDSEN (JUNE 1954) graduated from US Coast Guard Academy 1959, lives in Virginia Beach, VA, has 3 children and is a Captain, Marine Safety Division.

DONNA (HEDSTROM) BRADY (JUNE 1955) lives in Oshkosh, WI, has 2 children and is a secretary at the College of Nursing, U of WI.

ERV JANIS (JUNE 1955) lives in Chicago, has 3 children and is a plumbing contractor.

SUE (BURHOP) ORIGER (JUNE 1955) has 7 children and

11 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL and is a housewife.

DIANE (KESSER) PATTERSON (JUNE 1955) graduated from U of I BSA 1959, MA 1960, lives in Elmhurst, IL and is a High School Teacher.

MARLENE (CERNY) WILLIAMSON (JUNE 1955) lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, has 3 children and is a retired secretary.

RON MOERS (JANUARY 1956) lives in Chicago and is an accountant.

DON OSTROM (JUNE 1956) graduated from St Olaf BA 1960, MA 1970, Washington U PhD 1972, lives in St Peter, MN, has 3 children and is a college professor and MN State Representative.

TOM TUBBS (JUNE 1956) graduated from Wright and St Marys, lives in Albert Lea, MN, has 6 children and 3 grandchildren and is a variety store owner. SHARON (KOUBA) BACOLIS (JUNE 1957) lives in Chicago, has 3 children and is an administrative assistant and on the Taft Alumni Womens Luncheon Committee.

VIRGINIA (BOBENG) LEWIS (JUNE 1957) lives in Tucker, GA, has 3 children and is in part time sales.

RUTH (ALTERGOTT) LUKOWITZ (JUNE 1957) graduated from Lewis U BS 1977, lives in Tinley Park, IL, has 4 children and is an accountant and private pilot and owns a Cessna 172.

JUDY (MORRISON) BATESON (JANUARY 1958) graduated from U of I BA 1962, lives in Myrtle Beach, SC, has 4 children and is a realtor, was a teacher for 20 years.

TOM MILLER (JANUARY 1958) MARRIED NANCY (PITTATIS) (JANUARY 1961) they live in Mt Prospect, IL, have 2 children and he is a construction equipment manager.

BRENDA (BILLHARDT) SCHMAHL (JANUARY 1958) graduated from UCLA AA Ministry 1985, lives in San Jose, CA,

has 2 children and is an administrator.

KAREN (PLATH)ZAVELL (JANUARY 1958) lives in Lake Forest, IL, has 2 children and enjoys cooking and golf. SHARON (CARLIER) DOMPKE (JUNE 1959) lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a housewife. She is helping her husband build a home in Wisconsin.

ARNOLD WERLING (JUNE 1959) graduated from North Park BA, Northeastern MA, lives in Wheaton, IL, has 2 children and is a Jostens Ring salesman who sells at Taft.

## 1960's

RICHARD SWANSON (JANUARY 1960) graduated from IIT BS 1964, Northeastern MA 1968, Ohio State PhD 1972, lives in Liverpool, NY, has 1 child and is Dr of Math at Liverpool Central School District and in 1986 had 2 Math textbooks published.

JUDY (PEINART) AUGSPURGER (1960) graduated from Oakton Community College CPS 1987, lives in Mt. Prospect, IL, has 1 child and 1 grandchild and is a human resources assistant. DENNIS ANDERSON (JUNE 1960) graduated from Lewis U 1978, BA Criminal Justice, he lives in Joliet, IL, has 2 children and is a manager fraud investigator.

STUART DUNN (JUNE 1960) graduated from U of I Dental School 1967, lives in Deerfield, IL, has 1 child and is a Dentist. JOAN (BIELSKI) LEONARD (JUNE 1960) lives in Chicago, has 3 children and 2 grandchildren and is a CRT operator.

JACQUELINE (ALLEY) BILLINGS (JUNE 1961) lives in River Wood, IL, has 3 children and 4 grandchildren and is in customer service for Baxter Health Care.

JOHN PROCHASKA (JUNE 1961) CPA, CFE, formerly Director of Internal Audit at U of I Chgo is now Chief Administrator



# CLASS NOTES

& CFO at Hektoen Institute form Medical Research in Chicago. Also adjunct faculty member at Natl-Louis U, and lecturer on Fraud and White Collar Crime at U of I Champaign.

CAROLYN (LARSON) SPERL (JUNE 1961) graduated from Roosevelt BSBA 1983, Loyola MSIR 1989, MARRIED ROBERT SPERL (JUNE 1960), they have 4 children, live in Itasca, IL and she is a human resource consultant.

WARREN SCHIMPF (JANUARY 1961) MARRIED JILL (WAGNER) 9june 1963) He graduated from Wright 1962, U of WI BS Chemistry 1965, U of MI MS-MPH PhD and is a Chemist in SO. CA, Jill graduated from Northeastern BA 1967, U of MI MA 1968 and is a teacher. They also own Schimpff Candies in Jefferson IN. They live in Claremont, CA.

ALLAN STROMSTA (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Northern BA 1967, Chgo State MS 1974, has 3 children, lives in Shorewood, IL and is retired.

JAMES BACH (JUNE 1962) lives in Chciago, has 3 children and is a Chicago Police Officer.

JERALDENE (BEESLEY)

BLOOM (JUNE 1962) graduated from Elmhurst College BS Business 1988, has 7 children and 5 grandchildren, lives in Chicago and is retired and a board member of the Norwood Park Historical Society and Vice President and editor of the Taft Alumni Assoc.

MARGARET OLSEN (JUNE 1962) graduated from Northern, lives in Broomfield, CO and is an approved appraiser for Lloyds of London, President of Westminster Coin & Jewelry LTD, and just published a book "The Gold Book", A guide to commonly traded gold bullion coins and bars.

LYNN (HIBARGER) SARACCO (JUNE 1962) MARRIED WILLIAM SARACCO (1960), they have 5 children and live in Bartlett, IL.

JANE (SPENNY) HEIDE (JANUARY 1963) graduated from Oberlin College BA 1967, Columbia School of Social Work MSW 1969, lives in Kansas City, MO, has 2 children and is assistant to President Heart of America United Way.

JEANNE (WATROUS) ZYCH (JANUARY 1963) graduated from U of WI BE 1967, Illinois State MS 1972, lives in Ft. Myers, FL, has 2 children and is a teacher.

RICK KASPER (JUNE 1963) lives in Chicago and works for the City of Chicago and owns a real estate office.

JEFFREY WILK (JUNE 1963) MARRIED DIANE (PETERSON) (JUNE 1963) they both graduated from Northern BS 1967, they live in Harwood Hts, IL, have 2 children. Jeff is a teacher and Diane is a book-keeper.

WARREN LUCKNER (JUNE 1964) graduated from Luther College BA 1968, U of MD MA Math 1970, U of KY MS ED 1972, lives in Wheaton, IL, has 3 children and is a retired Actuary/University Professor.

HOLLY (FAGERMAN) MORAN (JUNE 1964) graduated from Valparaiso MS Ed, Northeastern MA Guidance & Counseling, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a teacher at Devonshire School in Des Plaines, IL.

DARYL (LARSEN) BROWN (JUNE 1965) lives in Plano, IL, has 2 children and 1 grandchild and owns and manages "Little Rock Jewelers".

DAVID DAVIES (JANUARY 1966) graduated from Northern BS Marketing 1971, has 3 children, lives in Chicago and is an insurance broker.

JANET (KOUBA) TABERT (JANUARY 1966) graduated from Enterprise Jr College AA 1982, U of MD BA Psychology 1989, Trdy St U MS Counseling & Psychology 1993, lives in Enterprise, AL, has 2 children and is a personnel asst civil service.

ROBERT SKOGMAN (1968) lives in Chicago and is a heavy equipment operator.

## 1970's

BUD ECKHOLM (1970) graduated from Northeastern BA 1976, James Madison U M Ed Counseling psychology 1981, he lives in Manassas, VA and is a family therapist and has his practice in Centreville, VA.

BARBARA (HEINZ)

RODRIGUEZ (1970) graduated from U of I BS 1975, MS 1989, lives in Cicero, IL and is an occupational therapist.

JANE (INTERMILL) BLACK (1971) graduated from Purdue BS 1975, has 4 children, lives in Noblesville, IN and is a Mom.

NANCY (FRIEDLANDER)

MOONEYHAM (1971) lives in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, has 2 children and works for Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

MARGIE (GORSKI)

SZEWCZYK (1971) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 2 children and is a teller supervisor at La Salle Bank.

CAROL (CARSON) BRIMER (1972) graduated from Purdue BA Recreation 1975, BS Engineering 1980, U of MO MS 1986, lives in St Louis, MO, has 3 children and is a housewife/structures engineer.

RANDY BERGSTROM (1972) MARRIED BONNIE (HILL)

(1973) Randy graduated from North Park BA Acct 1976, John Marshall Law JD 1980 and is a tax lawyer.

Bonnie graduated from Wright AAS 1975, Northeastern BA 1976, Natl College of ED ME Reading 1979 and is a teacher, they live in Des Moines, IA and have 3 children.

CINDY (CUMBE) CLAYTON (1972) graduated from WIU BS 1976, NIU MA 1983, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children and is a teacher.

LINDA (VAN ORNUM)

ANDREWS (1973) graduated from Mundelein College BA English/Communication 1979,

lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife.

ADRIENNE (OSTFELD)

BOHNENKAMP (1973) graduated from U of NE BS 1980 Business, lives in Omaha, NE, has 1 child and is a housewife and part time CPA.

NANCY (STECKIEWICZ)

SWANTEK (JUNE 1973) graduated from De Paul BA Music 1977, lives in Norwood Park, has 3 children and is a music teacher at St Eugene's Chicago. BARBARA WOLFE (1974) lives in Palatine, IL, has 2 daughters and is a full time student majoring in Psychology.

CINDY (COLLMAN) TAYLOR (1975) graduated from U of CA BA, lives in Corona Del Mar, CA, and is a substitute teacher working on a PhD expected in 1997

BETTY (BETZOLD) FLEMING (1976) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 3 children and is a homemaker.

GRACE (GIZA) BIANCHI (1978) MARRIED MARTIN BIANCHI (1978) she graduated from Metropolitan Business AA 1980, they live in Chicago, have 3 children and she is a housewife.

MICHAEL GUERCIO (1978) graduated from U of I BS Computer Science 1985, lives in Chicago and is a Senior Programmer for AT & T, he is also a Taft Alumni Assoc. Board Member.

## 1980's

KATHERINE TRZCINSKI (1985) graduated from Valparaiso U BA, lives in Chicago and is a reports/special projects coordinator.

DONNA ALDRICH (1986) lives in Chciago and is a secretary.

JEFFREY ALWIN (1987) lives in Chicago and is a printer.

TRACEY (FREDRICKSON)

DRWAL (1987) lives in Streamwood, IL, is a customer service rep and is expecting her first child in July 1994.

*To the Great  
Class of '42 ...*

*From one who  
remembers*







## IN OUR MEMORIES

**LEONARD ANDERSON** (class of 1945) died suddenly June 23, 1994.

**DENISE L. GBUREK** (class of 1970) died of cancer on February 16, 1994. She was a Northeastern U. graduate, member of the Niles Art Guild and a 15-year employee of the Signode Corp.

**FRANK HARTEL** (class of June, 1947) died on December 22, 1993.

**ROBERT P. HUHNEKE** (class of June, 1941) died after a long illness on December 31, 1993. He was 70 years young.

**LORRAINE KELLY** (retired former mathematics teacher at Taft) passed away after long battle with cancer in March, 1993.

**RICHARD OBERG** (class of June, 1941) died May 12, 1994.

**VAUGHN RUDNICK** (class of 1950) passed away October 2, 1993. Graduated in 1954 from Augustana College, became a lawyer and later Circuit Judge in Palm Beach County, FL.

## CALLING ALL GARVY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ALUMNI

Are you an alumni of Garvy School? Do you know someone special who is? We know that Donna Mills and Jim Jacobs went to Garvy as well as Taft. The John W. Garvy Local School Council is interested in hearing from other Garvy alumni. Let us know what your occupation is. Tell us your success stories and how Garvy played a part in preparing you for your life. We'd like to use your stories to encourage our students and form our own Hall of Fame. Please send your letter to Debby Scrimgeour (Taft class of 1971 and Member of the Garvy LSC) at 5519 North Normandy, Chicago, Illinois 60656.

## LETTERS FROM ALUMNI

Dear Kay,

Enclosed in my dues for the newsletter is something for your expenses. Also, I lost my yearbook June, 1941 in a fire. I wonder if any one ever turns one in, you would consider selling it to me. Thank you.

Nina (Christensen) Hansen

[Dear Taft Alumni], I highly commend the Taft Alumni Association for all their outstanding efforts in maintaining such an excellent active and responsive organization. The establishment of the "Alumni Hall of Fame" for Taft graduates certainly has achieved a great deal of stature for providing key role models for today's students. The induction into the "Taft Alumni Hall of Fame" is recognized as one of the more important and coveted forms of recognition available to former Taft graduates. All Taft alumni should be proud to be a member of the Taft Alumni Association knowing the outstanding efforts of the Association including the publication of the Taft Alumni Newsletter which provides information about activities and other alumni. Other very commendable Alumni Association activities are fund raisers and donations, sponsoring Taft productions, providing funds for the marching band and funds for a laser printer for the Journalism Department and a close liaison with the PTA and School Council.

A Proud Eagle,  
Donald J. Gloor  
Class of June, 1946

[Editor's Note: This is an unsolicited letter from one of our alumni, and it couldn't have been better stated. Thanks!]

**Correction:** In reading the list of famous graduates of Taft -- Ken Henry graduated January, 1947 and not 1942. He was our Class President.

Siri McDorman  
Class of January, 1947

**Letters  
to the editor  
are welcome**

# COPYCO

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## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE TROPHY

Again the Taft Alumni Association earned the Community award for best entry in the Norwood Park Memorial Day Parade. This year our theme was "Don't Clown Around - Stay in School". Thanks to "clowns" Judi Lenihan, Sarah, Welk, Kim Blackstone, Pericles Georgopolous, Barb Rodriguez and assorted kids. Also, a big thanks to Ed Fagerstom with his mini float with pictures from his class of 1949, including the championship baseball team he pitched for, under the coaching of James Smilgoff. Look for him (and our award plaque) at the 1949 class reunion on October 1. Call him at 708/825-7611 for information on the reunion.

## COOKING WITH TAFT EAGLES

Thanks to all who ordered Taft Alumni Cookbooks this past year. If you didn't get your copy, there are still a few copies left. Consider ordering your personal copy of **COOKING WITH THE TAFT EAGLES**, published by your alumni association. It contains over 100 pages of fantastic recipes from alumni and friends, including special surprise recipes.

Send \$10 plus \$3 for shipping/ handling for each cookbook to:

Jerry Bloom  
5508 N. Parkside Av.  
Chicago, IL 60630

Please allow two weeks to ship. Make check payable to the Taft Alumni Association.  
**THANK YOU** for you support!

## TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FORM

Name		Maiden Name	Month & Year Graduated	
Address: (Home)		City	State	Zip
Address: (Business)		City	State	Zip
Home Telephone No.: ( )		Office Telephone No.: ( )		
Name of Spouse:			Year Married: 19	
Number of Children:		Ages:		
College(s) Attended, Degree(s) Earned, Year of Graduation				
Occupation:		Other Interests:		
Other News or Information:				
<input type="checkbox"/> I am enclosing \$_____ to defray newsletter costs.				
<input type="checkbox"/> I am enclosing \$10.00 for membership.				
Return to: Kay Kuciak 47 W Lancaster Lane Des Plaines, IL 60018				





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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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