



# Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XVI No. 1

Spring 2002

## THE TAA EAGLE RETIRES!!

Say farewell to our old logo and help us find a new one. Put your artistic talents to work! Create a new mascot for the TAA that will reflect the pride and spirit of Taft High School

Artwork may be hand drawn or computer generated, but it must be original. The entry should be submitted in black and white on 8 ½ x 11 paper and mailed in a 9 x 12 envelope—please, do not fold the artwork

Don't forget to include:

- ✓ Your Name    ✓ Your Telephone
- ✓ Your Address    ✓ Your Graduation

You must be a paid TAA member to enter. Entries will be judged by the TAA Board of Directors, but it's not a contest without a prize.

Our winner will receive an exquisite crystal eagle and the satisfaction of seeing his or her creation featured on new TAA items.



## TAA Logo Contest

Questions? Send your query to the TAA address listed below or e-mail at [eagleemail@taftalumni.org](mailto:eagleemail@taftalumni.org).

Send entries to:  
Taft Alumni Association  
6545 West Hurlbut Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60631

Deadline: Submissions must be received by September 1, 2002. The lucky winner will be announced in the Fall issue of the Newsletter

# CLASS REUNIONS

## All Taft Classes

Date: ?? 1/2003 – 4/2003  
Place: To be determined (in Florida)  
Contact: **Leon Kathan**  
1729 NW Madrid Way  
Boca Raton, FL 33432  
Phone: (561) 367-8945  
E-mail: [leonkathan@yahoo.com](mailto:leonkathan@yahoo.com)

## 1947 - January/June

Date: June 22, 2002  
Place: Holiday Inn O'Hare International  
Contact: **Don Williams-** (847) 870-1224  
1011 W. Lincoln Street  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
E-Mail: [Dwilliams200@attbi.com](mailto:Dwilliams200@attbi.com)

## 1948

Date: September or October 2003  
Place: To be announced  
Contact: **Frank Heyer**  
Phone: (773) 631-4701

## 1952

Date: September 21, 2002  
Place: Rosemont Convention Center  
Contact: **Reunions, LTD**  
Phone: (847) 259-1130

## 1953

Date: May 17, 2003  
Place: Sheraton 4 Points Hotel, Schiller Park, IL  
Contact: **Valerie (Zetek) Blaue** – (847) 824-5577  
FAX: (847) 298-4689  
E-mail: [Valerieblaue@aol.com](mailto:Valerieblaue@aol.com)

## 1955 - January

Date: September 21, 2002  
Place: Picnic-Dam #2 Des Plaines  
Contact: **Meg (Goodell) Magee**  
9918 Windflower Ct., Elliott City, MD 21042

## 1957 - January

Date: May 24, 2002  
Place: Drendel Hall – Sun City Huntley  
Contact: **Leo Drummer**  
11667 River Terrace Ln.  
Huntley, IL 60142  
(847) 515-8879  
[lgdwd@aol.com](mailto:lgdwd@aol.com)

## 1963 - January/June

Date: October 11, 2003  
Place: Holiday Inn – O'Hare  
Contact: **Kay Kuciak**  
17667 N Estrella Vista Dr  
Surprise, AZ 85374  
E-mail: [Kayariz@cox.net](mailto:Kayariz@cox.net)

## 1967 - January/June,

Date: October 26, 2002  
Place: Radisson O'Hare, Rosemont  
Contact: **Paulette English** - (219) 271-8742  
Alumni Systems  
E-mail: [www.alumnisystems.com](http://www.alumnisystems.com)

## 1972

Date: June 22, 2002  
Place: Sheraton, Arlington Hts, IL  
Contact: **Pat (Wendt) Wismer**  
[pmwiemer@yahoo.com](mailto:pmwiemer@yahoo.com)  
1320 E Best Dr, Arlington Hts., IL 60004



## Grammar School Reunions

### Ebinger 75th Anniversary Celebration (all grads)

Date: June 7, 2002 – 7 PM  
Place: 7350 W. Pratt – Chicago  
Contact: **Sheryl Mucci** – (773) 775-6082  
Tickets \$20.00 - program & refreshments

### St. Juliana's – 1952

Date: May 2002  
Contact: **Bonnie Manning Bernico**–(773) 775-5905  
7024 N. Odell Ave., Chicago, IL 60631

### Norwood Park –1958 - June

Date: Summer 2003  
Place: Door County, WI (?)  
Contact: **Jerry (Beesley) Bloom** – (920) 743-8449  
1237 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
E-mail: [jbbloom@doorpi.net](mailto:jbbloom@doorpi.net)

### Onahan – 1967

Date: June 29, 2002  
Place: Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, Chicago  
Contact: **Richard Lindberg** – [RCLWriter@aol.com](mailto:RCLWriter@aol.com)

### New e-mail Address

Due to the server going out of business, we have changed our contact address. Please update your records to reach us at: [taftalum@cox.net](mailto:taftalum@cox.net)  
Our Website address remains the same:  
[www.taftalumni.org](http://www.taftalumni.org)

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Kay:

Enclosed is my check to cover another two years of the Taft Alumni Newsletter. I enjoy reading it even though I know a very small percentage of the graduates. My class (of 1940) was the first to graduate after one year in the new high school. In fact and because we spent three years at different high schools we really didn't have a chance to get to know one another. The only students I knew were those students who graduated with me from Ebinger in 1936. And, yes that was a very long time ago!

When I first heard about eh Newsletter two years ago I sent along a letter with my subscription and was delighted to hear from a couple classmates and also from former neighbors and friends.

When I read the list of class reunions I was wishing one appeared for 1940, although there probably aren't a whole lot of us around anymore. I don't feel my age, hope I don't look it and lead a busy and full life. I feel very fortunate to still have my ever lovin' with me – we'll be married 57 years this June.

If anyone is interest[ed] in getting a 1940 reunion going I'm all for it and would be glad to help. You do a very nice job as President of the Alumni Association, Kay. It's a lot of work but is appreciated. Thanks for all the time, energy and effort you put into it.

**Kay (Mitchell) Frost** (June 1940)

Dear Jerry,

**Jane [(Geib) Mellor]** and I really enjoy receiving and reading through the newsletter. Taft continues to remind us of those two wonderful years (1939-41) and all those special classmates which made high school such a unique experience. We still keep in contact with several Tafties.

I enjoyed the picture of the Taft baseball team on page 4 [of Autumn 2001 issue]. In the middle row of the picture is **Larry Landerholm**. I grew up in Edison Park and the Landerholm's lived across the street from the Mellor "clan" on Oxford Avenue.

Keep up the great work, Jerry. Hopefully we'll be back in Chicago land before too many years roll by.

**Herb & Jane Mellor**(June 1941)

Dear Alumni Committee,

What is the possibility of the Alumni Association holding a dance in the school's gym? Just like we used to. We could gather and have a wonderful time. The dance could also be a fundraiser for the Alumni Association.

Why not query the Alumni? If I am game, I'm sure others will also be interested.

Thank you for all the time and effort you put towards the Taft Alumni Association. It is greatly appreciated.

**Janice Kay** (1970)

Hi Jerry,

This is your old neighbor, [who] lived kitty corner behind your house on Newcastle. I had just noticed that the editor of the Taft Alumni Newsletter lived in Sturgeon Bay, where my folks have lived for 30 years and then noticed your maiden name. What a coincidence!

My [sisters and brother] and our families have spent a lot of time, especially in the summer, in Sturgeon Bay. What a great place!

My brother **Tom** (Jan. 1963) lives with his wife in Mesa, Arizona. My next sister **Jean** (June, 1964) married **Don Hoffman** (June 1964) and lives in Wheaton, IL. They have 3 boys, now all grown. My youngest sister, **Pat** (June 1966), married **Ray Pollina** (January 1965). They have 3 boys all graduated from college and two girls still in college, also living in the Chicago area. My husband and I have lived in Boston for 32 years. Our three boys are all grown up and all live in Portland, Oregon. Our foster daughter and her husband live in New Hampshire with their two children.

I still see and hear from **Adair Linn Nagata** (Jan., 1961) even though she has lived in Tokyo with her husband for 35 years. Her two boys are grown and married. She just finished her Ph.D.

The Norwood Park pool seem a long time ago; so glad to come across a neighbor from those old days.

**Ann Richards Anderson** (June, 1961)  
PAndersonMDT@aol.com

Ann,

I received a forwarded e-mail of your note from my sister Jerry. I have not seen anyone from our old neighborhood for more than 35 years. My family moved away from Norwood in about 1961 and located in Jefferson Park, so I had to go to school at Carl Schurz High School. I graduated in 1963, worked for a few years and went into the Marine Corps in 1965, got out in 1968. While in the service I married **Joyce Chrosniak**, a [Jan.] 1964 graduate of Taft.

We moved to Maryland in 1972, started our own business in 1978. Recently we sold the business and are now retired. We have two daughters [in college]. My brother Ralph is married with two boys who are in Taft high school. He still lives in Chicago and works for the city of Chicago. He and Don's younger brother [**Doug Hoffman**] and his sister **Barbara [Hoffman]** were friends through school. It is good to hear from old neighbors and interesting how the people have scattered all over the country.

**Chuck Beesley** cbeesley@bluecrab.org

## Remembering Our Teachers

Dear Jerry,

Because Dr. Buchwalter seems to be a never ending story for Taft alums of the 1940s, let me add a few details about her that haven't been mentioned.

As a history teacher who has also interviewed elderly family members for genealogy, I know memories of events of fifty to fifty-five years ago can be faulty. With that disclaimer in mind, let me add some items from my memory. First, I recollect her first name was Grace, although no student and few of her faculty peers would have addressed her so. German is much more formal than English, and she was German to the core.

Second, I remember from some unknown source, that she came out of the Amish/Old Order Mennonite group that lived around Arthur, Illinois. I would guess she came from Old Order Mennonite stock because they embrace the modern world to a greater extent than do the Amish.

Third, before WWII, Dr. Buchwalter spent her summers in Weimar in Thuringie. It is the site of Goethe and Schiller's homes, the birthplace of the ill-fated Weimar Republic, which preceded Adolph Hitler, and most infamously the WWII concentration camp Buchenwald. Because Weimar was in East Germany after WWII, I doubt if Dr. Buchwalter ever visited again. She obviously loved it there prior to WWII.

Fourth, as unbelievable as it may sound to her students, she did marry about the time she retired. When I passed my graduate German reading exam in the summer of 1954, I wrote Dr. Buchwalter at Taft's address (5600 N. Natoma then) to thank her for the preparation she had given me in those years of high school German. I received a nice note from Mrs. Grace O'Neal. At the time I was struck by the fact that such an Irish name was completely out of character from such a German woman.

One last set of comments and I'll close. I can't recall a comment in

the Taft Alumni Newsletter about Dr. Buchwalter that doesn't ring true. She treated and probably viewed her students as a Marine drill sergeant treats a group of raw recruits. As I look back on my experience at Taft, I have two major regrets. I wish I had taken a fourth year of German with Dr. Buchwalter. On my various visits to Germany as I stammer a tourist German, I frequently think of the Doctor and how much better my German would have been with another year of her drill. She indeed was a drillmaster. My second regret is I didn't take personal typing, and even in this age of computers, the keyboard still escapes me. Thank God there are still books to read, and people like you can still read script. Thanks for your forbearance.

Roy A. Rauschenberg (June 1947)  
Columbus, OH

Hi Jerry,

Time to renew. As a relatively new member I do not wish to miss a single issue of the newsletter. What a surprise it was when I first wrote a letter to find it in print. After reading the first few pages of the newsletter I immediately look for something from my class of 1950. We old timers like to reminisce.

In my last letter I mentioned **Florence Devenish**, who taught home ec for many years at Taft. What a nice surprise to hear from **Norma Brawn Cooksey** (1945) who had Miss Devenish as her teacher. She lives in Mississippi but came to the area for a visit and came to see Florence. If course all we talked about was our days at Taft. Florence also had another visitor as a result of the letter, but I was unable to get the person's name. She just celebrated her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday and her short-term memory is almost gone, but she still remembers Taft and wonderful Chicago. If any of you have memories of being in her class, please send her a note at Villa St. Benedict, 1920 Maple Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532 or e-mail me at jerry.net@att.net. I will read your notes to her.

Another person I contacted after our

reunion was **Betty Harrigan Roche** who now lives in Branden, FL. When I first called Betty, we spoke for nearly four hours on the phone!

I always enjoy the comments about **Dr. Buchwalter**. Though I never had her, she was certainly well known by students and teachers alike. Other teachers I remember are **Miss Grant, Mr. McCalmont, Mr. Piuppo, Mrs. Lukens, Miss Nielson, Miss Straight, and Miss Zidek**. What a surprise at the tour of Taft to see the word **BOOKKEEPING** on **Miss McCurdy's** door. Does anyone remember her?

**Bernadette Gucwa Becker** (June 1950) Downers Grove, IL

To Kay & Jerry:

I've been meaning to send someone a note for many years, praising the great education I received at Taft (and Ebinger Elementary School too.) But a little over two years ago I was diagnosed with colon cancer. So then just surviving cancer, and enduring the surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy treatments became the main focus in my life. But all the tests now seem to show I am a **CANCER SURVIVOR!** So I'm going to take more time to smell the roses and give out more thank you messages and set some different priorities for myself.

I didn't really understand the blessing of the good basic education I had received until I first started college, at age 35. I was a wife and mother of six and I decided to pursue my old goal of a college degree, and maybe a new career, after the kids were grown. I started taking classes at our community college, W.R. Harper College in Palatine, and I learned of the CLEP program (College Level Examination Program, I think), which offered



## 1940s

VIVIAN (MORRIS) HORN (JANUARY 1941), lives in Ingleside, IL, has twin daughters, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

ELMER CATO (JUNE 1941) graduated from Luther College BA 1949, lives in Des Plaines, IL and is a retired financial analyst.

JEANNE (LINDEN) KEHE (JUNE 1941) lives in Elgin, IL, has 4 children, 14 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren and is retired.

HERB MELLOR (JUNE 1941) MARRIED JANE (GEIB) (JUNE 1941) he graduated from Northwestern BA 1948, they live in Tacoma, WA, have 2 children, 1 grandchild, they are retired and Herb is President of Mc Chord Air Force Base museum foundation.

LOIS (ORLEBERE) O HARA (JUNE 1941) lives in Punta Gordo, FL, has 2 children and is a boutique owner.

THOMAS WRIGHT (JUNE 1941) MARRIED SUE (SCHIESSER (JANUARY 1946), he graduated from MO Valley BS 1951, they live in Belmont, CA, have 2 children, 2 grandchildren, are retired, Sue is an artist and Tom is manager at Stanford Golf Range.

MARIAN (KOSEL) ANDERSON (JANUARY 1942) graduated from Wright AA 1944, lives in Chicago, has 6 children (4 graduated from Taft), 19 grandchildren and is a homemaker.

NORMA (TESS) CHERRY (JANUARY 1942) graduated from Lake Forest BA 1947, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 4 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

BARBARA (ALITIS) HECOX (JANUARY 1942) graduated from Evanston Hosp. RN 1946, lives in Rio Rancho, NM, has 6 children, 9 grandchildren, 1 great and is retired.

GEORGE KASDORF (JANUARY 1942) graduated from American Television Inst 1947, lives in Brookfield, WI, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired TV engineer.

MARY JANE (CABOOR) CINELLI (JUNE 1942) lives in Park Ridge, IL. Has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

MILLICENT (SADLEIR) DAVIS (JUNE 1942) graduated from Southwest MO St BA 1947, Nat'l College of ED MA 1975, lives in Waukegan, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

CARL ENGLISH (JUNE 1942) lives in Baltimore, MD, has 1 child and is retired.

NORMAN ESSERMAN (JUNE 1942) graduated from U of I BS 1948, JD 1949, Nat'l College of Naprapath DN 1965, lives in Highland Park, IL, has 2 children and is retired.

WILLIAM FUNK (JUNE 1942) graduated from Northwestern BS Commerce 1947, lives in Bluffton, SC, has 6 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERT WLEKLINSKI (JANUARY 1943) MARRIED GERMAINE (PETERMANN) (JUNE 1945) he graduated from Loyola BSC 1950, the live in Arlington Hts, IL, have 2 children and 6 grandchildren and are retired.

CHARLES DAVIS (JUNE 1943) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 5 children and is a retired Des Plaines Fireman.

WILLIAM SMITH (JUNE 1943) graduated from U of MO BS 1953, lives in Exton, PA, has 3 children and is retired.

PHYLLIS (LANGE) WILSON (JUNE 1943) lives in Nine Mile Falls, WA, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 1

great grandchild and is retired.

SHIRLEY (FORD) WILSON (JUNE 1943) graduated from Know College BA 1947, U of I MA 1948, lives in Lansdale, PA, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

ROBERT FLUM (JANUARY 1944) graduated from Northern BS 1950, MS 1958, lives in Mineral Point, WI, has 8 children, 19 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and is retired.

C. RICHARD HANISCH (JUNE 1944) MARRIED ANNETTE (STIEBER) (JUNE 1946), they live in Palatine, IL, have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and are retired.

MARLYS (GARMOE) MURRAY (JUNE 1944) lives in Peotou, IL and has 4 children and 9 grandchildren.

SHIRLEY (BACHLI) OSCARSON (JUNE 1944) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired insurance clerk.

ROBERT ZITZEWITZ (JANUARY 1945) lives in Silverton, OR, has 3 children, 12 grandchildren and is retired.

SHIRLEY (STREMMEL) BILHEIMER (JUNE 1945) graduated from U of I BA 1949, lives in Jacksonville, FL, has 5 children, 11 grandchildren and is retired.

EDWIN HILDWEIN (JUNE 1945) MARRIED JOAN (CZIRAK) (JUNE 1947), HE GRADUATED FROM u OF wa bs Acct 1949, they live in Boise, ID, have 2 children and are retired.

WALLY KOOKEN (JUNE 1945) graduated from Northern BS 1952, MS 1964, lives in Wood Dale, IL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

BESSIE (SMITH) ROGGENBUCK (JUNE 1945) lives in Gulf Breeze, FL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is retired.

DOLORES (WENK) EBNER (JANUARY 1946) on 11/17/01 was elected into the

Jefferson County Historical Commission's Hall of Fame for her many contributions to Jefferson County history and its preservation. She lives in Littleton, CO.

CAROL (SIMONSON) FITCH (JANUARY 1946) graduated from IA State BS 1950, U of I Med 1958, lives in Bethesda, MD, has 5 children 8 grandchildren and is retired.

ROSEMARY (PICCOLO) SMITH (JUNE 1946) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

ELAINE (REED) JOHNSON (JUNE 1947) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a housewife.

DONALD LEWIS (JUNE 1947) lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 6 children, 8 grandchildren and is a beer distributor.

RODNEY LOWELL (JUNE 1947) graduated from U of Chgo BA 1951, lives in Tucson, AZ, has 2 children , 3 grandchildren and is a retired physics technician.

LUCILLE (HAMACHEK) PHILLIPS (JUNE 1947) lives in Longwood, FL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired art shop owner.

CORINNE (SIR) THOMPSON (JUNE 1947) graduated from Northwestern BS 1951, U of South EFM Program 1983, lives in Roswell, GA, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is a realtor.

NANCY (BURNS) HALLQUIST (JANUARY 1948) lives in Palatine, IL, has 4 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and is retired.

DANIEL HANSEN (JANUARY 1948) graduated from Wheaton College BS 1952, Loyola MS 1958, lives in Harvard, IL, has 8 children, 11 grandchildren and is a retired Physician.

MARILYN (THOREN) HINDMAN (JANUARY 1948) lives in Cool, CA, has 2 children and is retired.

# CLASS NOTES

WILLIAM MC ILVAINE (JUNE 1948) graduated from Walton School of Commerce BSA 1950, CPA 1951, lives in Racine, WI, has 6 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired CPA.

STEPHEN NITSCHNEIDER (JUNE 1948) lives in Highlands Ranch, CO, has 6 children and is retired.

DONALD SCHROEDER (JUNE 1948) MARRIED JOAN (KENT) (JUNE 1950), he graduated from IL State BS 1956, MS 1958, they live in Bella Vista, AR, have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and are retired.

ROGER SIUDA (JUNE 1948) graduated from Lake Forest College BA 1953, Economics, lives in Overland Park, KS, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is self employed.

FRANK STREMMEL (JUNE 1948) graduated from U of Tampa BS 1958, lives in Pensacola, FL, has 4 children and is retired.

CAROL (KORBUS) THOMPSON (JUNE 1948) lives in Santa Barbara, CA, has 6 children, 10 grandchildren and is retired.

WALLACE WILSON (JUNE 1948) lives in Wheeling, IL, has 5 children, 16 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and is retired.

JANICE (JEFFERY) BURDEN (JANUARY 1949) lives in Mesa, AZ, has 5 children, 7 grandsons, 1 great granddaughter and is a housewife.

JACQUELINE INGRAM (JANUARY 1949) graduated from De Paul BS 1954, lives in Park Ridge, IL and is a Chicago school teacher.

JOHN WILL (JANUARY 1949) graduated from North Central College BS 1953, lives in Fountain Hill, AZ, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

MARION (MEISNER) HARKER (JUNE 1949) graduated from U of AZ BS

1953, lives in Glenwood, NY, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

BARBARA (CALKINS) KELLER (JUNE 1949) graduated from Harrington Inst of Design 1980, lives in Columbus, NC, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is retired.

CARMELLA (WALSH) PATKE (JUNE 1949) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is in sales.

## 1950s

RICHARD WHARTON (JANUARY 1950) graduated from U of I BSME 1954, lives in Glenview, IL, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a semi retired VP of Safco Co.

EURIE (VOELING) SMITH (JANUARY 1950) lives in Willow Springs, MO, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

CAROL (BOLDT) BENTSEN (JUNE 1951) graduated from Northeastern BA El-Ed 1974, Northern MS ED 1977, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

DIANE (KISTING) KAYE (JUNE 1951) lives in Ft Myers, FL, has 10 children, and 17 grandchildren.

LAMBERT KEILER (JANUARY 1952) MARRIED JOYCE (WALKER) (JUNE 1956), he graduated from Wright 1954, lives in Twin Lakes, WI, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

CARL AIELLO (JUNE 1952) lives in Wilmington, NC, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is a retired movie extra.

THOMAS BUCKLEY (JUNE 1952) graduated from U of I BSCP 1957, has 3 children, is retired and winters in Naples, FL and summers are in Egg Harbor, WI.

JEAN (ZACHARY) MASKUS (JANUARY 1953) lives in

Charlotte, NC, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

JIM ROSSEN (JANUARY 1953) graduated from Carroll College BS 1957, Northwestern MBA 1967, lives in Barrington, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a retired CFO.

BEATRICE VALTERS (JANUARY 1953) lives in Chicago and is retired.

PAT (MILLER) BURNESON (JUNE 1953) lives in Naples, FL, has 8 children, 17 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and is a retired nursery teacher and artist.

CHARLES EDIE (JUNE 1953) graduated from U of I BS Civil Engr 1958, lives in Marengo, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

RICHARD ROGERS (JUNE 1953) graduated from Purdue BS Chemistry 1957, lives in Medina, OH, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

GORDON SNYDER (JUNE 1953) lives in Sacramento, CA and is a retired electrician.

DONALD STANEK (1953) graduated from U of I BS Phy Ed 1958, U of KS 1960 Cert Phy Therapy, Baylor MS 1971, lives in Marietta, GA and is a physical rehab consultant.

DARLENE (SWEENEY) MC GRATH (JANUARY 1954) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children, 2 granddaughters and is a retired collection manager.

LOIS (FREDRICH) CHRISTOFFERSEN (JUNE 1954) lives in Chicago, IL, has 2 children (Taft Grads), 4 grandchildren and is a kindergarten teacher.

MARJORIE (NUGENT) CLAESON (JUNE 1954) lives in Inverness, IL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is co-owner of a mfg rep business.

C. SCOTT GROVE (JUNE 1954) graduated from Southern Methodist BS 1963, Chgo Medical MD 1968, Cook County Hosp surgical intern 1969, Yale Psychiatrist 1972, lives in Branford, CT, has 1

child, 1 grandchild and is a Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Yale.

DONALD RING (JUNE 1954) graduated from Northern BS 1958, U of MI 1961, Cornell PhD 1969, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is the retired Principal from Niles West.

CAROL (BAUMGARTNER) RUEHL (JUNE 1954) lives in Metamora, MI, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERTA (GOSTOMSKI) WASIK (JUNE 1954) lives in Dallas, TX and is a receptionist at TV Guide.

ALAN SWANSON (JANUARY 1955) graduated from U of I BS Geology 1959, lives in Muskegon, MI, has 4 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

DONNA (HEDSTROM) BOTZ (JUNE 1955) lives in Oshkosh, WI, has 2 children and is a secretary.

ARLENE (GUNTHER) KONECNIK (JUNE 1955) lives in Nokomis, FL, has 2 children and has his own business.

JOHN BEALL (JANUARY 1956) graduated from Clemson U BS 1960, lives in Newton, NC, has 2 children and is a training coordinator.

LEON KATHAN (JUNE 1956) graduated from Triton AA 1973, FL ST BS 1977, lives in Boca Raton, FL, has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and is an auto electrician.

JOYCE (NEWQUIST) KOCHALKA (JUNE 1956) graduated from IL ST BS Ed 1960, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired teacher now a travel agent.

DONNA (SEVERANCE) LESKER (JUNE 1956) graduated from Ripon College, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a housewife.

DIANE (KLIER) DIERKS (JANUARY 1957) lives in

# CLASS NOTES

Schaumburg, IL, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

AUDREY (PETERSON) HAMPTON (JANUARY 1957) lives in Lombard, IL, has 4 children, 5 grandchildren and is a housewife.

BARBARA (SWANSON) KLEIN (JANUARY 1957) graduated from Passavant Hots RN 1960, lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is an RN/journalist and volunteers for medical missions.

NANCY (DINNELLA) MUCHA (JANUARY 1957) MARRIED TOM (JUNE 1956) she graduated from U of I 1960, Purdue MS 1962, lives in Mountain View, CA, has 2 children and is a teacher/counselor.

MARCELYN (HAERR) NORRIS (JANUARY 1957) lives in Lombard, IL, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is a homemaker.

RONALD UNDERWOOD (JANUARY 1957) graduated from Northwestern BSBA 1961, U of I MBA 1967, CPA 1975, lives in Oak Park, CA, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

BARBARA (VAUGHN) WOLFF (JANUARY 1957) lives in Chicago, has 3 children (Taft Grads), 2 grandchildren and is retired.

GLORIA CALLACI (JUNE 1957) graduated from Mundelein College BA 1961, lives in Evanston, IL, has 2 children and is a free lance writer.

ROY MOELLER (JUNE 1957) graduated from U of I BS 1962, U of WI 1972, lives in Coronado, CA, has 2 children and is retired.

TOM MILLER (JANUARY 1958) MARRIED NANCY (PITTATSI) (JANUARY 1961) they live in Mt Prospect, IL, have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and he is a construction equipment company manager.

ROGER STROMSTA (JANUARY 1958) graduated

from U of I BS 1963, MS 1964, U of CA PhD 1972, lives in Los Altos, CA, has 1 children, 3 grandchildren and is a director of engineering.

RON KNOLL (JUNE 1958) graduated from IIT BSEE 1965, lives in Algonquin, IL, has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and is retired.

RON KOZEMCZAK (JUNE 1958) graduated from Coe College BA 1962, Northern MA 1967, lives in Glenview, IL, has 2 children and is a retired PE teacher.

TOM DAY (JUNE 1958) lives in Berwyn, IL, has 2 children, is a marketing rep. For IL State Lottery. Helped form "Bugles Across America", horn players who play Taps at Veteran funerals, founder of Cook County chapter of Viet Now, also founded color guard unit "Mariners, Black Sheep Squadron.

BONNIE (FANSLOW) WEISS (JANUARY 1959) lives in Northbrook, IL and has 7 children and 1 grandchild.

## 1960s

MARY (ELLIOTT) ADCHBRENNER (JUNE 1960) lives in Bloomington, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and works in the jewelry department at Walmart.

DENNIS DZIAK (JUNE 1960) graduated from Wright 1966, De Paul 1975, lives in Palm City, FL, has 3 children and is a retired CPA.

WILLIAM HORN (JUNE 1960) graduated from Cornell BS Chemistry 1964, U of IA MS 1967, PhD 1969, lives in Gibsonia, PA, has 2 children and is a chemist/exec VP for Fire Retardant Chemical Assoc.

THOMAS KLEIN (JUNE 1960) graduated from Lewis U BS Accounting 1968, Northern MBA 1969, lives in Fresno, CA, has 5 children and is a business administrator.

KEN KORTAS (JUNE 1960) graduated from U of Louisville BS 1964, lives in Simsonville,

KY, has 1 child and is the owner of currency exchanges.

JUDITH (KOEHLER) KOZER (JUNE 1960) lives in Anitoch, CA and has 2 children and 5 grandchildren.

ELAINE (BOBER) LECINSKI (JUNE 1960) graduated from U of I BA, lives in Spring Grove, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

TOM NELLES (JUNE 1960) MARRIED LYNN (FOERSTER) (JUNE 1960, both graduated from Cornell BS 1964, they live in Prospect Hts, IL, have 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and are retired.

JOAN (WEIGLEIN) WELCH (JANUARY 1961) graduated from Elmhurst College 1966, lives in Prospect Hts, IL, has 5 children, 7 grandchildren and is an xray technologist.

JOHN PROCHASKA (JUNE 1961) MARRIED CINDY (LUDTKE) (JUNE 1964), her graduated from Northern BS Finance 1966, MBA 1970, CPA 1974, CIA 1975, CBA 1980, CFE 1989, Cindy graduated from U of I Psychology 1968, they live in Park Ridge, IL, have 3 children, he is CFO at Hektoen Institute, she is an occupational therapist for developmentally disabled children.

ARLENE (NORMAN) ROY (JUNE 1961) graduated from Patricia Stevens Career College, lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, has 2 children 2 stepchildren, 2 grandchildren and is an administrative assistant.

LORETTA (PHILLIP) SAMBORSKI (JUNE 1961) graduated from Chicago Teachers College BA 1964, lives in Beach Park, IL and is a water clerk.

MARJORY WEILER (JUNE 1961) graduated from Orange Coast, Saddleback College GRI 1990, lives in Williams Bay, WI, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a real estate broker.

KAREN (KASALLIS) LAMPING (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Loyola MA 1970, Loyola Law JD 1982,

Rosary College BA 1966, lives in River Forest, IL and is an assistant public defender.

ROSE ANNE (BAETZ) AUSTIN (JUNE 1962) graduated from Baylor BS 1966, AZ St MS 1969, lives in West Hartford, CT, has 2 children and is a HS Science teacher.

BEVERLY (BOROWSKI) BORNHORST (JUNE 1962) MARRIED JOHN (1963), they live in Northbrook, IL and have 3 children.

LOIS (KNICKERBOCKER) BOYER (JUNE 1962) lives in South Bend, IN, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and owns gift shop (The Moles Hole of South Bend".

LINDA (LESHUK) DAVIDSON (JUNE 1962) lives in Mc Henry, IL, has 6 children, 8 grandchildren and is a real estate broker.

JOHN ELLIS (JUNE 1962) graduated from Citadel BA 1966, So Methodist JD 1969, Geo Wash U MSFS 1973, Natl Law Center LLMT 1974, lives in Houston, TX, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is an attorney/professor, Consul General of Malta and director of the Houston Rodeo.

JUDITH (GRAU) HITZMAN (JUNE 1962) MARRIED KEITH (JUNE 1961) they live in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and have 3 children.

SUSAN (HENRIKSEN) KRUMM (JUNE 1962) graduated from Bethany College BA 1966, KS State MS 1970, U of KS MSW 1994, lives in Topeka, KS, has 2 children and is a Therapist.

CAROL (LOHR) MAGIN (JUNE 1962) graduated from U of MN BA 1966, Nat'l Lewis MAT 1999, lives in Mundelein, IL, has 2 children and is a special ed teacher.

DENNIS RASMUSSEN (JUNE 1962) graduated from IL State BS 1969, College of St Thomas MA 1971, lives in St Paul, MN, has 2 children and is a teacher.

BRUCE WILLIAMS (JUNE 1962) graduated from Bradley

# CLASS NOTES

BS 1967 Chemistry, lives in Ft Collins, CO, has 3 children and is retired.

MARY (TERLECKI) MC Kelvey (January 1963) GRADUATED FROM northern BA Ed 1967, lives in Catskill, NY, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is a staff development co-ordinator.

BOB CELLA (JUNE 1963) graduated from U of I, lives in Geneva, IL, has 5 children, 7 grandchildren and is self employed

MICHAEL KSIAZEK (JUNE 1963) lives in Chicago and works for United Airlines.

LINDA (SCHNEIDER) KOZIOL (JANUARY 1964) graduated from Harper College AA, Roosevelt BA, NIU MA, lives in Rolling Meadows, IL, has 2 children and is a computer education asst.

RICH SCHUTZ (JUNE 1964), graduated from Oakton Comm College ALA 1984, Roosevelt BA Hist 1986/Paralegal Cert 1986, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is a paralegal. Rich did not graduate from Taft but would have in 1964.

GERALDINE (BERNARD) NIEDER (JANUARY 1965) graduated from Red Rocks Community College, lives in Lakewood, CO and is a tax assistant.

WILBUR CHEW (JUNE 1965) lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 1 child and is an electrician.

KATHLEEN (LUEDTKE) ELLIS (JUNE 1965) graduated from Northeastern BA 1969, Natl College of Ed MA 1980, Northeastern MA 1975, lives in Libertyville, IL, has 1 child, 1 grandchild and is the Principal at Braeside Elementary School in Highland Park, IL.

BONNIE (STEWART) JILEK (JUNE 1965) graduated from Northern BS 1969, lives in Sleepy Hollow, IL and works for United Airlines.

TERRY LONG (JUNE 1965) graduated from U of I BS 1972, lives in Woodland Park, CO, has 1 child and is a semi retired engineer.

MARTIN EMRATH (JANUARY 1966) graduated from U of I BS Mech Engr 1969, MBA 1972, lives in Brentwood, TN, has 3 children and is a credit manager.

WILLIAM MOLDENHAUER (JANUARY 1966) lives in Chicago and is a receiver.

JOSEPH CONGIUSTI (JANUARY 1967) graduated from Wright AA, Northeastern BS Biology 1971, lives in Chicago, has 3 children, gives seminars on Spirits and is store manager for Sams Liquors.

PAM (SCHALLER) CHAPMAN (JUNE 1967) graduated from Wright AA 1975, Northern BS 1978, MS 1989, lives in Hampshire, IL, has 2 children and is a professor of computers info systems.

MARCIA (WALSH) HEDBORN (JUNE 1967) graduated from Northern BS Mktg 1971, lives in Naperville, IL, has 2 children and is an administrative assistant.

LYNN (MC GRAW) MEYER (1967) lives in Hudson, OH, has 2 children and is a risk mgmt consultant.

NORM PFLOMM (JUNE 1967) graduated from Wright AA 1969, lives in Prospect Hts, IL, has 2 children and is a director of marketing.

TINA (NELSON) PORTERFIELD (JUNE 1967) graduated from U of I BS 1971, lives in Hinsdale, IL, has 2 children and is a real estate broker.

MARK TIBBITS (JUNE 1967) graduated from De Paul BS 1986, MBA 1988, lives in Wheaton, IL, has 3 children and is a logistics planning manager for Sara Lee.

DEBOARCH (SCHWANTES) DOMES (JUNE 1968) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 2 children and is a Chicago teacher.

JUDY EILKEN (1968) graduated from U of I BA 1968, MA 1977, lives in Richmond Hts, IL, has 1 child and is a HS German teacher.

LINDA (ARCHAM) SEREK (JUNE 1968) lives in Chicago and has 2 stepchildren.

PHIL IGLITZ (1969) MARRIED GAIL (ANDERSON) (1970) he graduated from UIC BS 1974, UNLV MS 1992, they live in Boulder City, NV, have 1 children and Phil is a HS Math Teacher.

ANNE LUNDE (1969) graduated from Rockford BS 1973, lives in Chicago, is the newspaper editor with Pioneer Press of "The Review" and is a Taft Alumni Hall of Famer.

DEBRA (KALTEUX) PADDACK (1969) lives in Arlington Hts, IL and has 3 children, 1 grandchild.

## 1970s

LYNN (HALICKI) ARNOLD (1970) lives in Cary, IL, has 1 child and is a bookkeeper.

MICHAEL COSTANZO (1970) graduated from Western BA 1974, lives in Sioux Falls, SD, has 2 children and is VPGM of Midcontinent Radio Stations.

CATHI (MADL) DENNIS (1970) graduated from U of Phoenix BS 1974, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a purchasing manager.

LINDA (WALASZEK) GASH (1970) lives in Indian Rocks Beach, FL, has 2 children and is an administrative assistant.

JANICE KAY (1970) lives in Bensenville, IL, has 1 child and is editor of "Windy City Flyer" and an aircraft maintenance agent for American Airlines.

MICHELLE (BONNIVIER) KNIGHT (1970) MARRIED EDWARD (1970) lives in Schaumburg, IL and they have 2 children.

MARGARET (KOSINSKI) LACERRA (1970) MARRIED FRED (1970) they live in Park Ridge, IL, have 3 children and she is a beautician and aerobics instructor.

ROBERTA (MACHOWSKI) WEISS (1970) graduated from Carroll College BA 1974, lives

in Northbrook, IL, has 1 child and is a housewife.

RICHARD WINGE (1970) graduated from Western IL BB 1974, U of WI MS 1976, lives in New York, NY and is a managing director for Alliance Capital.

MELODY CHILDS (1971) graduated from Northeastern BS Biology 1975, U of I MS Microbiology 1977, U of NM BSN 1989, lives in Sandia Park, NM and is a registered nurse and freelance writer.

MICHAEL JAKUBOWSKI (1971) graduated from U of I BS Math 1975, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children and is a software specialist.

KIM (HOUGH) KIMMEL (1972) lives in St Charles, IL, has 2 children and is an PRC assistant.

STEPHEN BOZEK (1973) MARRIED VERA (EWASKO) (1973) he graduated from U of I BS 1977, Il State MS 1980, Southern IL MD 1984, Vera graduated from Northeastern 1977, they live in Park Ridge, IL, have 3 children, Vera is a homemaker and Stephen is a Pathologist at Resurrection.

ROBIN (ADKINS) LASNOSKI (1973) graduated from Marquette RDH 1976, BS 1979 Dental Hygiene, lives in Oneida, WI, has 2 children and is retired.

BRANO STANKOVSKY (1973) lives in Long Lake, MN and has 3 children.

KAREN (COREY) CHUCHMAN (1974) lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children and is an asst office mgr for an auto dealership.

TOM PERSINO (1974) MARRIED DONNA (STANLEY) (1979), they live in Des Plaines, IL, have 2 boys, Tom is a self employed plumber, Donna is a part time executive secretary.

ROCCO MAGGIO (1977) graduated from De Paul BS, CPA, U of WI MS, lives in Chicago and is in commercial real estate investment.

# CLASS NOTES

ROBERT PAHL (1977) lives in Lake Villa, IL, has 2 children and is a maintenance manager for a pharmaceutical co.

PAMELA (NAVRODTZKE) SCHMALZER (1978) lives in Mt. Prospect, IL, has 2 children and is a banking manager.

GREGG LAMEKA (1979) lives in Cary, IL and is an auction manager.

GWEN (FRANSEN) SANDSTROM (1979) graduated from U of I BA 1984,

lives in Chicago and is a paralegal.

SUSAN STEINERT (1979) lives in Wheeling, IL, and is an administrative aide.

JULIE (KOSZCZUK) WELCH (1979) graduated from U of I BS Acct 1974, U of Chgo MBA 1993, lives in Chicago and is a finance director/vp at Motorola.

## 1980s

RAYMOND KINDLAR (1981) lives in Mt Prospect, IL and is a purchasing agent.

THERESA (KURNIZKI) KNAR (1982) graduated from Oakton Community College AA, lives in Prospect Hts, IL, has 3 children and is a supervisor of medical records.

ROBERTA CIHLAR (1983) lives in Skokie, IL and is a facilities services supervisor.

CINDY (O CONNOR) BABCOCK (1987) graduated from Montay College AA 1989,

North Park 1991 BA Accounting, lives in Evergreen, CO and is an accountant.

CHRIS PONTIKIS (1987) graduated from U of I BS Finance 1971 and lives in Chicago.

## 1990s

KATHY DYNAK (1995) graduated from U of I, EL Ed 2000, lives in Chicago and is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Bridgeport Elementary.

## In Our Memories

A Chicago police officer was killed a few days ago. He is the husband of Taft Staff member, **Maria Marzolo**.

**Gene Sonnenleiter**, Physical Education teacher passed away March 27, 2002.

**Russell Neumayer**, Math, Physics & General Science Teacher, died 1/24/02.

**David Hayes**, known as "Barnaby Jones" by students during the '70s, security guard died 1/28/02.

**Mila Nolan**, music teacher at Taft from 1959-1985 passed away on March 20, 2002.

**Jeanne (Kofoed) Maschek**, class of June 1941 died March 4, 2002 from complications after heart surgery.

**Adolph Paluch** died on April 15. He was in one of the first classes to graduate from Taft.

**Robert Holm**, class of January 1942 passed away on September 22, 2001.

**Jack Moehle**, class of 1945, died of natural causes on 1/1/02.

**Joseph W. Langer**, class of 1947, of Chicago, who helped invent the formulas for the retail market's first aerosol-based products, including hairspray, died of cancer April 10 at 73.

**William Nehring**, class of June 1947 passed away on January 10, 2002.

**Bill Anderson**, class of 1948 died.

**Leslie Behrend**, class of June 1948 died on December 30, 2001.

**Harvey Peter**, June '48, Died in Dec. 2000.

**Jon Triphahn**, class of January 1949 passed away on January 30, 2002.

**Jim Scholle**, class of June 1953 passed away on March 10, 2001.

**Penny (Rhodes) Ek**, class of June 1960 died on February 2, 2002 from breast cancer.

**Joyce Kiedrow Beck**, class 1961, passed away on February 2, 1995. Had 3 daughters and 2 grandkids.

**Robert Conrad**, class of 1969 passed away on June 27, 2001 from leukemia.

A gunman at the Melrose Park Navistar Plant killed **Robert Wehrheim**, class of 1971 in 2000. This is a correction from the Autumn 2001 issue.

college credits for passing CLEP tests.

I signed up to take several CLEP tests and I was so amazed to pass them all the first time with no special preparation. Whatever knowledge those wonderful teachers crammed into my head over 18 years earlier seemed to still be there! This gave me college credits for the majority of "Intro" courses and I had almost a full year head start on my Associate Degree. I finished at Harper in two years, then transferred and earned my B.A. Degree from Concordia University, River Forest, IL, in two more years, 1980.

So here's a (belated) big thank you to all my teachers and helpers at Taft (and Ebinger). The education you gave me stayed with me and helped me achieve so much and I'm sure your work made a big difference in my life.

**Bev (Sprecker) Laseke** (June, 1957)  
AALaseke@Juno.com

*[Bev: Congrats on all your accomplishments. I tried CLEP tests, too a few years ago and know they are NOT always passable the 1st time. J. Bloom, Editor]*

Hi Jerry:

My two-plus years at Taft, following a year at Schurz, were not happy ones. I was never in serious trouble but I had an attitude and interests that did not suit the time and place. I was, for example, the only male in the two typing courses I took, and I had no interest in athletics. I read as many as five books a week from the school library, but had little interest in class work. More and more I cut classes and hung out with other misfits and my grades continued to fall. I was a senior when, a few weeks after Pearl Harbor, I was asked to leave. I was thrown out. It seemed to me then that other than my typing skill the entire time had been a waste.

The only high school teacher who ever took more than a passing interest in me or tried to arrest the downward spiral that I was in was **Janice Fink**, a Jewish lady of forty-some years with a plain face and, as

I recall, an eye problem of some sort. Whatever her appearance, she had a heart as big as a watermelon. She was my junior-level English teacher for two semesters and became convinced that I had talent as a writer.

At her urging (for I was not then competitive in any way) I entered the monthly essay contest sponsored by the school newspaper, the *Taft Tribune*. The assigned topic for the essay was "How can you show American spirit on Halloween?" I thought the topic was banal if not stupid and I entered only to please her, and I won. I must add that she was one of the judges. *[See copy of article at right]*

...I won a dollar's worth of Activity Tickets, good for school events such as intra-mural basketball games, Saturday football games and the weekly dances held in the school gym. Most of these affairs cost a dime. The athletic events interested me not at all, although the dances did. One needed a sport jacket and tie, though for the dances, and I lacked the jacket. So I never picked up the tickets and never again entered the essay contest. Today we would say I was protesting, although I've no idea now what I thought I was protesting, unless it was the parental decision that had forced me to attend Taft when I would have preferred to remain at Schurz.

I may have embarrassed Miss Fink by not picking up the tickets, and I surely disappointed her in other ways. Lord knows, she tried. My great regret is that I never did write anything for her worthy of her belief in me. The only way I could make it right was to remember her with fondness. I did, and I still do.

**Frank Diederich** (June 1942) Las Vegas, NV

## Frank Diederich Wins First Prize In 'Trib' Contest

Frank Diederich, English 5 student of Miss Janice Fink, will receive the first prize, one dollar in activity tickets, for his answer to the question, "How can you show American spirit on Hallowe'en?" published in the September 27 issue.

The judges, Miss Fink and Mrs. Adelaide Holterhoff, have awarded the second prize, 50 cents in activity tickets, to Priscilla Holmes, English 3 student of Mrs. Gladys Hansea, and the third prize to Ann McTaggart, English 4 student of Mrs. Holterhoff.

Frank Diederich's answer appears below:

### How Can You Show American Spirit on Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en! What thoughts of destruction, injury, and general vandalism the name brings to 'mind! But, we are apt to say to ourselves, this state of affairs existed perhaps 25 to 50 years ago, but certainly not today.

Unfortunately, statistics prove otherwise. Each year thousands of dollars worth of private property, and most important of all, city, and federal property is destroyed by mischievous fun-seekers, who probably do not realize the extent of the damage caused by their pranks.

And now, once more, Hallowe'en approaches. And we look forward to—another year of wasteful property destruction? Or, shall we, this year, pledge ourselves to do all in our power to see that this Hallowe'en is celebrated with true American spirit?

### Americans Coöperate

For many years, throughout the world, Americans have been known by one outstanding characteristic: their spirit of cooperation and of working together. Now ask yourself truly, when one goes out and indulges in the breaking of windows and destroying of property in general, is this living up to the American traditions of cooperation?

This year, above all, when our country is using its resources to the utmost in its great national defense program, is it fair to divert funds to the replacing of property destroyed on Hallowe'en that might be used to much greater advantage elsewhere?

So this year, let us all show the traditional American spirit of fair play, of which we should be so proud, by pledging ourselves to have an enjoyable, but not destructive Hallowe'en.

Taft Tribune  
April 5, 1940

## Classmates In the News

**Constance Nixon** (1984) recently earned the honor of 2001 Illinois Professor of the Year. The Carnegie Foundation presents this award for the Advancement of Teaching. Constance teaches political science at the Richard J. Daley College on Chicago's south side.

## Lost Classmates

Searching for old classmates for whom you've lost touch? The Taft Alumni Association does not provide names or addresses of alumni from our records other than for legitimate class reunions. However, we will help you in **your** search by publishing the name(s) in this newsletter. If that party responds to us, we forward that person's name and address to you.

The suggested donation for this service is \$5.00 per name. Send your request and/or response to Taft Alumni Association, c/o Taft High School, 6545 W. Hurlbut Ave., Chicago, IL 60631.

## Drum & Bugle Corp Memories

Bud Trick sent us the above photo and talked fondly of his years with the group. This photo was taken on the steps of Norwood Park grade school in 1932 or 1933. The corp was started with Mr. Widmeyer as a result of his close neighbor, young Bob Crow who had received a set of drums for Christmas. He started giving Bob drum lessons and then other boys got interested in their fun. The first members of the Norwood Drum and Bugle Corp were Bob Crow, Jack Bornhoff, Bud Trick and Warren Webster.

Our heartfelt thanks to Jeanne Kofoed who identified all the kids in this photo only a week before she died. See the memorial notice elsewhere in this issue.

Several members went on to other musical endeavors. Some were in the Taft dance band, while others went on to play professionally. Bill Bornhoff played for the Lawrence Welk Orchestra and Hubert Anderson played for another dance band.

Then there were other notables. The Sampson twins both became "baby doctors" with Alan having the honor of delivering Jeanne Kofoed's first child.



**Norwood Park Drum & Bugle Corps** - 1<sup>st</sup> row - Jack Sampson, Kenneth Cochran, Harold Baske, Trevor Soderholm, Emil Bore, Elaine Passow, Janet Foster, Jeanne Becker, Carol Passow, Asel Ashby, Warren Webster, Roger Peterson, Jack Bornhoff, Billy Bornhoff, Burt Trick, Bob Crow, 2<sup>nd</sup> row - Norman Soderholm, --- Wagner, Jimmy Webb, Billy Lewis, Marjorie Mann, Manan Webb, Marlon Enger, Muriel Hayden, Charles (Bud) Trick, Allen Veerick, Bob Kofoed, Norbert Kowalski, Gregory Case, Raymond Krawczak, 3<sup>rd</sup> row - Teddy Faber, Earle Karlson, Glenn Jonian, Alan Sampson, Jeanne Fay, Louise Krawczak, Loretha Dyer, Marion Lile, Leonard Krawczak, Robert Schollar, Douglas Small, Hubert Anderson, 4<sup>th</sup> row - Robert Passow, Kenneth Van Vorhees, Fred Ashby, Edward Eule, Virginia Hayden, Susan Brodtk, Jeanne Kofoed, Norma Bonehoff, Donald Clesman, 5<sup>th</sup> row - Howard Payne, Kent Locke, Tom Smith, Walter Gibbs, Dorothy Bushell, Carol Crow, Robert Krawczak, Red Mortensen, John Foster. Last row - Warren Scheffner, George Hanke, Richard Dolezal, Richard Enger, Donald Johnson, Jerry Bushell, Mr. Bornhoff, Mr. William Wilmsyer



Arlette (Sabey) Swanson sent us this photo of the Taft Student Council from 1954 or 1955. If you know which year let us know.



"There's nothing like playing at a veteran's funeral and seeing the gratitude on the family's faces," says Day (at home in Berwyn, Ill.).

## One-Man Band

**When he heard that boom boxes were replacing buglers at military burials, vet Tom Day issued a clarion call**

The first time Tom Day played "Taps" at a military funeral he was a 10-year-old with an adult-size case of nerves. "I messed up, but nobody seemed to mind," says Day, now 62, who performed the solemn ritual for the family of a neighbor who had died in the Korean War. "They were moved that there was a live bugler. I never forgot that."

Last year, when Day learned that a shortage of buglers—only 500 to cover the roughly 1,700 veterans who die daily—was forcing the Department of Defense to use recorded music at most

burials, he took action. Day created Bugles Across America, a nonprofit association he runs out of his Berwyn, Ill., bungalow using his own funds. So far he has recruited 450 buglers in 47 states, and funeral directors around the U.S. know to call him or check his Web site for volunteers. "Vets are heroes," says Day, a sales rep for the Illinois State Lottery. "They deserve better than a boom box." Day's troops share his dedication.

"I'm a saxophone player, but I'm learning the bugle to help out," says Jacklyn Raymei 15, the youngest

volunteer. "I feel it's my duty."

Day began his military career at Taft High School in Chicago, where he joined the Army ROTC. He went on to become a Marine sergeant and later served as a public information officer for the Navy and a bugler for the Coast Guard. Wed to second wife Donna, now 49, since 1978, he has two grown children.

No armchair recruiter, Day has ushered more than 550 of his fellow vets into the hereafter. Those left behind appreciate the special attention. Says Corinne Aultman, 53, whose uncle, a World War II vet, recently died: "When Tom played 'Taps,' it was so beautiful it made me cry."

Reproduced from  
People Magazine, May 6, 2002



### TAFT ALUMNI BARGAINS

**Cookbooks: \$5.00 each**

Taft Alumni recipes from 1940s through 1990s, including some Taft lunchroom favorites.

**Jackets:** Special purchase blue nylon windbreakers with a white flannel lining and snap front with a drawstring bottom. The silver emblem on the left breast area reads "**TAFT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**" with an eagle in the center.

- Medium (38-40)                    **\$30 each**
- Large (42-44)                    **\$30 each**
- Extra-Large (46-48)           **\$30 each**

### YEAR BOOKS

We have year books available for the following years.

- 1943, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1992,
- 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999,
- 2001

Please send a \$25 donation for each book.

## TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ORDER FORM

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Number of Children:	Ages:	Number of Grandchildren:	
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 cost. <input type="checkbox"/> I am enclosing \$15. 00 for two-year membership. <input type="checkbox"/> I am enclosing \$20. 00 for two-year Husband & Wife membership. <b>Return to: Taft Alumni Association</b> <b>6545 W. Hurlbut St.</b> <b>Chicago IL 60631</b>			
			<i>Spring 2002</i>

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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#### Newsletter Staff:

Editor - Jerry Bloom - (920)743-8449  
                   E-mail - Jbbloom@aol.com  
 Assistants: Kay & Tom Kuciak -  
                   (623)544-0226  
                   E-mail - Taftalum@cox.net

Website Coordinator: Kevin Krieger

### RENEW NOW !!

Look at your address label on the back of this page. Check your year of graduation on the upper left corner. Is it correct? The most important area is on the **top right** corner. This is the expiration date of your current membership status of the Taft Alumni Association. If the date is close, the **TIME is NOW** to sit down and write out a check for \$15. Not one, but **TWO** full years of newsletters with opportunities to learn about classmates, reunions, school events and alumni programs. Be sure to use the application form above to fill in the latest updates in your life.

Taft Alumni Newsletter is published quarterly by the Taft Alumni Association. Send all correspondence and changes of address: Taft Alumni Assn., 6545 W. Hurlbut St., Chicago, IL 60631. Or **e-mail at taftalum@cox.net**  
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