



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XX No. 3

Autumn 2004

Cliff Raiman Retires from TAA

After 17 loyal years on the board of the Taft Alumni Association, **Cliff Raiman** (Class of June 1947) will be stepping down as director. He was one of the original members of the reorganized alumni association and was instrumental in writing the current by-laws of the association and having its charter accepted as a non-profit Illinois corporation. Although well past the legal retirement age of 65, he is still in working world and has no plans to retire. Thank you, Cliff for your Taft loyalty and dedication these many years!

Lost & Found?

During his senior year at Taft in 1949, **Ted Dahlfors** was the commander of the Army ROTC Unit at Taft. The Army advisor at that time was **M/Sgt Ridnour**. Early in his senior year, the DAR presented the school with a beautiful sword. The sword was then presented to Ted to carry as commander of the unit and his name was engraved on the sword.

That year, his unit also won the ROTC competition between the 33 high schools in Chicago. This victory allowed them to lead the parade of high school ROTC Units in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade down Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago during the spring of 1949.

Six years later, Ted's cousin **Lloyd Wevang (January 1959)** followed in his footsteps and also became the commander of the Army ROTC Unit and had his name also engraved on the sword.

When Ted recounted this story, our curiosity was aroused. We asked around the school about the sword's whereabouts. Recently, we looked in the storage areas of the school for this sword. No sword. The NJROTC unit that is currently at Taft could not shed any light on it either

If you know anything about the current status of this sword, we'd appreciate your response. Contact us at Taftalum@cox.net.

2004 Hall of Fame Inductees

It was a very special day on Saturday, October 23, 2004 for nine Taft alumni. As part of the special 65th anniversary celebration, we gathered in the Taft High School Auditorium for their introduction to the current and former students, faculty and friends. Several hundred were present when we inducted these nine former Taft students. Last TAA newsletter issue we highlighted the twenty-one Taft Alumni who were previously added to our Taft Alumni Hall of Fame. The following are our newest additions:

Frank Zemaitis (Class of 1940)

"I was in the June 1940 class, the first to graduate from Taft. I was on the staff of the Taft Tribune writing a column called 'PENSTABS.' I also wrote reports of sports events. I was a member of the swim team and the baseball team. If records were kept, they would show I had the first extra base hit and the first two RBIs (We lost to Lane 22-2 in the opening game)."

Shortly after graduation, Frank contacted Principal Leo Hoefler and got the school's permission to found the first Taft Alumni Association. He was elected as its first president. After Pearl Harbor, as many other Taft graduates and students did, Frank served in the U.S. Navy, taught aeronautics at Navy Pier and served two years in the Pacific. After the war he attended photography school and owned a Chicago-area camera repair shop, Cam Tech, for 45 years. He retired in 1990 to the Indiana Dunes area, where he has continued the business part-time. He has written articles and stories and a children's book, and has been honored for his volunteer work by Friends of the Dunes.

When the Taft Alumni Association was reorganized two decades ago, Frank donated his time to help the group plan Taft's 50th anniversary and its 1940s display room. He married Jane Jewell (Taft February 1943). Their two children and a grandson also attended Taft.

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CLASS REUNIONS

3rd Annual all Taft Classes Reunion Picnic

Date: February 27, 2005
Place: Fort Desoto Park, St Petersburg, FL
Shelter #14 (park# 727/582-2267)
Contact: **Leon Kathan** (863) 655-4559
117 Monte Real Blvd.
Sebring, FL 33876-8056
leonkathan@yahoo.com

1955 – June

Date: October 1, 2005
Place: Stevens Ballroom - Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, IL
Contact: **Bill and Sue Oberheide**
(847) 823-1955 OR boberheide@aol.com

1956 – January/June

Date: **Volunteers needed to form committee!**
Place: To be determined
Contact: **Judith Nelson**
858 Poplar Lane, Deerfield, IL 60015
(847) 945-5523

1960 - June

Date: September 24, 2005
Place: Durty Nellie's, Palatine, IL
Contact: **Shirley Kalivoda DeWeese**
1425 Caldwell Lane - Hoffman Estates, IL 60194
847-885-8655 or JTDSAD@earthlink.net

Happy Days during the Nifty Fifties at Taft

It's been over 45 years since I graduated from Taft (January '57) and it seems that when you reach midlife certain distinct and happy memories resurface. I guess we all become nostalgic at one time or another.

For me it was the most exciting, challenging, eventful and grateful time of my life. I believe I was a little bit like Richard Cunningham on "Happy Days". Many of us from our class believe we were extremely fortunate and blessed to be students at a great school with many superb and unique teachers. **Ms. Godenrath** was my favorite teacher. At school as well as outside school, everybody called adults by Mr. or Mrs.! "Hey you" and "What's Up" were not a part of our culture.

I still remember my first Taft sweetheart, Carol, who was a few semesters behind me. The dress styles for girls included crinoline and poodle skirts, pumps, saddle shoes, and skirt and sweater sets. The guys had crew cuts or Hollywood haircuts and wore san-tans, white bucks and v-neck sweaters. And there were the Friday night dances in the gym, the Teen Canteen that usually included a live performance by a local band. I remember it was off Nickerson Ave in a church basement in Norwood Park. Rock and roll was in its infancy and growing and rocking across the country. Songs like "Sh-Boom" and "Rock Around the Clock" were at the top of the charts. Dick Clark's "American Bandstand" mirrored what was going on with music and dancing like Do Wop and spin offs of the jitterbug - like the bop - were in. There was a swivel-hipped teenager out of Mississippi named Elvis who went on to become the king of rock and roll. Football games were usually played on Saturday at Amundsen High School. Most of us took the CTA. If you were lucky enough to have a car, you were in a much better position to get a date. In my case I walked most everywhere, as did many other students. Walking in the 50's was an integral part of our teen culture.

How about the smell of sulphur or other exploding chemicals in the chemistry lab with the usual pungent smoke flowing into the hallways. Thank God I took physics! Lunch in the cafeteria for a full hot lunch was about 36 cents.

I personally joined the Army ROTC in my freshman year because I loved the discipline and the structured environment. In my senior year I was promoted to major, battalion executive officer and was fortunate enough to have led the Taft drill platoon team to 3rd place in the finals in the city of Chicago; a first for Taft. We really had extraordinary cadets on that team. Many went on to extraordinary positions in the armed forces. In my junior year I crossed over and joined the Taft baseball team and finished out my senior year with **Coach Smilgoff**. During my tenure and with the help of my journalism class, I wrote sports for the "Taft Trib". Being a part of the student council was also a blast. The junior and senior proms were great fun and the military ball at Lane Tech was really unique. The mixed chorus and girls chorus performed in the auditorium at Christmas time and was really amazing. I'm sure you'll all remember the really hot and humid days in June with no air conditioning in the school. The friendships developed during the 4 years at Taft were the best for me and something I will cherish forever.

On graduation day like many of my other classmates, I became sentimental and had trouble holding back tears. I realized most of my friends I would never see again.

Since graduation I've been a part of the planning committee for the 40 and 45th year class reunions; and alum of January '57 we're only a few years from the big "50".

Good Luck, **Leo Drummer** (January '57)
lgdwd@earthlink.net

Letters to the Editor

Dear Jerry,

We thought you might be interested in this for the Newsletter:

Taftites just seem to gravitate toward one another. In late July, all of the Taft grads [in photo] converged on Jeffersonville, Indiana at Warren and Jill Schimpff's 113-year-old family candy store. The five 1966 grads had gathered in nearby Louisville, Kentucky for the 17th annual get together. They managed to track the Schimpff's down without too much difficulty. Linda, a Louisville resident did the major detective work with the help of past Taft Alumni News articles. Two of the five fondly remembered being in Warren's mother's Girl Scout troop. It was one sweet gabfest!

We continue to enjoy the Newsletter - you see how handy it is for bringing Taftite together!

Jill (June '63) and Warren (January '61) Schimpff



Left to right: Bonnie (Stacy) Baldwin, Carol (Cotava) Lopriore, Lynn (Thomas) Krupa, Jill (Wagner) Schimpff, Warren Schimpff, Linda (Speckmann) Harrett, Carol (Sanders) Lauber

Dear Frank and Anne,

Thank you for the wonderful tour you gave the 1954 classes of Taft. We all appreciated and enjoyed seeing the changes made from fifty years ago - what a difference those years made!

Our classes are making this \$200 gift to the Alumni Association and hope you can put it to good use.

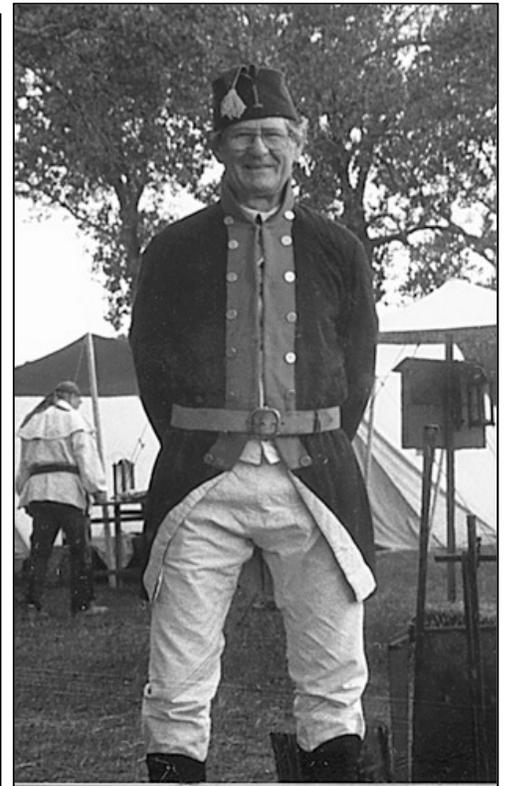
The 1954 Reunion Committee

Pres. Note: We are giving the Taft Library the \$200 from the class of 1954 along with \$2000 from the 1963 class, which was from donations and left over money from their reunion.

Dear TAA,

Thought you and Alumni might be interested in knowing what some of the Alumni are up to. Last year I joined a group out of St. Charles, MO to re-enact the journey of Lewis and Clark and the Corp of Discovery. Three boats were built prior to 2003 when one of the boats was taken to Pittsburgh, PA and put into the Ohio River for the 1st leg to St. Louis.

This year the boats started from St Charles, MO on May 15th to coincide with the departure in 1804. I joined the group in Elk Point, SD to re-enact the appointment and elec-



tion of Pvt. Patrick Gass to Sgt. After we broke camp on 8/23 we moved to Gavins Point Dam and campground for the rest of the week. While in camp we performed the same duties as the original members did, we march and drill, work on the boats (3) and dress in full uniform to meet with the local Indians. It was a very interesting week and I plan on joining in next year and also 2006.

Paul Rebscher (June 1953)

Pres, Note: Paul sent us some interesting photo's of the trip and a map but we only have room here to show the one of him in his uniform.

Dear Alumni Association Officers,

Just a quick note to say thank you for taking the time to put together such a fine publication. Of all the hundreds of pieces of mail that I receive the Taft Alumni Newsletter is one of the few that I read immediately, and certainly one that I enjoy thoroughly. It always gives me a warm glow in my heart to remember some very nice days with some great friends. Thanks again for taking the time, and making such a fine

effort to keep us all together, no matter how far away we've moved.

Brian Johnson (1971)

To all of you, who work so very hard, at the Taft Alumni Association:

I have lived away from home since I left Northern University. I can't begin to tell you how much I look forward to the newsletter and all the information it contains. I've worked on newsletters and know just how much time and effort it takes. My hat is off to you all.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for reconnecting me with classmates and keeping me current on news of the school. Yes, I was there in the "Grease" days and we had the best of times. I really think we had more fun.

Do you have June 1955 yearbooks? I've moved from NJ to NYC to Northern VA and now to Maryland, somewhere along the way my yearbook has gotten lost. I would really like to buy one if it's available.

Marlene (Pawlowski) Sullivan
(June 1955)

ED NOTE: Sorry no 1955 yearbook is available at this time. But watch the TAA newsletters, as any become available we publish them on the order page.

Jerry,

Really enjoyed reading your alumni newspapers. The last issue has an article written by my cousin, Margit Wevang (Lloyd's sister). The article also contains a picture of my cousin and her sister, Merle. Interestingly, they all still live in the same neighborhood they did when they went to Taft.

Thanks for listening and hope you can find some info [on the ROTC commemorative sword - see article in this issue] for me.

Ted Dahlfors (June 1949)
Keller, TX

Dear Letters to the Editor:

I read the letter from **Rey Nelson** that said he was looking for **Jack Gray** (June '48). Wish I had known earlier. Happy to see that they got together by phone at that time.

Hi Taft Alumni,

On June 30, 2004 a group of us from the class of June 1952 got together for a well-deserved reunion luncheon at the VFW in Des Plaines. We had such a good time and all celebrated our 70th birthdays. I believe we were there for about 4 hours just having a great experience and catching up on old times. Some of the attendees could not attend our 50th class reunion so it was extra special to see them.

We intend to try and get together again in the fall, so if there are any of you gals from the June 1962 class that would like to join us, please email me with your interest, the more the merrier.

Anita (Nehring) Petersen
anitapeterseg@att.net



L/R - back row - Judy (Miller) Sheehy, Donna (Hollander) Pederson, Joan (Weir) Lease, Joyce (Christiansen) Johnson

L/R front row - Carol (Brokaw) Yeaman, Lorraine (Olson) Barlow, Anita (Nehring) Petersen

I had to call Jack and we had a good laugh together. You see-Jack's father owned a large 3-story apartment building. We lived in one unit on the first floor and Jack's family, right above us on the second floor. We had a group of great neighborhood kids to play with. My parents and Jack's parents became very close friends. We went on many trips together! I consider Jack has been like a brother to me.

Marilyn (Fisher) Maxwell
(January 1946)

Hi Jerry,

I loved the article **Margit [Wevang - June '62]** had in the Taft newsletter, I still laugh when I think about it. [See Summer, 2004 issue.] I don't know if you knew I worked for **Bob Zaun** [June '58] for about 4 years in the 70's. Knowing both of them really makes it a real kick. The background of Taft was also great,

brings back a lot of memories and puts a lot in perspective.

Linda (Leschuk) Davidson (June '62)

Dear Jerry,

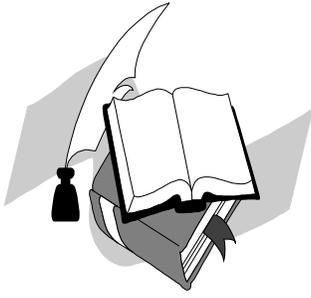
I have enjoyed another great edition of the Taft newsletter. I got my summer edition today and I have gone from cover to cover as usual. I enjoy reading the letters from the folks and all of the latest Taft High news.

I have been gone from that area for 58 years and a lot of things have changed in that time.

My reason for writing today is I read the letter from **Edith Mauch Swanek** (Class of Jan. '45). She and I use to walk to school together. I would walk to her house and then we would go the rest of the way together. In the letter from her she was thanking you for a picture that

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CLASS NOTES



1940s

MARJORIE (SCHOENBECK) BAUSONE (1940) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

LA VERNE (SEIBT) BANKS (JUNE 1941) lives in Grand Prairie, TX, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and is retired.

JOAN (CARPENTER) HILL (JUNE 1942) lives in Wauconda, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is retired.

NATALIE (STRAUSS) HOOPMAN (JUNE 1942) graduated from Wright AA 1944, lives in Punta Gorda, FL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

VIOLET FARA (JANUARY 1943) LIVES IN Mesa, AZ and is retired.

FLORENCE (KUFFEL) EDWARDS (JUNE 1943) LIVES IN Kimberly, WI, has 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild and is retired.

SHIRLEY (MELTZER) JOHNSON (JUNE 1943), MARRIED CLARENCE "LEFTY" (JANUARY 1944), they live in Chicago and Carefree, AZ, have 4 children, 7 grandchildren 2 great grandchildren and are retired.

LOIS (LUNDSBERG) MC DONALD (JUNE 1943) lives in Glenview, IL, has 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

JANE (WILDEMAN) GROVES (JUNE 1944) graduated from U of I BA 1948, lives in Sacramento, CA and is retired.

EDITH (MAUCH) SWANEK (JANUARY 1945) lives in Anaheim, CA, has 2 children and is a homemaker.

JEAN (LOVE) FISHWICK (JUNE 1945) lives in Grover

Beach, CA, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

BARBARA (WHITTIER) HANSON (JUNE 1945) graduated from Northwestern PhB 1951, Western Reserve MA 1961, lives in Northbrook, IL, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and is retired.

BILL AVERY (JANUARY 1946) graduated from U of I BA 1950, lives in Stuart, FL, has 3 children and is a financial advisor.

LORRAINE (KOEHLER) BISCOLL (JANUARY 1946) graduated from Drake BA 1950, lives in West Chester, PA, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

DONALD PETERSON (JANUARY 1946) MARRIED JOAN (ARADO) (JANUARY 1946), graduated from U of I BS 1952, lives in Rancho Mirage, CA and is retired.

EILEEN (KASCH) MONDAY (JUNE 1946) lives in Wauconda, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and is retired.

MARY (CARRIER) STEWART (JUNE 1946) lives in Dallas, TX, has 5 children, 11 grandchildren and is a housewife.

CAROL (LEWIS) CHRISTENSEN (JANUARY 1947) lives in Prairie View, IL, has 5 children, 7 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is a retired seamstress.

HELEN (FRYE) CICHY (JANUARY 1947) lives in Round Lake, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

BETTY (DOYLE) ELGE (JUNE 1947) lives in Seward, AK, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

CLAUDIA (PHILLIPS) FULLER (JUNE 1947) graduated from Northern BS 1951, lives in Longboat Key, FL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

CARYL (HUCK) NIXON (JUNE 1947) graduated from Troy State BS Ed 1951, lives in Livingston, AL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired teacher and florist.

DOROTHY (NESS) JOYCE (JANUARY 1948) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

JOAN (ARADO) PETERSON (JANUARY 1948) MARRIED DONALD (JANUARY 1946) they live in Rancho Mirage, CA and are retired.

JACQUELINE RAFF (JANUARY 1948) lives in Eden Prairie, MN, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

JACQUELYN (POPE) STONE (JANUARY 1948) lives in Woodland Hills, CA, has 2 children and works in the medical field.

BETTY (KOWALKE) AHRENS (JUNE 1948) lives in Beecher, IL, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is a headstart teacher.

WILLIAM CANTWELL (JUNE 1948) graduated from Northwestern CPA 1958, lives in Rockford, IL, has 10 children, 18 grandchildren and is retired.

SHIRLEY (OLSEN) HORN (JUNE 1948) lives in Minocqua, WI, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

FRANK KOSTRZEWA (JUNE 1948) lives in Bonifay, FL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

ROGER NEWMAN (JUNE 1948) graduated from Wright AA 1950, Elmhurst College 1953, lives in Palm Bay, FL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

ROSEMARY (CHELI) TURNER (JUNE 1948) MARRIED GEORGE (JUNE 1947) and they live in Homewood, IL.

HARRY BOBENG (JANUARY 1949) graduated from Wright AA 1951, U of I BS 1953, lives in Suwanee, GA, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

JO ANNE (BIEL) CONNERS (JUNE 1949) graduated from De Pauw BA 1953, lives in Glen Ellyn, IL, has 2 daughters, 3 granddaughters and is a homemaker.

TED DAHLFORS (JUNE 1949) MARRIED ARLENE

(WALDORF) (JUNE 1949), he graduated from Coe College BA 1953, they live in Keller, TX, have 3 children, 8 grandchildren and are retired.

DORIS (HARRINGTON) SAMPSON (JUNE 1949) lives in Clearwater Beach, FL, has 2 children and is a real estate broker.

NANCY (MONDIENTZ) TIBBITTS (JUNE 1949) graduated from Northern BS 1966, lives in Santa Barbara, CA, has 2 children and is retired.

1950s

LE ROY BAZANY (JUNE 1950) graduated from Notre Dame BSC 1954, lives in Naples, FL, has 6 children, 11 grandchildren and is retired.

BETTY (WILSON) SCHNITZLER (JUNE 1950) lives in Waukesha, WI, has 3 children and 4 grandsons.

KENNETH BROWN (JUNE 1951) MARRIED NANCY (MEYER) (JANUARY 1953) graduated from U of I BS 1962, MS 1962, U of AZ MS 1975, PhD 1980, lives in Tucson, AZ, has 6 children, 17 grandchildren and is retired.

ARLETTE (FREY) HALL (JUNE 1951) lives in Batavia, IL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

JAMES HIBARGER (JUNE 1951) graduated from Northwestern BA 1955, George Washington U MS 1968, lives in Vienna, VA, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

CHARLENE (JOHNSON) HURT (JUNE 1951) lives in Huntley, IL and is retired.

TOM OHMAN (JUNE 1951) graduated from Rock Valley AA 1980, lives in Rockford, IL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

ROGER NELSON (JANUARY 1952) MARRIED SUSAN (DOKKA) (JANUARY 1956) they live in Oakley, IL, have 3 children, 4 grandchildren and are retired.

SHIRLEY (BURHOP) IVERSON (JUNE 1952) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 3 children and is a housewife.

CLASS NOTES

RICH ANDERSON (JANUARY 1953) graduated from IL Wesleyan BS 1957, Chicago Teachers Med 1966, lives in Davis, IL, has 2 boys, 5 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

EARL HEGEMAN (JANUARY 1953) graduated from Wayne State BS Pharmacy 1957, MS 1979, lives in Warren, MI, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a Pharmacist/hospital administration.

JOHN JEPSEN (JUNE 1953) lives in Cary, IL and has 4 children, 13 grandchildren.

VIC LONGMAN (JUNE 1953) **MARRIED JUNE (BENNETT)** (JUNE 1953), **THEY RE-MET AT THE EBINGER REUNION IN 1999, MARRIED IN 2001**, they live in Wheaton, IL, have 4 children, 5 grandchildren and are retired.

DAVE REX (JUNE 1953) graduated from U of WI BSME 1958, lives in Kingsport, TN, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a project manager.

THOMAS FIZZELL (JANUARY 1954) lives in Phoenix, AZ, has 4 children, 18 grandchildren and is a pipe organ tech.

GLORIA (DINNELA) STRAUSS (JANUARY 1954) graduated from U of I BFA & MA, Penn State PhD, lives in Watertown, MA, has 1 child, 1 grandchild and is a retired professor at Northeastern.

WALTER VALTERS (JANUARY 1954) graduated from Loyola BSC 1958, PhD 1983, lives in Chicago, has 4 children and is retired.

JAMES DICKE (JUNE 1954) graduated from St Olaf BA 1958, U of UT BS 1960, U of MI MS 1966 Harrington U DSc (Honorary) 2000, lives in Raleigh, NC, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired Meteorologist for NOAA.

CAROL (JOHNSON) HECK (JUNE 1954) lives in Woodstock, IL, has 5 children, 10 grandchildren and is retired.

RAYMOND MIKKELSON (JUNE 1954) lives in Plantation, FL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

JACQUELINE (BENDLER) NELSON (JUNE 1954) graduated from Wright AA 1983, Northeastern BA 1986, lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

RAMONA (AMADO) NEMETH (JUNE 1954) lives in Norridge, IL, has 3 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

MARY LOU (MC CULLOUGH) PETRULIO (JUNE 1954) graduated from IL Wesleyan BSEd 1958, Wright AA 1956, lives in Portage, MI, has 5 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

NANCY (SCHMIDT) TANKE (JUNE 1954) lives in Winter Park, FL, has 3 girls and is retired.

JAMES BUDDENBAUM (JUNE 1955) graduated from U of I BFA 1960, lives in Wilmette, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired graphic artist.

MICHAEL CAVAN (JUNE 1955) graduated from Beloit BA 1959, U of Chicago MBA 1965, lives in Western Springs, IL, has 3 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

RAYMOND FATH (JUNE 1955) lives in Palatine, IL, has 9 children, 15 grandchildren and is a retired carpenter.

ROBERT HEIDORN (JUNE 1955) graduated from Lawrence BA 1959, U of I MA 1960, PhD 1963, lives in Janesville, WI, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a retired Political Science Professor.

JERRE (NETTLAND) STAATS (JUNE 1955) lives in Naperville, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

CAROL (ANDERSON) MONTGOMERY (JANUARY 1956) graduated from Northern BS 1960, Concordia Msed 1976, lives in Colorado Springs, CO, has 4 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired principal.

WILLIAM WESTERMAN (JANUARY 1956) lives in Chicago, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

DICK GRIESENAUER (JUNE 1956) lives in Itasca, IL, has 3

children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

MARJORIE (KLARQUIST) NEHLSSEN (JUNE 1956) lives in Lake Suzy, FL, has 2 children who both graduated from Taft, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

AUDREY (PETERSON) HAMPTON (JANUARY 1957) lives in Hampton, GA, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a housewife.

HERMAN KORNAZ (JANUARY 1957) graduated from Bradley BS 1961, lives in Sidney, BC, Canada, has 1 child, 5 grandchildren and is a CPA specializing in US taxes.

JOAN (OSMOLAK) MURRAY (JUNE 1957) lives in Romeoville, IL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

DIANA (SCHOLL) PERHAM (JUNE 1957) lives in Chicago, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is an office manager.

PAT (SCHUMACHER) PLATH (JUNE 1957) **MARRIED THOMAS** (JANUARY 1956), lives in Bethlehem, PA, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is an artist.

JUDY (NARODOWIEC) SECKER (JUNE 1957) lives in Rochester Hills, MI, has 2 children and is retired.

JUDIE (STENDAHL) THEISEN (JUNE 1957) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

JANET (MAEDLIN) WEAVER (JUNE 1957) lives in Peoria, AZ and is a cash office manager.

BETTE (WOOD) GOULD (JUNE 1958) graduated from Lakeland College BA 1990, MBA 1998, lives in Mountain Home, AR, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a semi retired CPA.

JUDITH (EDFELDT) HARTMAN (JUNE 1958) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and does clerical in her husbands company.

MARGO (ANDERSON) MAKSTENIEKS (JUNE 1958) graduated from U of I BS 1962,

lives in Woodridge, IL, has 2 children and does biological research and accounting.

RONALD NELSON (JUNE 1958) graduated from Adams College BA 1963, Northwestern School of Mortgage Banking, lives in Northbrook, IL, has 1 child and is semi retired.

LAWRENCE ROSE (JUNE 1958) lives in Windsor Hts, IL, has 2 children and is retired.

CONNIE (WIE) FELTER (JANUARY 1959) lives in Mesa, AZ, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

CHUCK LUNABERG (JUNE 1959) lives in Camdenton, MO, has 9 children, 24 grandchildren and is a retired mailman.

JAN (WORDELL) PFANNENSTEIL (JUNE 1959) graduated from Blackburn BA, lives in Sister Bay, WI, has 3 children and is a consultant to non-profits.

1960s

CAROL MONDEL (JANUARY 1960) lives in Chicago, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a cash management coordinator.

BARBARA (NELSON) SEGERSTROM (JANUARY 1960) lives in Lake Oswego, OR, has 2 children and is retired.

JIM JACOBS (JUNE 1960) lives in Redondo Beach, CA, has 1 child and of course co-authored "GREASE".

JACQUELINE KJELLEN (JUNE 1960) lives in South Wilmington, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a restaurant and bar manager.

BONNIE (ENGEL) O LEARY (JUNE 1960) lives in Bull Shoals, AR, has 4 sons, 7 grandchildren and is an aerobic instructor.

DIANE (CINQUEGRANI) RAPPE (JUNE 1960) lives in Las Vegas, NV, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

MARILYN (BOETTCHER) TROVELL (JUNE 1960) graduated from Augustana Hosp. RN 1963, Oklahoma City BS 1978, lives in Crossville, TN, has 2 children, 5

CLASS NOTES

grandchildren and is in real estate.

BILL WHITFIELD (JANUARY 1961), lives in Prospect Hts, IL and is in real estate sales.

KATHY (MC HUGH) BATJES (JANUARY 1962) GRADUATED FROM Northern BS ed 1966, St Xaviers Maed 1997, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is a 1st grade teacher.

THOMAS COOK (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Norte Dame 1965, Loyola MD 1969, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired physician.

WALTER GORDON (JANUARY 1962) MARRIED **DOROTHY (FRICANO)** (JUNE 1961) lives in Streamwood, IL, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is a CEO.

DENNIS MC DOUGALL (JANUARY 1962) lives in Sleeman-Ontario, Canada, has 1 child and is a resort owner.

ARLENE (RATULOWSKI) HARP (JUNE 1962) lives in Green Bay, WI, has 2 children and is retired.

DANIEL SCARPELLI (JUNE 1962) lives in St Charles, IL, has 4 children and 4 grandchildren.

JOY (GOTZ) OLSON (JANUARY 1963) graduated from Northern BS Ed 1967, Northeastern MA Spec Ed 1979, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 5 children and is an insurance sales and benefits administrator.

BOB WISLOW (JANUARY 1963) graduated from North Central College BA 1967, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a real estate developer.

ELLAMAE (BRAUN) GAUDIO (JUNE 1963) lives in Barrington, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a housewife.

JON INGRAM (JUNE 1963) lives in Sumter, SC, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is the owner of a paint and decorating center.

ROBERT REBHOLZ (JUNE 1963) lives in Las Vegas, NV,

has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is a retired Chicago Police Officer.

CAROLYN (FEARS) ROMINSKI (JUNE 1963) graduated from St Olaf BA 1967, St Xavier MA 1996, lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a Jr. High Teacher.

PATRICIA (NAUMES) SHERMAN (JUNE 1963) graduated from Wright AA 1965, lives in Glenview, IL and is a housewife.

MICHAEL LOPRIORE (JANUARY 1964) MARRIED **CAROL (VOTAVA)** (JANUARY 1966), they live in Prospect Hts, IL, have 2 children, 5 grandchildren, Carol is a nurse and Mike is self employed.

LOUISE (JOHANNSEN) MENTER (JUNE 1964) lives in Deerfield, IL, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is a teacher.

ANITA (REGILIO) RATTNER (JUNE 1964) graduated from St Charles Community College 1997, lives in St Peters, MO and has 1 child.

MARY (PAYNE) SERRA (JUNE 1964) lives in Northlake, IL, has 2 children and is an office manager.

NANCY (WENDT) GUNNING (1965) graduated from Luther College BA 1970, lives in Park Ridge, IL and has 4 children.

STEVEN JENSEN (JUNE 1965) graduated from UIC 1991, lives in Wilmette, IL and is in architectural sheet metal.

SUZANNE (INGEMANSON) PAGE-PRYDE (JUNE 1965) graduated from Miami U AB 1969, U of Akron MA 1971, lives in Houston, TX, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is in real estate development.

LE ROY POMERANING (JUNE 1965) lives in Scottsdale, AZ and is retired.

RICHARD ULASY (JUNE 1965) lives in Mc Henry, IL and is a mechanic.

NANCY (SEITZ) ATZENHOFER (JANUARY 1966) graduated from Ohio

State BFA 1970, lives in Alpharetta, GA, has 1 children and is retired.

JANET (HOWARTH) AREHART (JANUARY 1966) graduated from North Park BA 1970, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children and 1 grandchild.

KAREN (OSUCH) DEAN-FELBER (JUNE 1966) lives in Madison, WI, has 2 children and is an aviation tradeshow coordinator.

PAM (ERBACH) KUELTZO (JANUARY 1967) graduated from Northern BA 1971, lives in Lockport, IL, has 3 children and is an office manager.

LE ROY GURGA (JUNE 1967) graduated from U of I BA 1971, DDS 1979, lives in Lincoln, IL, has 3 children and is a Dentist.

DANIEL MARZEC (JUNE 1967) lives in Chicago and is self-employed.

FRED WORDELL (JUNE 1967) graduated from Western IL BS 1971, lives in Menomonee Falls, WI, has 1 child and is an account exec.

JUDITH BAUMAN (1968) lives in Morton Grove, IL and is a field rep for the American Cancer Society.

MARY (GORSKI) CAPSER (JUNE 1968) lives in Huntley, IL and is a housewife.

LISBETH CONGIUSTI (1968) lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 2 stepsons and is a personal wine consultant.

EUGENE PETROVITS (1968) graduated from Bradley BS 1973, Benedictine MBA 1999, lives in Plainfield, IL, has 3 children and is a mechanical engineer.

THOMAS SCHAU (1968) lives in Bartlett, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

SUSAN (ZELICHOWSKI) SKINNER (1968) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children and is a medical assistant.

WILLIAM BRENNAN (1969) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children and is a sales engineer.

RICHARD KARNEBOGE (1969) graduated from Western BS 1973, Central MI MSA

1986, lives in Pekin, IL, has 2 children and is a program director at Tazewell Health Department.

1970s

LINDA (DRAKERT) COOPER (1970) graduated from Lutheran General RN 1973, Grandview College BSN Nursing 1998, Des Moines, U MS 2002, lives in Marshalltown, IA, has 4 children and is an associate director of nursing.

DAVID ERICKSON (1970) graduated from Elmhurst College BS 1974, U of WI MBA 1976, lives in Des Plaines, IL and is self-employed.

LINDA (CLOUD) MUSIAL (1970) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife.

JOYCE (WILGUS) SHERMAN (1970) lives in Prospect Hts, IL, has 3 children and is a homemaker.

JEFFREY WUNDERLICH (1970) graduated from De Paul BS 1974, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a CPA.

BRIAN JOHNSON (1971) graduated from U of IA BBA 1975, lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 2 children and is a VP in sales and marketing.

PAMELA (GALLA) KLEIN (1971) lives in Barrington, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a nail technician/massage therapist.

EDEAN CONDIT (1972) lives in El Cajon, CA and is a senior account clerk for County of San Diego.

CHRISTINE BURNS (1973) graduated from U of I BA 1977, lives in Park Ridge, IL and is a consultant.

MARY KAY (KRETCH) HABEN (1973) graduated from U of I BS 1977, U of MI MBA 1979, lives in Glenview, IL and has 1 child.

PHILIP PETERSON (1973) graduated from St Joseph College BS 1977, lives in Villa Park, IL, has 1 child and is a chief financial officer.

LORI (SPEAR) MONTANA (1975) graduated from U of I BA 1979, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a consultant.

CLASS NOTES

THERESE VAN DORPE (1975) graduated from U of I BA 1979., lives in Chicago and is an insurance executive.

THOMAS ORSI (1976) lives in Marengo, IL, has 2 children and is owner of Orsi's Midland Seal Coating.

PAM (PROVENZANO) BALCER (1976) lives in Rolling Meadows, IL and has 2 children.

RALPH OBLOZA (1976) lives in Mt. Prospect, IL, recently got married on 1/31/04 and is an accountant.

SUSAN PHILLIPS (1976) graduated from Southern IL AA 1979, BA 1981, U of I BED 1982, DDS 1985, lives in Skokie, IL, has 2 children and is a Dentist/consultant.

DENISE (WOTOVICH) FORSTER (1977) graduated from Case Western Reserve BS 1981, MBA 1982, Geo., Washington U MS 1998, lives in Cary, NC, has 3 children and is a senior project manager.

SHARON (NOWAK) HALPERIN (1977) graduated from Southern IL BS 1981, lives in River Forest, IL, has 2 children and is a homemaker.

SCOTT WIDMAR (1977) graduated from UNLV BSBA 1985, MBA 1988, lives in Las Vegas, NV, has 1 child and is in real estate sales.

KAREN (TALABER) CLEMENT (1978) lives in Lindenhurst, IL, has 1 child and is retired.

PAM (MOGENSEN) GRABARCZYK (1979) graduated from Triton AA 1981,

lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 3 children and is a patient services coordinator at Northwest Community Hospital.

1980s

WENDY (WOODS) DI BIASO (1980) MARRIED **DONINIC** (1979), she graduated from De Paul BS 1984, Nat'l Lewis 1999, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a second grade teacher.

JOAN (O REILLY) DE FILIPPO (1984) graduated from Triton AAS 1986, Northeastern BS 1989, lives in Chicago, has 2 children, does pharmacy staffing and is the LSC Community Representative at Taft.

JANET (BERGENDAHL) SALMI (1986) graduated from U of I BS 1991, lives in Chi-

cago, has 2 children and is a finance manager.

JEAN (LIGHTFOOT) PAPPAS (1987) graduated from St Petersburg 2002, lives in New Port Richey, FL, has 2 children and is an RN.

LINDA PEMPEK (1988) lives in Park Ridge, IL and is a capital services associate for Xerox.

1990s

JUANITA SILVA (1990) graduated from Northeastern BS 1996, lives in Skokie, IL and is a Skokie Police/Fire dispatcher.

TAMMY (COMPTOM) TSIONES (1992) lives in Hickory Hills, IL, has 1 child and is a housewife.

In Our Memories

Robert Kopp, class of June 1943 passed away on December 10, 2003.

George J. Hanke, Jr., class of June 1942 died December 19, 2003.

Francis (Hoffman) Hardina, class of June 1944 died in February 2004.

Bette Lou (Fillebrown) Hirt, class of June 1946 passed away July 2004.

Rosemarie (Schick) Anderson, class of June 1946 passed away on May 3, 2004.

George Stuckey, class of June 1946 passed away January 6, 2002.

Claus (Rudi) Sutor, class of January 1946 died on June 16, 2003.

Helen (Pope) Broscovak, class of 1947 passed away on July 23, 2004.

Fred Johnston, class of January 1947 died on November 8, 2003.

Evelyn (Darling) Lewis, class of January 1947 passed away in July or August 2004 from cancer.

Lucille (Hamacheck) Phillips, class of June 1947 passed away from cancer on September 9, 2004.

Keith Wortman, class of June 1947 died on October 21, 2002.

Joyce (Foxvog) Helland, class of June 1948 passed away September 10, 2003 from cancer.

Forrest Paddock, class of June 1948 passed away March 15, 2002.

George Nelson, Jr., class of June 1949 passed away September 9, 2003 from a pulmonary embolism. He was a Physician who since 1986 suffered as a quadriplegic as a result of a fall.

Robert Stoltzner, class of June 1950 passed away on September 9, 2003 from cancer.

Robert Neal, class of January 1954 passed away on June 23, 2004 of complications from a stroke.

Mary Ann (Smith) Rezetko, class of June 1954 passed away on February 13, 2000.

Sally Weed, class of June 1959, died in Arizona. Details unknown. She was a popular, bubbly Taft cheerleader in the early 60s.

Nancy (Wohlfeil) Francone, class of June 1962 died at the end of September 2004 in Chandler, Arizona after a courageous six-year battle with cancer.

Elmer Arehart, class of January 1965, passed away in 2004.

Ann (Krasnopolski) McKienny, class of 1985 is deceased - date unknown.

Cara (Dunne) Yates, class of 1988 died October 20, 2004 after battling cancer for a number of years. She was a Taft Hall of Fame alumnus. See her extensive bio in the summer, 2004 TAA newsletter.

Edward Gilmartin, age 72 died August 8, 2004. He coached football at Taft for ten years (years of tenure unknown), as well as several years at Lakeview and St. Patrick's High Schools.

Letters To The Editor (Continued from page 4)

you had found for her. I have a picture of her and Bill that I made in her back yard. Bill is in uniform in the picture. I would like for you to give her my email address so that she can get in touch with me or if you want to add my mailing address from the newsletter file that is fine with me. I would like for her to have this picture as my children have no idea who neither she nor Bill are.

Keep up the good work. I check each time to see if any of the recent grads are at the Naval Air Station in Meridian MS. If I find one listed I will try real hard to get in touch with them. Thanks once again for your help

Norma (Brawner) Cooksey (January '45)

[Editor's note: With our help Edith and Norma were reunited. As has been done often in the past, connecting old classmates is a fun activity for the TAA. The suggested donation for this service is \$5 per name.]

Dear [Jerry],

As a long time reader of the Newsletter, I just want to say thank you to all who make it possible. As a graduate of the great class of June, 1942, I have many memories of Taft and my many friends who were lost in World War 2. I served in Iran for 3 plus years, but we were not in a shooting war. My wife and I moved to Door County in 1988, after having built our home in 1976. I am certain that you enjoy Door County as much as we do.

Now to the purpose of this letter. My dear friend **George Hanke**, class of June, 1942, passed away on Dec. 19, 2003. Like you, he was a long time retired resident of Sturgeon Bay. I would like to see his name listed in the "In Our Memories" in the next Newsletter, for those who may still be around and remember George.

Thank you again for all your work. Enjoy the "summer".

Paul Olson (June 1942)

Hello [Jerry],

I'm not sure who supplied the picture for page three of the Spring Alumni Newsletter, but **Janet Swanson Stoffels** is number three (left to right) wearing sunglasses. She can also be seen on page two, third from right, in front of me (wearing hat). Interestingly, Bob and Janet Stoffels live only a few miles from Ft. DeSoto Park and arrived on their bicycles...

Bill Becker (January 1942)
HWBeck@aol.com

Remembering Our Teachers...

Jerry--

Just finished reading **Dick Teuscher's** (1956) letter in this Alumni News.

I have a fond memory of **Leonard Teuscher**. He was the golf coach as well as the Assistant Principal.

In 1946 our team won the City championship and would be going to the State H.S. tournament in Champaign. I had the redoubtable **Dr. Buchwalter** as a Spanish teacher and she informed me that I would not be going because a Spanish final was scheduled for the time I would be gone. I could not miss it for a nonsensical game! I told Mr. Teuscher about the problem and implored him to help---thinking my chances were not good. About two days later Dr. Buchwalter told me I could take the test before I left. Mr. Teuscher's intervention made me a very happy kid and I regret never having thanked him properly.

I will always fondly remember our golf coach, Mr. Leonard Teuscher!

Bill Fassnacht (January '48)

Jerry,

I found the Summer 2004 Issue of the Taft Alumni Newsletter very interesting (as usual); however, the Letters to the Editor caught my eye when I read that of **Rodney Lowell** (June 1947). Yes, I too remember **Mr. Bigler**, **Mr. McCalmont** and **Mrs. Holterhoff** and too many others to mention them by name. I enjoyed a very special relationship with **Mrs. Ockerby**. I can confirm that my Mom really didn't handle Geometry very well.

What a pleasant surprise to see **Mrs. Ockerby** recognized in the letter of Rodney Lowell in the Summer 2004 Newsletter. After locating on Newark Avenue in Norwood Park in 1939, she transferred from Manley H. S., located on Chicago's south side, to Taft H. S. This gave her more time to monitor her son's activities. I, the student, joined Mother, the teacher, at Taft in 1944. We made it a practice to review our class schedules early in the semester so as to devise a plan to limit our exposure to each other in the hallways between periods. What student would want to have to say "Hi Mom" when passing a teacher in the hall of their high school? With my father, the Assistant Principal at Roosevelt H. S, many teachers were known as friends of the family. We were so pleased with the success of our plan, since it was only on my 1948 graduation that many classmates then became aware our relationship. Mother retired in the early 1950's and was planning to join her sister in Florida on Dad's retirement in 1958. Unfortunately she didn't achieve this or her hopes to see grandchildren produced by my 1956 union with **Barbara Nelson** (Class of 1946). Mom (Mrs. Ockerby) passed away in the summer of

1957. Terrific to hear memories of her live beyond our family.

Frank Ockerby (June 1948)

Dear Alumni,

I did not graduate directly out of Taft. My fiancé died in June 1944, so with the War still on and the fact that I only needed 2 more credits to graduate, I went to summer school at North Park Jr. College and received my Taft High School graduation certificate. There were several of us who did the same thing. Therefore we would not be in the yearbook.

Thank you for my copy of the Taft Alumni Newsletter. It was so nice reading about **Mr. Hoeffler**, Principal, **Mr. Teuscher**, Vice Principal and **Joe Kupcinet** Coach. Only once did I have any dealings with the Principals, one day I was called into Mr. Teuscher's office. I was really scared and couldn't figure out what I had done wrong. He was so nice - I did nothing wrong, but some of us girls were being bothered by some man in a yellow convertible wanting to give us rides on our way to school. My Mom, the girls and myself had called the police and as it turned out the yellow convertible was parked out in front of Mr. Teuscher's window and all I had to do was identify it. He told us not to worry anymore that it would never happen again and it didn't! I've also wondered about Joe Kupcinet. The last time I heard of him was the year Taft made the football finals and were playing Leo at the Chicago Stadium. During intermission an an-

nouncement was made that Joe Kupcinet who I believe was then in the Marines, had sent a telegram to his team and students wishing us luck in the game. We lost but that was a fond memory.

Edith (Mauch) (Snookie) Swanek (1944)

New Members Wanted

The Taft Alumni Association is always looking for alumni who are not currently members of our Association. If you know anyone who came from Taft and is not a member, please encourage him or her to join. Send us their name and address (and year of graduation, if known) at: Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 or email us at tafalum@cox.net.

Hall of Fame Inductees

(Continued from page 1)

Carol Gerhardt Hermann Horschke (Class of 1942)

At Taft, she was in the Pan American Club, Girls Athletic Association, Honor Roll Society, and the Junior and Senior girls clubs. A merchandising major at William Woods University she spent two years on the Carson Pirie Scott College Board.

Carol was named Fashion Director at Carson Pirie Scott at age 23, the youngest fashion director in Chicago. She started the first out-of-store Luncheon Fashion Show at the Empire Room of the Palmer House. She introduced Halston's first collection in Chicago before he relocated to New York. She was the first fashion person to use rear projection slides and movies as a background for a fashion show. She created a fashion clinic for the store and hosted an annual "White Gloves and Party Manners" program for children.

For 50 years she organized and was commentator for shows, not only for Carson's but also for Lord and Taylor, Bonwit Teller, Coutour, Elizabeth Arden, Gilmores, Branson, Gucci, Lake Forest Sport Shop, Frances Heffernan and other Chicago area stores. She produced convention shows for groups as diverse as Allied Florist, and the Fur Industry of Chicago.

She has been on the Board of Governors for the Sarah Siddons Society for 34 years, four years as president, which annually honors an actress performing in Chicago and presenting scholarships to theater students. She is a 30-year member of the University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation Women's Board and 35-year member of the Fashion Group International of Chicago.

She is married to Walter Horschke, and has three children and six grandchildren.

Patricia Ryan Michalski (Class of 1950)

When Patricia Ryan left Taft, she entered a traditional role of housewife and mother. Later, she re-

Wally and Laura Freedman



The Taft Alumni Assn. gives Wally Freedman a big **"Thank You"** for the donation of Taft Chorus records to our archives.

Tom and I got to spend an afternoon with "Uncle Wally" and his lovely wife Laura at their home the day we picked up the albums which are now in the Alumni office at Taft.

They are living in Scottsdale, AZ and doing very well.

Kay Kuciak

turned to school to complete her education, graduating from Wright College in 1972.

She and husband Harry Michalski had three children, and adopted three more bi-racial babies. They also became active in the Christian Family Movement, participated in Mission Vacations with Native American communities, and hosted several hundred international students over the years. Pat believed it important to be sure her extended family had connections with their diverse cultural heritages. She developed a list of ethnic organization contacts in the Chicago area.

A former manager of Chicago land sales development for Parker House Sausage Co., Pat was hired as assistant press secretary by the late Chicago Mayor Harold Washington, with a specialty in ethnic and community newspapers, and continued in the press office for Mayor Eugene Sawyer and Mayor Richard M. Daley. Hired by Secretary of State Jim Edgar, she served as his Assistant of Ethnic Affairs and Ethnic Media when he became governor, and continued through Gov. George Ryan's term. She now is an assistant to Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. She has been recognized with more than 65 awards and honors.

James A. Fizzell (Class of 1953)

At Taft, Jim Fizzell was active in the band and orchestra with John "Pops" Rapier, and in a dance band, which was started in his junior year. He attended Pasadena California City College and California Polytechnic College, earning two degrees in horticulture from University of Illinois and has done advanced studies at various universities.

He began his horticulture career in 1957 as an extension advisor for University of Illinois, providing information and expertise to businesses, media and the public in Northern Illinois for eight years. He spent a year with Whirlpool Corporation specializing in artificial atmospheres for production and storage of horticultural commodities and he worked as an independent contractor developing greenhouse complexes. Between 1972-1991, he returned to the U of Illinois as an extension horticulturist.

He has hosted the Saturday Morning Garden Show for WAIT Radio, Direct TV's Garden Street USA, and appeared on various other radio programs. He has written many articles, and authored a number of books including "Illinois Gardener's Guide," "Month by Month Gardening in Illinois" and "The Midwest Fruit and Vegetable Book" in various state-specific editions.

Jim and his wife Jane include in their family four children, two "foster" children, 12 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Dick Thornton (Class of 1957)

On the football field at Taft, under Coach Joe Kupcinet, Dick Thornton became a legend as a defensive back for his running, passing, punting and kicking skills, named to the all-state team and honored as

Chicago's most valuable prep player. At Northwestern University he played quarterback for Ara Parseghian and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in speech communications and journalism in 1961.

For 14 years he played professional football, starting with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Toronto Argonauts in the Canadian Football League, and captaining the Memphis Southmen to a divisional title in 1974 in the new World Football League. He was elected to the Blue Bomber Hall of Fame and in 1993 was named to the CFL All Time-All Start Team as one of the best 28 players in the history of the league. During the mid-1970s he was athletic director and head football coach at Southwestern College in Memphis, Tennessee, winning two conference championships and a 21-9-1 record.

In 1979 he earned the Delta KMA of Kroger Food Company as merchandising services manager. In 1980 he joined Coca Cola's USA Bottler Operations. That led to merchandising assignments with the soft drink manufacturer in Australia, London and Atlanta. Retiring in 1994, he has been an independent contract consultant, completing projects in the Philippines, China, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Okinawa, Guam, Saipan, Malaysia, Singapore, Nepal, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Cambodia. He is a regular columnist for "Beverage World International" magazine. He and his wife Adelfa and their family are based in the Philippines.

William H. Schalk (Class of 1960)

At Taft, Bill played football and basketball, voted co-athlete of the year in the January 1960 class, and was one of the Future Teachers of America. He went on to the Coe College and entered the U.S. Navy flight officer-training program in 1966.

For the next 20 years he served in the Navy, on aircraft carriers and two combat missions to Vietnam, and in an officer exchange program with the Royal Navy in Scotland. He graduated from War College and served two tours in the Pentagon with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Navy Department, representing the United States in NATO meetings at Brussels.

Retiring from the Navy in 1986, he attended Marquette University Law School and served seven years as an assistant district attorney in Racine, Wis., prosecuting more than 10,000 cases. He observed that students were successful in the classroom had less problems with the police or courts.

He ran for the Racine Unified School Board to have a positive impact in children's education. Now in his third term, he serves as president of the board for what is the third largest school district in Wisconsin. He also serves as a trustee for the Village of Wind Point, Wis., where he is responsible for village finances, and is active in many community organizations. Bill is a member of the board for Lincoln Lutheran, an agency that provides nursing, assisted living and convalescent services to the needy in Racine. He volunteers on the

board of the Bethany Apartments, a Dominican-run program to provide transitional housing for abused women and their children. He and his wife Dorothy have been married for 38 years.

Dr. Gay (Malewicki) Sweely (Class of 1964)

"My years at Taft were a joy and the foundation for my entire life," writes Dr. Gay Sweely. While here she was president of the Debate Club and the Future Nurses Club, a member of National Honor Society, Honor Club, GAA, Future Teachers Association and the Bowling Team, and played bassoon in band. She was named Miss Chicago Park District, Miss Junior Citizen Chicago in 1963, won 23 science fair awards including honorable mention at the national level, and was a keynote speaker for the 1963 NAACP Convention in Chicago on the importance of youth.

Graduating cum laude from Illinois Wesleyan University with majors in art history, literature and writing, and comparative religions, she earned her master's summa cum laude in art history at the University of Utah in pre-Columbian art. Early jobs ranged from director of public relations for the Air Force Sergeants' Association and technical editing for the Bureau of the Census and IBM Corporation, to teaching art history, technical editing, English and related topics at Northern Virginia Community College. Relocating the New Zealand in the mid-1980s, she received a PhD ad eundem Certificate of Proficiency followed by a double PhD in Art and Architectural History in 1998 from the University of Melbourne in Australia, specializing in Asian and Oceanic art.

Since 2000 she has taught art history and history at Eastern Kentucky University's Department of Art & Design, and was named the university's top teacher in 2003. She has edited over 100 publications in three countries and co-authored the book, "Becoming Australians" in 2001.

She and her husband Stephen have two sons.

Gloria Jean Sykes (Class of 1969)

Gloria Jean Sykes earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University. She taught grade school and high school art for a year, and returned to school to complete a master's degree in radio, television and film from Northwestern University. Meanwhile, she was getting experience in working on animation specials.

Since 1975, she has worked in many capacities behind the camera, writing, directing and producing for television and film. In her many media projects, she has specialized in investigative segments for TV news magazines and reality-based series. For NBC-TV's "What Happened?" series she researched singer Ricky Nelson's death, the USS Iowa, and other high profile disasters. She is proud of her documentaries for A&E - "Multiple Personalities," "Psychic Spies" and "Marriage and Murder" -- and her work on "A-Pac-O-Lafs-Now," a four-hour live comedy special with Robin

Williams, and "The Best Years of Our Lives" with Keith Knudson of the Doobie Brothers to benefit the Viet Nam Veterans Foundation. She was feature producer of "Cheaters," an Emmy-nominated HBO TV movie based on the 1995 Academic Decathlon competition in Chicago.

Most recently she has taught English classes as an adjunct professor at Wright College. She has co-authored a book, "Shattered Sense of Innocence, the Child Murders That Changed the Way American Looked at Itself" about the Northwest Side's 1955 Schuessler-Peterson murders - now waiting for publication.

Mark Fenske (Class of 1971)

He played baseball for four years at Taft, but if you'd asked Mark Fenske what he really wanted to do, it was to be in show business. In the 1970 talent show he proved his ability to mimic Jerry Lewis's "Nutty Professor." He was in the Taft casts of "Guys and Dolls" and "Mame" and was Drama Club President. Running a write-in ballot, he was elected senior class president.

From the late 1970s till the mid-1990s, Mark appeared on television, from episodes of "The Gong Show" and "Happy Days" to "The Buffalo Bill Show." He realized a dream appearing in the last season of "Mork and Mindy" with Robin Williams and Jonathan Winters.

A "comedian by choice," Mark has worked in comedy clubs across the United States and Canada, and appeared in plays and musicals for three decades. In 1996-97 he was the opening act of "The Pack is Back" tribute to the original Rat Pack.

Now a sales rep for Empire Cooler Service, he still performs stand-up. He is the father of twin sons.

Book of Honor

We have a very good start on our accumulating the names of Taft alumni who deserve special recognition, though different from the Hall of Fame alumni.

These are Taft students or teachers who we wish to remember and will add their names in our Book of Honor as they are accumulated. The names are in one of three categories:

- Past faculty, administration and staff members who made Taft a special place to learn.
- Deceased graduates who meet the same criteria as Hall of Fame nominees.
- Servicemen and service women who attended Taft and died in service to their country.

Although we issue invitations for nominations once every five years, alumni are welcome to send in nominations for future Hall of Fame or Book of Honor additions at any time. They should be specifically labeled as "Hall of Fame" or "Book of Honor," however as many alumni regularly share memories of individuals for the newsletter.

The Taft Code

I've made a copy of the Taft Code we received as incoming students January 1943, wonder how many remember this? Sure wouldn't work today but we were in school all of WWII, no yearbook only bound copies of the Taft Trib's, we had paper rationing, remember?

Lee (Nettland) Olson (January 1946)

William Howard Taft High School

5625 North Natoma
Chicago

"The only freedom man can ever have is the freedom to discipline himself."

THE TAFT CODE

The Taft Code is presented to help smooth the way of life in the area where students, teachers, and parents meet—that they may do the right thing at the right time and in the right way.

Taft Students Are Conscious of Developing Good Character:

1. They honor and respect their parents, teachers, and others who are.
2. They are honest; they do their own work and study for examinations.
3. They are punctual and meet every obligation promptly.
4. They hand in their homework on time.
5. They never use profanity; George Washington said of swearing, "It is a vice so mean and low that every man of sense and character will detest and despise it."

Taft Students Respect Property:

1. They do not destroy or damage school facilities, books, or school grounds.
2. They never destroy or damage the property of their neighbors or public property.

Taft Students Are Aware of Personal Appearance:

1. They wear clean, neat clothes fe. g. slacks and regular or sport shirts for boys, blouses and skirts or dresses for girls).
2. They never wear soiled clothes to school.
3. They avoid excessive ornamentation and extreme dress.

Taft Students Observe the Following Rules in Connection with Automobiles:

1. They use public transportation to and from school as much as possible.
2. They know that the parking lot on the school grounds is reserved for the faculty and staff.
3. They do not sit in parked cars during school hours.
4. They obey state and city traffic laws which provide:
 - a. a speed limit of 20 miles per hour in streets adjacent to the school,
 - b. no operating cut outs or straight exhausts or excessive noises,
 - c. no overloading of cars and motorcycles,
 - d. no operation of motor vehicles without a driver's license.

Taft Students Practice Self -Discipline:

1. They show responsibility without constant supervision.
2. They do not smoke in the school building or on the campus.
3. They know that any display of affection in public is in poor taste.
4. They do not drink alcoholic beverages.

Taft Students Base Their Social Life on Reasonable Rules:

1. They hold evening parties only on nights when there is no school the following day. At these parties an adult is constantly present.
2. They tell their parents where they will be and agree with them on the time at which they will return. (They notify their parents of any unusual delay.)
3. They know that the girl and her parents should determine the appropriate time to return from a date and that the boy should abide by the decision. (A city ordinance provides that all persons under sixteen years of age must be home by 10:30 p. m. every evening, Sunday through Thursday, and 11:30 p. m. on Friday and Saturday evenings.)

In conclusion, Taft students believe that the good line of communication must always be kept open between students, faculty, and parents for the maintenance of mutual respect.

TAFT Alumni Order Form

Quantity Ordered	Description	Price	Extended Price
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____

+ 6.00 postage/handling

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

Send check to: Taft Alumni Association
6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Month/Year of Graduation _____

TAFT Alumni Bargains

Static Window Stickers: \$3.00 ea. (Plus \$1 S/H)

"Taft High School - You Can't Hide Eagle Pride"
(Profits go to the Taft Athletic Department)

T-Shirts: \$10 each (XXL & XXXL - \$12 each)

Light gray with NEW Eagle logo silk-screened
in blue. Sizes - Medium thru XXXL

Baseball Caps: \$15 each

Royal Blue with NEW Eagle logo in gray/black
stitched emblem on front. Adjustable buckle tab - one
size fits all.

Jackets: \$30.00 each

Special purchase blue nylon windbreakers
with a white flannel lining and snap front with a draw-
string bottom. The silver emblem on the left breast
area reads "TAFT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI" with an
eagle in the center: M (38-40), L (42-44) only. (XL
SOLD OUT!)

Look for new Taft merchandise with our new logo in
our next issue of TAA newsletter!

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, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, IL 60631.

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:	
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. Return to: Taft Alumni Association 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. Chicago IL 60631			
			<i>Autumn 2004</i>

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RENEW NOW !!

Look at your address label on the back of this page. Check your year of graduation on the lower right corner. Is it correct? The most important area is here. This is also the area with the expiration date of your current membership with 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 below to fill in the latest updates in your life.

The Taft Alumni Association publishes the Taft Alumni Newsletter quarterly. Send all general correspondence and changes of address: **Taft Alumni Association**, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 or
 E-mail at Taftalum@cox.net
 Website: <http://www.taftalumni.org>
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