



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXII No. 1

Winter 2006

Taft Sports Fall Season's Highlights

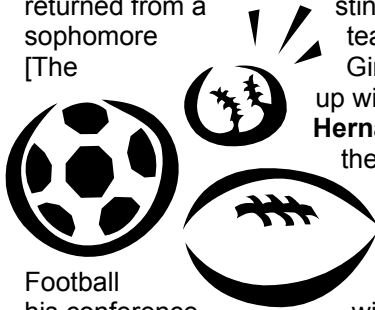
By **Nick Nishibayashi**, Taft Athletic Director

The fall athletic season has come to an end with many of our teams having successful seasons. Let's start with our girl's swim team under the tutelage of head coach **Joe Wilson** and assistant **Kathy Tomaras**. The girls worked hard all season and finished the year winning the Northwest Conference undefeated; for that matter the whole season was undefeated 13-0. This is actually the second year in a row that they have won conference and the future looks bright with many underclass swimmers.



The boy's soccer team also had a good season. Coached by **Rick Trujillo**, they finished with 10 wins 6 losses and 2 ties in city play. The CPS has their tournament before the State Tournament called the Chicago Cup of which Taft won. **Norman Astudillo** was named to the All-City and All- Sectional Teams. Coach Trujillo is looking forward to winning his conference next season and advancing further into the State Tournament. Girl's volleyball unfortunately had a down year winning only 1 game in a tough conference. Coach **Carlos Ruiz** who just returned from a stint in Iraq should have a much better season next year with his team going undefeated.

[The Girls soccer team, under director of head coach **Andrea Reed** wound up with an overall record of 8-4-0 last spring, with two players - **Dolores Hernandez** (class of 2005) and **Diana Salgado** (class of 2005) selected to the CPL's all-City team. **Aimee Omenazu** (class of 2005) was one of only 22 throughout the city so honored to be on the Chicago Fire/IHSA all-State all-Academic team. This portion added by Jerry Bloom, TAA newsletter editor.]



Football his conference also had a stellar season under 2nd year coach **Matt Walsh**, winning with a 5 win 0 loss record, 6-3 overall. Taft has won conference titles in 2 out of the last 3 years. All Conference selections went to **Bruce Brandon**, **Darrel Dickinson**, **Saul Gallegos** and **Alex Mora**.

Girl's Tennis had a mediocre season winning 3 matches. The good news is that **Paulina Bigos** who finished 5th in the State Tournament last year and due to a hip injury finished 23rd this year, signed with the University of Alabama with a full 4 year scholarship. Coach **Preet Singh** feels although he is losing Paulina he has enough of a base to be successful next year.

Boys 16-inch softball was also a gratifying season finishing at 16-4 overall and 9-1 in Red West Division play, just one win shy of a berth in the CPL finals. Coach **Kirk Vidas** said it was the first time the Eagles made the Final Four. He commended pitcher **Adam Czekaj** (senior), as well as first baseman **Alex Padilla** (sophomore) and catcher **Alex Craig** for their hitting efforts in their win for Section Championship. They are looking forward to next season, as a good part of the team were juniors and sophomores who will be back. They are **Darrel Jones** (shortstop), **Ben Hunt** (left-fielder), **Jerron Jenkins** (short-center fielder) and Padilla.

The athletic scene is improving along with the rest of the school. We are trying to bring Taft back to the quality school of the past. We are succeeding in this effort, I hope, to continue keeping our proud alumni informed of our accomplishments and rebuilding of Taft School Spirit.

Taft Class Reunions

June 1953

Date: September 8, 9 and 10, 2006
Place: Wyndham Hotel, Glenview IL
Contact: **Frances Hughes**
Bowlingbabe1@msn.com

January/June 1956

Date: September 8, 2006
Place: The Wellington/ Arlington Hts
Contact: **Judy (Herud) Nelson**
858 Poplar Ln, Deerfield IL 60015
(847) 945-5523
heyjudefromil@webtv.net

January 1957 - 50th reunion

Date: May 4, 2007
Place: Del Webb Sun City, Huntley Illinois
in Drendel Ballroom.

Contacts:

Leo Drummer - wilmaleo5@aol.com
Sandra (Hubenthal) Sams - telsam@cox.net
Diane (Klier) Dierks - djdierks@sbcglobal.net
Marilyn (Lane) Kellerman-MDKells320@aol.com
Ron Underwood at runderwood1@earthlink.net

1966

Date: July 22, 2006
Place: DoubleTree Hotel, Arlington Hts
Contact: **Linda (Kelly) Sak**
(847) 705-9808 (let ring 8 times for voicemail)
lulusak@aol.com

1995

Date: Spring 2006
Place: To be determined
Contact: Reunions, Ltd. (847) 295-1130 or
Reunionsltd.com. Also Maggie Matos at
maggiematos@yahoo.com

All Taft Classes - 4th Annual Reunion Picnic

Date: Sunday, February 26, 2006
Place: Ft. DeSoto Park, St. Petersburg, FL
Shelter number 14 - 11AM to 5PM
(park phone number (727) 582-2267)

Contact: **Leon Kathan**

117 Monte Real Blvd
Sebring, FL 33876-8056
(863)655-4559 (leonkathan@yahoo.com)

Elementary School Reunions

1955 - Oriole Park Elementary School

Contact: **Anne K. McManus** - (630) 584-9194

1955 & 1956 - Immaculate Conception Grade Sch

Contact: Barb (Nielsen) Jasper
bammabarb@aol.com

50th Anniversary - Edison Park Elementary School

Date: 2005-2006 school year
Contact: **Anne Calcagno** (LSC representative)
5956 N. Kilpatrick Ave/Chicago, IL 60646
(773) 545-9245 or acalcagn@depaul.edu
They are seeking photos, class lists, memorabilia,
Stories/contacts of anyone who went to Edison.

Lost Classmates

Are you looking for old classmates you've lost touch with? The Taft Alumni Association doesn't 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 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 or email us at taftalum@cox.net.

This issue,

Alan Carlson, class of January, 1957 is looking for **Ronald Anderson**, graduated in 1956 lived on Olympia near Pratt in Edison Park and **Pete Krallis**, not sure of graduation year but was on the baseball team and in the Marine Corps in 1960. Contact Alan at abck9@epud.net or 541-746-3793

Jackie (Kjellen) Schimdt, class of 1960 is looking for **Barbara Noon**, class of June 1960.

Jack Ristow, class of June 1946 is looking for **James Wade**, class of June 1946. Email JackRistow@msn.com.

Is your E-mail address up to date?

We endeavor to share your email address for other classmates to connect with you for various school events. But, it doesn't work unless we have your latest (correct) address.

Be sure to connect with our E-mail coordinator Paulette English at eagleemail@taftalumni.org with any additions or corrections.

CLASS NOTES



1940s

VIVIAN (MORRIS) HORN (JANUARY 1941) lives in Ingleside, IL, has twin daughters, 5 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren and is retired.

IRENE (WELLS) KING (JANUARY 1941) lives in Madison, WI, has 8 children, 10 grandchildren and is retired.

CHARLES (BUD) TRICK (JUNE 1941) graduated from Knox College BA 1946, U of MO MA 1948, lives in Cape Coral, FL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

LOIS (SOMMERFELD) SWANSON (JUNE 1942) lives in San Jose, CA, has 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

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

MARY ANN (COSCO) FREEMAN (JANUARY 1944) lives in Encinitas, CA, has 4 children, 3 grandchildren and is a housewife.

SHIRLEY (NANCARROW) WARNER (JUNE 1944) lives in Sandia Park, NM, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and is retired.

PAUL ANDA (JANUARY 1945) MARRIED CORINNE (LAUSCHKE) (JUNE 1945) they have 2 children, 2 grandchildren, live in Barrington, IL and Bradenton, FL.

JACK RISTOW (JUNE 1945) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, summers in Door County, WI, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

RICHARD DALY (JANUARY 1946) lives in Taylorsville, UT, has 4 children, 4 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren and is retired.

PAT (DONKEL) HOOVER (JUNE 1946) graduated from U of I BS 1978, lives in Huntley, IL, has 5 children and 14 grandchildren.

DOLORES (SHERMAN) WEEDA (JUNE 1946) graduated from Northwestern BS 1950, Northeastern MA 1977, lives in Wyoming, MN, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

FAITH (METZLER) SEMLA (JANUARY 1947) graduated from IL College BA 1951, lives in Barrington, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is a "professional" volunteer.

MARILYN (HAYOR) CICHOWSKI (JUNE 1947) LIVES IN Beverly Hills, FL, has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren and is retired.

SHIRLEY (CLAUSON) MAHAFFEY (JUNE 1947) graduated from U of I BS 1953, AZ ST MS 1958, lives in Urbana, IL and Sun City West, AZ, has 1 child, 3 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

ART BIESENTHAL (JANUARY 1948) graduated from St Norbert BA 1952, lives in Waukesha, WI, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

NORMA (RIGONI) EAKER (JUNE 1948) lives in Chicago, has 5 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

TERRY MURPHY (JUNE 1948) graduated from Lake Forest College BA 1952, lives in The Villages, FL, has 6 children, 15 grandchildren and is retired.

MARILYN (FISCHER) PARKE (JUNE 1948) lives in Indio, CA and Hope, ID, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren 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, 8 grandchildren and are retired.

MARY (FORSLAND) HARNER (JUNE 1949) graduated from Northwestern BS 1954, lives in Lake Geneva, WI, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

JAMES JACOBSEN (JUNE 1949) graduated from Northern

BS 1952, Bradley MS 1957, No. CO EdD 1964, lives in Macomb, IL, has 1 child, 4 grandchildren and is retired, now an antique dealer.

RICHARD SIENKIEWICZ (JUNE 1949) graduated from Northern BSed 1954, MSed 1956, lives in Altamonte Springs, FL, has 4 children, 16 grandchildren and is retired.

1950s

ARLENE (JOHNSON) KURKJIAN (JUNE 1950) lives in Geneva, IL, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

JOHN LUNDGREN (JANUARY 1950) lives in St Augustine, FL and is a stage and film actor.

ELIZABETH (DUNCAN) STEWART (JUNE 1950) lives in Maple Grove, MN, has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and is retired.

LOUIS TULGA (JANUARY 1951) graduated from Wheaton BA 1957, MA 1961, OH State PhD 1967, lives in Albuquerque, NM, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is a real estate educator.

JERRY GERHARD (JUNE 1951) lives in Ft Pierce, FL, has 8 children, 11 grandchildren and is a retired auto dealer.

MARGE (ANDERSON) KINTZEL (JUNE 1951) lives in Bensenville, IL, has 4 children and works at White Pines Dude Ranch in Oregon, IL.

RICHARD LALLY (JUNE 1951) graduated from Chicago Technical College 1958, lives in Edgerton, WI, has 2 children 4 grandchildren and is retired.

NADINE (STEINHAUS) OBERMILLER (JANUARY 1952) graduated from Waynesburg College BS 1984, lives in Waynesburg, PA, has 4 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired. Began fencing after retiring and is now a Gold Medalist.

LORRAINE (OLSON) BARLOW (JUNE 1952) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 7 granddaughters and is retired.

RICHARD HATHAWAY (JUNE 1952) graduated from U of I BSME 1957, lives in Groveland, CA, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

Also has small museum of antique fishing tackles and collects and restores old golf clubs.

HELEN (KARGER) HENDRICKS (JUNE 1952) lives in Bolivia, NC, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and is retired.

WILLIAM BRUHN (JANUARY 1953) lives in Cape Coral, FL, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

GLADYS (WESSELS) HINRICHS (JANUARY 1953) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and works in a school cafeteria.

NANCY (HERZ) STAHLBERG (JANUARY 1953) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

EUGENE SWANSON (JANUARY 1953) MARRIED SHARON (CHIZEK) (1960), graduated from U of I BS 1957, U of Chicago MBA 1972, lives in Naperville, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

MARION (JOHNSON) CHABOT (JUNE 1953) graduated from U of I BS 1957, MD 1961, lives in Berkeley, CA, has 2 children and is a Pediatrician.

FRAN (MARINO) HUGHES (JUNE 1953) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children and is retired.

MARION (HENNE) WILEY (JANUARY 1954) graduated from St Olaf, Art Institute/ Chicago, College of Arts/Atlanta, lives in Austell, GA, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

PHYLLIS ALIOTO (JUNE 1954) lives in Palatine, IL, has 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

MARLENE (FENSKE) DOUGLAS (JUNE 1954) graduated from U of I BS 1957, lives in Mt. Prospect, IL, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

CHARLES GOONREY (JUNE 1954) graduated from Northeastern BA 1958, JD 1961, lives in Camp Hill, PA, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired attorney.

BERNIE HARCZAK (JUNE 1954) lives in Thompson Falls, MT, has 8 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

CLASS NOTES

JOHN KATING (JUNE 1954) graduated from U of IL BA 1958, lives in Rolling Meadows, IL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

TONYA (GEISERT) LIEN (JUNE 1954), GRADUATED FROM Nat'l College of Education BA 1958, San Diego ST MS 1978, lives in San Diego, CA, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is a consulting school psychologist.

PATRICIA (KOLBUS) MC INERNY (JUNE 1954) graduated from Mayfair College RN 1977, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a retired RN.

ROGER POWELL (JUNE 1954) graduated from U of Memphis BS 1988, lives in Arlington, TN, has 2 children and is a firefighter.

ART REIDER (JUNE 1954) lives in St Petersburg, FL, has 3 children, 10 grandchildren and is a retired firefighter.

DOROTHY (TEUFEL) WENZEL (JUNE 1954) MARRIED RALPH (JUNE 1954), they live in Cary, IL, have 4 children, 6 grandchildren and she is retired.

WALTER JOHNSON (JUNE 1955) lives in Woodstock, IL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

KENNETH KOLCONAY (JUNE 1955) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 1 child and is retired.

SALLY (SWANSON) BRYNE (JUNE 1956) graduated from U of I BS 1961, Cal State MS 1980, lives in Jackson, WY, has 3 children, 11 grandchildren and is a retired occupational therapist.

LAURIE (HUEBNER) GLEESON (JUNE 1956) graduated from Marquette BS 1960, lives in San Diego, CA, has 5 children, 14 grandchildren and is retired.

KATHERINE (HANSEN) GUTIERREZ (JUNE 1956) lives in Boca Raton, FL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired, still interested in horses and writes for a Polo Magazine.

JOYCE (WALKER) KEILER (JUNE 1956) MARRIED LAMBERT (JANUARY 1952),

they live in Montgomery, TX, have 5 children and are retired.

CAROLE (WINTHER) MATHIS (JUNE 1956) lives in Veradale, WA, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a housewife.

ALLEN MESKAN (JUNE 1956) MARRIED ELIZABETH (ANTONACCI) (1958), they live in Wood Dale, IL, have 3 children, 4 grandchildren, he is VP at Louis Meskan Foundry in Chicago.

CAROL (THOMPSON) METZGER (JUNE 1956) lives in Crete, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

NANCY (WANDER) STOLF (JUNE 1956) graduated from Blackburn BA 1960, lives in Cape Haze, FL, has 5 children, 11 grandchildren and is retired.

ALAN CARLSON (JANUARY 1957) lives in Springfield, OR, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a retired police officer.

CLAIRE (JOHNSON) SCHAEFER (JANUARY 1957) graduated from U of I BFA 1962, U of Toledo Med 1979, lives in Perrysburg, OH, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

DAVID SAWNSON (JUNE 1957) has a blog site for his rare cancer. <http://squiredave.blogspot.com>.

ROGER STROMSTA (JANUARY 1958) graduated from U of I BS 1963, MS 1964, U of CA PhD 1972, lives in Milpitas, CA, has 1 child, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERT ZAUN (JANUARY 1958) graduated from Valparaiso, BA 1962, lives in Mundelein, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, retired, works on vocal quartet "Jazz Spectrum".

DIANE (DYKEMAN) HOWERY (JUNE 1958) graduated from U of I 1970, U of MN MSN 1980, College of St Thomas MBA 1980, lives in Seaside, CA, has 1 grandchild and is an RN.

KAREN (BERG) SANDBERG (JANUARY 1959) lives in Beaverton, OR, has 2 children, 3 grandsons and is retired.

MARGARET (RIES) SCHAFFNER (JANUARY

1959) graduated from Northwestern BS, lives in Union Pier, MI, has 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

GLEN TEMPLEMAN (JANUARY 1959) MARRIED BARBARA (LYNN) (JUNE 1959), he graduated from U of I BS 1964, IL State MS 1965, Barb graduated from U of I BS 1963, they live in Arlington Hts, IL, have 3 children, 7 grandchildren, Glenn is retired, Barb is a substitute teacher.

1960s

BARBARA (VAN DERLIP) MORETTI (JANUARY 1960) lives in Lake Geneva, WI, has 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

PAT (HEINDL) GREIN (JUNE 1960) graduated from Harper AA Elmhurst BA 1990, Concordia MA, has 5 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

SANDRA (MAHNKE) HOLMES (JUNE 1960) lives in Winchester, MO, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a bookkeeper/tax preparer.

JOHN KNUTSON (JUNE 1960) graduated from Augustana BS 1964, WA State MS 1967, PhD 1969, lives in Iowa City, IA, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a professor at U of IA.

PAUL NASIATKA (JUNE 1960) graduated from TN BA 1977, lives in Gresham, OR, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

JOYCE (JOHNSON) STACKHOUSE (JUNE 1960) lives in Woodstock, IL, has 3 children and is a controller.

CHARLES WILLIAMS (JUNE 1960) graduated from Northern BS 1965, MBA 1968, De Paul MA 1986, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 4 children, 2 grandchildren and is an industrial engineer.

BOB BRAUDE (JANUARY 1961) graduated from Parsons College BS 1966, lives in Kenesaw, GA, has 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

JIM EGAN (JUNE 1961) graduated from Southern IL, lives in Ft Myers, FL and is retired.

ROBERTA (LENZ) KOCH (JUNE 1961) graduated from Loyola BS 1965, lives in Niles,

IL, has 4 children, 13 grandchildren and is in sales for Quixtar.

PATRICIA (CHEW) TILSCHNER (JUNE 1961) lives in Phoenix, AZ and is in sales.

JUDITH (JOPP) WILLIAMS (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Northern BS 1966, lives in Orlando, FL, has 5 children, 4 grandchildren and is a real estate broker.

NANCY RUHLOW (JUNE 1962) graduated from U of I BS 1966, Northeastern MA 1972, spends summer in Couderay, WI, winters in Lombard, IL and is retired.

CRAIG SABEY (JUNE 1962) lives in Peoria, IL and is a maintenance worker for IL Dept. of Trans.

SANDY (STAPLETON) EILERS (JUNE 1963) lives in Las Vegas, NV, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

RANDALL FISCHER (JUNE 1963) graduated from De Paul BSA, Walton BA, and U of I CPA, lives in Lake Forest, IL, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a CPA.

SUSAN (MADL) HUGAS (JANUARY 1964) graduated from U of Redlands BS, lives in The Villages, FL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

WILLIAM MAZUREK (JANUARY 1964) graduated from US Air Force Academy BS 1968, Capital U MBA 2001, lives in Pickerington, OH and is an aviation safety inspector.

KRIS (WARNER) FINNIGAN (JUNE 1964) lives in Bainbridge Island, WA, has 2 children and is a consultant.

NANCY (NOBLE) ZORICK (JUNE 1964) graduated from Art Institute, lives in Indio, CA; she is an artist and also a Taft Alumni Hall of Famer.

JEANNETTE (BURCHFIELD) KEENAN (JUNE 1965) graduated from Beloit College BA 1969, Middlebury MA 1970, Roosevelt MPA 1976, Eastern NM ASN 1999, Yale MSN 2001, lives in Tucson, AZ and is an AZ licensing surveyor.

LYNN (HINTZ) POZSGAY (JUNE 1965) lives in Mt Prospect, IL and is a banker and in real estate.

CLASS NOTES

JOSEPH POPP (JUNE 1966) graduated from U of I BSME, lives in Lombard, IL, has 1 child, 1 grandchild and is a senior project engineer, on the Chicago Ski Council and a board member of Taft Alumni Association.

DEE (STECMAIER) TOBERMAN (JUNE 1966) lives in Carpentersville, IL, has 3 children and is a real estate agent.

PAUL DAVIES (JUNE 1967) lives in Palatine, IL, has 1 child and is retired.

PAUL MC CLELLAND (1967) graduated from College of Lake Co AA 1992, Carthage Paralegal 1994, U of WI BA 1994, lives in Lake Villa, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a paralegal/investigator.

SUSAN (WELLS) BORN (JUNE 1968) graduated from Northeastern BA 1972, Northern AZ MA, lives in Sun City, AZ, has 2 children and is a teacher/librarian.

BARBARA (GRON) GROSSE (JUNE 1968) graduated from Wellesbey BS Theology 1973,

lives in Northbrook, IL, has 1 child and is a philanthropist.

1970s

JACK SENYSHYN (1970) graduated from U of I BS, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children and is a Palatine police officer retiring in January 2006.

THOMAS JURGENS (1971) MARRIED KATHLEEN (O CONNOR) (1971), Tom graduated from Washburne 1976, they live in Custer Park, IL, have 4 children, 1 grandchild, Tom is a pipefitter supervisor, Kathleen is a benefits analyst.

FARO VITALE (1971) graduated from Wright AA 1973, lives in Chicago, has 1 child and is a self employed print broker and writer for Italian American Sports Hall of Fame Newspaper, also newest member of the TAA board.

MIKE HANRAHAN (1972) graduated from U of I BA 1971, lives in Plymouth, MN, has 2 children and works at an advertising agency.

TOM HOLLER (1972) graduated from Elmhurst College BS 1996, lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 2 children and is a lead database administrator.

JOHN MIKULKA (1972) graduated from Auburn BS 1985, IIT MS 1977, lives in Montgomery, AL and is a computer programmer.

PETER WATSON (1972) lives in Shiloh, IL and is a database administrator.

SUZANNE (KULAK) GUIGLIO (1973) lives in Thousand Oaks, CA, has 2 children and is a checker at Vons.

JOYCE (LUGA SELKER) (1973) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife/deli clerk.

RICHARD CAPPARELLI (1974) lives in Round Lake, IL, has 4 children, 2 grandchildren and is an auto dealer.

MICHELLE ALLEGRETTI (1975) graduated from U of I BSEE 1982, lives in Buffalo Grove, IL and is a computer consultant.

OLGA (BABENKO) GOADE (1976) lives in Eldorado Springs, MO, has 1 child and is a homemaker.

DARLENE (KLEBBA) KODIS (1977) lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is a bartender/assistant manager.

TINA (ATHANASAS) ATSAVES (1978) graduated from Northern 1982, lives in Glenview, IL, has 2 children and is a graphic artist.

KEITH RANG (1979) lives in Chicago, has 1 child and is a supervisor.

1980s

JESSE BRUSCEMI (1984) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 1 child and does electrical work.

2000s

RICHARD KALAFARSKI (2003) is attending Loyola majoring in communications and management, also a personal teller at Mid America Bank.

In Our Memories

Beatrice Burchfield, math teacher at Taft from 1964 to 1972 died on September 30, 2005.

Gloria (Kissel) Zeuschner, class of January 1946 died November 9, 2005 of complications from Alzheimer's disease.

Lois (Van Der Meulen) Mole, class of January 1949, passed away in 2004.

Ronald Gehr, class of June 1950 passed away on February 22, 2005.

Phil Schoessling, class of June 1952 passed away September 28, 2005; wife is **Arlene (Johnson)** class of June 1955.

William L. Oberheide, class of June 1955 passed away in his Park Ridge home on November 20, 2005 from pancreatic cancer. He was the husband of **Suzanne (Unger) Oberheide**, also from class of June 2005.

Ronald Treadway, class of January 1958 of Auburn, CA passed away October 25, 2005 after a five-year battle with multiple cancers. His sister, **Marilyn (Treadway) Armentrout** was also a Taft graduate.

Tom Georgopoulos, class of January 1960 passed away in Clearwater Florida in early November after a short fight with lung cancer. He was the brother of **Violet (Georgopoulos) Bilissis**, class of June 1962.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Taft Alumni,

Enclosed is a copy of an old Taft Music program. If anyone wants the slightly battered original, I'll send it along. Since your success in tracing the ROTC sword, I'm hoping you'll take on a new challenge. Our class bought a memorial plaque for "**Pops**" **Rapier**, we saw it hung in the hall next to the auditorium door.

When I returned for the 2001 reunion, that plaque plus all the 30 or so "superior" rating certificates the Taft Band and Orchestra had won were also gone. The Principal said he knew nothing about any of them. Since Taft again has a music program, it seems like these would be nice items to inspire current students. Does anyone out there know their whereabouts?

I was a short, bespectacled nerdy Taftite from 47-51, I liked it there! My daughter claims I'm the only person she knows who enjoyed high school, but at Taft most of the students and most of the teachers were nice people.

Lucy (Brundrett) Jefferson,
Class of June 1951

[Pres. Note: I'm not sure about the plaque for "Pops" Rapier but we do have the music plaques and unless they have been moved again they along with sports plaques are hung in the hall way right outside the office. Kay Kuciak]

Kay,

I look forward to every issue of the Newsletter. It is fun to read about people I knew and the letters from other alumni who also enjoy the Newsletter. One of my dearest high school friends is married to **Bob Ashby (Nancy Miller)**, I dated **Mike Fisher** his senior year and was ROTC Queen my senior year.

I hope to attend the 4th annual reunion picnic at De Soto Park in St. Petes, FL.

Thanks for all your efforts over the past many years putting the Newsletter together and all who help keep it alive. Wishing you continued success,

Marilyn (Prochaska) Copeland,
Class of June 1962

Dear Kay,

Suzanne Kulak's letter-to-the-editor in the autumn newsletter sent me off to my photo album. It has been 35 years since **Rick Winge, Gary Richert** and I were on stage at Taft High School performing in the schools musical production of *Guys and Dolls*. But, that musical which Music Teacher **JJ Stamm** staged in 1970 echoes through the years.

A few years ago Rick Winge organized a get-together in New York City for a few of the old Taft *Guys and Dolls* performers and our former Taft Music instructor Mr. JJ Stamm. We had a delightful time remembering the fun and excitement from our wonderful days at Taft. In the enclosed picture from left to right is Rick aka Sky Masterson, JJ Stamm, Gary Richert aka Society Max and me reprising the role of Harry the Horse. Back in 1970 we had to use make-up to look the part of mature businessmen. I think we have grown into those roles.



As a result of that first successful get-together with JJ Stamm Rick Winge hosted a surprise 80th birthday party for JJ in 2004. Over 100 of JJ's former Mixed Chorus students met in Chicago for that celebration. And, amazing as it sounds it was at that very surprise birthday party that Rick Winge met, fell madly in love with and recently married **Arlene Kael** (Taft grad - 1971). Taft graduates **Suzie Weinstein, Janie Intermill-Black, Gary Richert** and I were honored to be in Rick and Arlene's lavish wedding party in Napa, California. State law there permits one-day Justice of the Peace licenses so JJ Stamm was actually able to officiate and marry Arlene and Rick. It is a romantic Taft High School love story. Included is a picture from their July 2005 ceremony.

Suzanne Kulak says in her letter how JJ Stamm's musical helped cultivate an appreciation for live theatre arts. It had that effect on many of us. **Dan Nilles**, who played the character Big Jule in our musical production of *Guys and Dolls*, went on to a career in theatre arts. He is the head of theatre technical production at the University of California in Berkley. It is remarkable how a teacher's influence can affect what direction a life takes. And, we had some of the most influential of teachers at Taft like **JJ Stamm, Mr. Dluger, Irv Stein, Hattie Marquardt** and others.

Taft was a special time and place for us in 1970. And, it was pleasant to reminisce about it with you today.

Mike Costanzo - Class of 1970
Sioux Falls, SD mikecostanzo@usa.com



Jerry,

Thank you for your coverage in the recent Newsletter [see "Taft All-Stars" article on page 1 of the Autumn 2005 issue, Vol. XXI, No. 4].

I understand the problems with crashed computers and lost files, so offer a couple of corrections with due respect! Some of the information I sent in my original note to you was wrong. I tried to get you a note correcting it, but that may have gotten lost somewhere. At any rate, the All Stars listed from the '56 football team were all-city, except for Thornton, who was all-state.

Also, **Lynn Terry** informs me that Morgan Park was defeated in the play-offs for City Champion, and that our game against Morgan Park was not played in Soldier Field.

Finally, I am not a "doctor" of the medical variety, which might be assumed from the title, but of the PhD variety.

I look forward to **Coach Vida's** success in creating some sort of recognition for some of the many great athletes from Taft.

Bob Fizzell, Class of 1957
rfizzell@earthlink.net



Here are a few "oldies" to prove some of us are still around. (L to R) **Kathryn (Mitchell) Frost (1940)**, **Gloria (Barrer) Fitzgerald (1943)**, **Norma (Pfeifer) Walter (1940)**.

Norma and I were only at Taft for our senior year, and were in the very first class to graduate from Taft in June 1940. Gloria graduated in 1943 and all three of us consider Taft an important part of our past.

I thoroughly enjoy reading the Taft Newsletter and know how much work is put into it. I am editor and writer of a newsletter for the Glen Ellyn American Legion, and I put a lot of time and effort into it. My husband Jack, reads and enjoys it as well; he graduated from Maine Township in Park Ridge in 1939.

Norma and I belonged to the "Clover Debs" all through our high school years along with Peggy Mayer and Elsa Hand. The years have passed all too swiftly but we cherish the friendships we made along the way.

Best wishes for the great job you are doing.

Kay (Mitchell) Frost, Class of 1940

Jerry:

In June I renewed my membership for two years and that is reflected on the address label of my most recent addition of the newsletter. However, I have received both the summer and autumn 2005 issues and have yet to see the personal information I submitted with my check appear under class notes. It was my assumption that it would appear each time I renewed - or did I misunderstand?

The reason I'm even concerned about this is that my wife and I recently moved from San Francisco, where we had lived for many years, to Sedona, Arizona and I would like my former classmates to know about our new location.

If I need to resubmit my application form I'd be happy to do so or I can provide the information via another e-mail. I'll wait to hear from you.

Lynn Terry, June 1957
theterrys@earthlink.net

[Pres. Note: Each member is listed in the "Class Notes" when first joining. After that, they are reprinted about every 4 years. Lynn was listed in 2003 so should be in again with his next renewal. We receive too many renewals to list everyone each time. Kay Kuciak, Pres. TAA]

To TAA:

Dear Friends,

Enclosed find my renewal form and check to the Taft Alumni Assoc. I enjoy reading the Newsletter and seeing names from the past pop up.

My girlfriends and I used to go to the Hub Rink every weekend. I met my husband of 46 years there. He and a friend of his came all the way from Steger (where?) south of Chicago to check out the rink and couldn't believe how big it was. We sure loved Leon's music. I still have some of his LP's (what's an LP?) and play them often.

I enjoyed reading the articles "Do you Remember" and "Boy, we were lucky" in the Autumn issue. Brings back a lot of memories of a less hectic and safer time.

Thanks for all your work in keeping Taft memories alive.

Carol (Thompson) Metzger,
Class of June 1956

To Jerry:

Hope you liked my picture on page 7 (Taft Newsletter XXI No.4 Autumn 2005). The DCI finals were at Foxboro, MA Gillette Stadium. That is not the reason for this mail though.

On that same page, I noticed the name **Wrisley**. Is that the same family that lived near the Crippen House and owned Olivilo Soap Company?

And could **Marcia Lien** (January 1953) been from the family that owned Lien Chemical Company? If so, her brother Jerry and I were close friends in our younger days and he even went on vacation with my family. I do believe he died many years ago, but could never confirm this.

Two weeks ago I interviewed **Glenn Jorian** "The Singing Pilot" from WW2. He now lives in Huntley, but

was from Norwood and was a bugler. He married **Jean Hines** from Taft.

I found out that Jean's sister almost married **Stu Crippen** (January 1958). I interviewed Stu in Denver this August. He was in great spirits and we had a nice visit. He has a Lawn & Landscaping business.

Hope you might know some of the above and be able to add to my Norwood searches. Thanks,

Wayne Mounsey, 50s Schurz Grad.
Wjmoun@cs.com

*[Note: We are printing your letter here in hopes that others reading this might have answers to your questions that we could print in subsequent issues. I remember the Wrisley family who lived on the other side of the block from Stu Crippen and also, me as I was next-door neighbor to Stu Crippen. We lived on Newark Avenue and the Wrisley's were on Newcastle Ave. Their kids were older than myself, so I didn't know Bud Wrisley then, but I remember Mrs. Wrisley was a "big-wig" advisor with the Camp Fire Girls back then. I thought they were part of the Wrisley Soap Company, but may have had a brand name, such as Olivio. Also, I believe Jean Hine's sister was **Judy Hines** (January 1962). She was a good friend of mine and was instrumental in bringing me to join the Pioneer Girls at the Norwood Park Baptist Church in the 1950s. J. Bloom, TAA newsletter editor.]*

Dear Jerry,

What a great job you, Kay and Tom are doing on the Newsletter! I never stopped to realize the cost and the time involved until recently. I am on the board of our local lake association and helped "launch" our Fall newsletter to 470 members. Wow! What an endeavor that was! We had 5 people just folding, labeling and stamping for 2 hours. Don't know how many members in the TAA but I bet its more than that.

Also would like to thank all the TAA board members for their time and effort too!

Nancy Ruhlow, June 1962

[Pres. Note: Our normal mailing three times a year is about 4000 copies and the summer issue is over 16,000. After printing it takes about 2 weeks for the printer to get everything ready for the Post Office, except for the summer issue, which can take longer to complete. We used to do it all manually (taking MUCH longer, but now use the Des Plaines, IL. printing company services of Taft grad, Bob Soske, class of 1957. Kay Kuciak, TAA President]

Hi Kay:

With the last snafu you all had where you lost your mailing list database, the newsletter went to my old address again. Please change the mailing address and my contact information [as given]. Many thanks and keep up the great work!

P.S. Thanks to you I was able to contact **Jim Stamm** here in Florida and we ended up getting together at his place in Sarasota, FL during hurricane Wilma! It was touch and go during that weekend as we waited to see where the hurricane would hit land. Thank goodness, it was not only south of Sarasota, but also further south of Fort Myers where I live, although there were tornado warnings and touchdowns all around us.

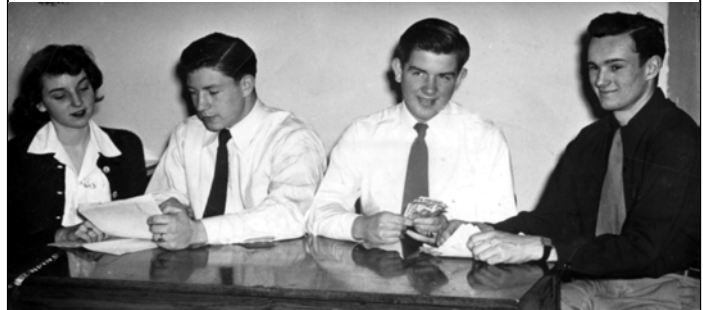
He and I survived and used the opportunity to go through photos, videos and tapes of all his achieve-

ments during the glorious decades of music that he created, not only at Taft but throughout the Chicagoland region. He was...and IS...an extraordinary person who touched so many people's lives. Many of his former students and colleagues maintain regular contact with him. I know he'd be delighted to hear from more of us.

Antoinette Allegretti (June 1957)
a.allegretti@tmsamericas.com

Aloha,

I thought my classmates might like to see the enclosed picture of the officers of the Class of June '47. I can't recall how we came to be the officers, [elected perhaps?] or that we ever did anything except get our picture taken. I also — don't remember wearing a shirt and tie to school. I'm sure it didn't happen very often.



I have been living the dream here in Hawaii for the past 25 years with Lura, my wife of 54 years. She was a cheerleader at Waller HS, but we didn't meet until I was in college at Marquette University in Milwaukee where she lived. We married in 1951 in So. Milwaukee and I still have the movies containing shots of some of my Taft football teammates who attended. In the year following my graduation from Engineering School, I entered the US Air Force, married, got shipped off to Germany and met my wife for a belated honeymoon in Paris. It was quite a year!

We returned from Germany a year later with a three month old infant, the first of five children, to attend MIT where I got my MS in Environmental Engineering. After the Air Force I worked for the US Public Health Service, the EPA and finally the Hawaiian Electric Co. from which I retired seven years ago. Golf, travel and spoiling our eleven grandkids now occupy my time.

I greatly appreciate your efforts in publishing the Taft Alumni Newsletter. I enjoy reading it as it reminds me of one of the happiest periods in my life. It also brings back fond memories of my mother, Esther, who was secretary to the Taft Principal, Leo Hoefer, from 1939 when Taft first opened its doors until she died ten years later at the young age of 46. She was known and loved by a great many students and faculty members from that period.

With my brother Jack [June '44] and I enrolled at the same time that my mother was working there, Taft really was a family affair for us.

With best wishes,
Dick O'Connell (June 1947)
rlo@hawaii.rr.com

Hi,

I sure would like to get my hands on a yearbook for my June 1952 class.....being that my husband was career military, we moved frequently and in that moving, my Yearbook "disappeared".... I had been writing in little notes beside the pictures of what I had learned about that specific classmate, so it was precious to me. I recently visited Chicago with my 16 yr old grandson, and took many photos of him standing in front of Farnsworth grammar school where I attended from K to 8th grade, in front of the "old" Taft front entrance as well as the newer building which I had not seen before. Had to see the Hot Dog place on Milwaukee Ave also where I had to have another one of those famous super hot dogs.

The old homestead looked the same on Linder Ave too. We had some great "pajama " parties there. It was quite a trip to the past which I really enjoyed with many sweet memories of those days long gone by.

In researching and working on my family genealogy, and "digging up" boxes of memoirs from the attic, I came across my Taft letter which I earned in sports, specifically, volley ball. Gosh, was it that long ago?

I often wonder where some of those classmates of mine have gone. I did visit with **Betty Jane Ullrich** and **Lil (Grundgeiger) Shuman**, which was great! Anyone wanting to Contact me, And reading this most current issue of the Taft Alumni Newsletter, I saw photo of another Farnsworth classmate, **John LaGorio**. Wow! My memory isn't so bad after all. (grin)

Enclosed is a check to cover my subscription awhile. Thanks for the memories!

Helen (Karger) Hendricks

Class of June 1952

Gr8Grammya@atmc.net

Dear Jerry,

"We listened to music by Elvis Presley, Pat Boone, Kingston Trio, the Four Lads, Four Aces, etc. and we heard it on the Howard Miller radio show" (Juanita Amado Phillips (1958), Autumn 2005 Taft Alumni Newsletter).

Yes we did, but some of us went beyond that. When in 1954 I told my friend and Taft classmate Howard Holloway that I like Pat Boone, he told me Pat Boone was "crap" (not the word he used). He said all the songs Pat Boone recorded were sung better by Little Richard. I could hear Little Richard and other great artists on WGES, especially on the "Jam With Sam" show starting at 10:00 at night.

Sam sure was different from Howard Miller. He didn't play any records by Pat Boone, Tab Hunter, Fabian, or any of the other white bread singers of the day. Instead he played a vibrant, raw music not heard on the main (white) stations. The list of great performers was endless—Muddy Waters, Big Joe Turner ("the boss man of the blues"), Chuck Berry, Laverne Baker, Clyde McPhatter, Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers, Ray Charles ("on Saturday he's gonna be on the stage at the Trianon, and he's gonna drown in his own tears!"). Some big stars never made it as

crossover artists with the white community. Others, like Little Richard, Chuck Berry and, especially, Ray Charles, in time became legends.

There were other disc jockeys, but Jam With Sam was the favorite, with his setting the atmosphere ("I'm gonna turn off all the bright, white lights and turn me on nothin' but a soft, blue light"), derision of segregation ("life behind the Cotton Curtain"), and talk about women. Sunday was gospel music with Mahalia Jackson and others, and church sermons on the achievements of black people and the hopes for the future.

Certainly not all, probably not most, Taft students listened to WGES. But quite a few did, judging from the discussions in school the next day. One night I even heard a request on Jam With Sam from the Pink Ladies, and I've always assumed it was Taft's Pink Ladies.

In the mid-1950s Taft did not have any African-American students or staff, not a one. Even in athletics we seldom encountered blacks, except for an occasional contest with Waller in the regular season, or the even rarer playoff appearance, such as the basketball games with McKinley and DuSable in the 1956 season. Race was not on our minds much. Far away in Montgomery, Alabama Rosa Parks had refused to give up her seat on the bus, and a new, young preacher in town, Rev. Martin Luther King, was leading a boycott of the bus system. However, that effort and other civil rights struggles seldom made the national news in the 1950s, and for the most part at Taft it was very easy to be oblivious to the lives of black people.

But Jam With Sam, the church services and the music on WGES gave some of us a small window into the African-American community. And Howard Holloway was right — Little Richard was a lot better than Pat Boone!
Don Ostrom (June 1956)
dostrom@gac.edu

School Boundary Proposal Changes

The past few months have had several public hearings and meetings at the Board of Education regarding attendance boundaries of six north and northwest side high schools. Taft, Schurz, Steinmetz, Forman, Lakeview and Lincoln Park high schools are in the affected area. Currently, Taft's enrollment is drawn from grade schools a far south as Belmont Avenue and as far west as the Des Plaines River, way past Cumberland and E. River Road. Much of that area is southwest of Harwood Heights and Norridge, making transportation for those students long and arduous. The changes up for review would bring the boundaries mostly back to where they were in 2000. The majority of the far-reaching area to the southwest would be transferred back to Steinmetz High School and southern portions to Schurz High School.

As Taft's enrollment has dramatically increased in the past few years, Dr. Tarvardian has been asking for relief of the large territory coverage. He wants to keep improvements in academic programs intact. Objections from the feeder school affected come from the realization that those students would be put into Schurz or Forman, whose academic standards have been shown to be much below that of Taft in past few years. Parents on both sides of the issue have been very vocal in the discussion process. We will keep you informed on their decisions.

ROTC Sword Names

Much has been written in past few issues about the lost (then found) Commemorative ROTC sword and its history with Taft High School. As a followup, TAA 2nd Vice-President Frank Heyer (June 1948) did an inspection and audit of the names on the sword recently returned to the school and your Taft Alumni Association. It includes the engraved names added recently, thanks to the efforts of alumnus Tom Holler. The names and dates are engraved as follows:

Presented to Taft H.S. R.O.T.C. American Legion - Norwood Post No. 740 by Company Commanders

Theodore E. Dahlfors - Spr. '49	Ray Johnson - Fall '55	Michael Fisher - Fall '61
Richard Palm - Fall '49	Kenneth Schurter - Spring '56	Terry Taylor - Spring '62
John Milne Grieg - Spring '50	Lloyd Wevons - Fall '56	Richard Johnson - Fall '62
John L. Gust - Fall '50	Robert Levy - Spring '57	Rober Marach - Spring '63
Ronald J. Hass - Spring '51	Ronald Schurter - Fall '57	LaVerne Gronke - Fall '63
Ronald G. Aron - Spring '52	Robert Witt - Spring '58	Raymond Kazmar - Spring '64
Kenneth Day - Spring '53	Allen Brocks - Fall '58	Emmett O'Neill - 1969-70
Kenneth G. Motzny - Spring '54	Ronald Barth - Spring '59	Al Schlenker - 1970-71
George Harris - Fall '54	Richard Swanson - Fall '59	Tom Holler - 1971-72
Pascal Perelli - Spring '55	Greg Drummer - Spring '60	Paul Haynes - 1972-73
	Robert Benziger - Fall '60	
	Lawrence O'Brien - Spring '61	

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 through XXXL

Baseball Caps: \$15 each

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

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) only, (X and XL SOLD OUT!)

Yearbooks: Suggested donation \$30

These yearbooks are hard to keep in supply. Requests are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Thanks to all who have tried to replace their lost or destroyed books.

Currently, as of January 3rd we have the following yearbooks on hand: 1941 Jan (1), 1942 Jan (1), 1946 Jan (1) June (1), 1947 Jan (1) June (1), 1950 Jan (2), 1980 (1), 1982 (9), 1983 (4), 1984 (3), 1985 (25), 1986 (54), 1987 (84), 1990 (49), 1991 (25), 1992 (134), 1993 (4), 1994 (48), 1995 (186), 1996 (65), 1997 (48), 1998 (152), 1999 (147), 2000 (349), 2001 (122), 2003 (17), 2004 (17) and 2005 (16).

TAFT Alumni Order Form

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

+ 6.00 Postage and handling

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

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 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60631

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

MONTH/YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

Be sure to add \$6 for postage and handling for each order to the same address. Use separate sheet of paper for orders to different addresses.

TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FORM			
Name		Maiden Name	Month & Year Graduated
Address (Home)		City	State Zip
Address (Business)		City	State Zip
Home Telephone No: ()		Email:	
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>Winter 2006</i>

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Check your address label for the year of graduation on the lower right corner. Is it correct? Also check the expiration date of your current membership with the Taft Alumni Association. If the date is close, sit down NOW and write out a check for \$15.

Not one, but TWO full years of newsletters are yours with opportunities to learn about classmates, reunions, school events and alumni programs. Be sure to use the application above to fill in the latest updates in your life.

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