



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXIII, No. 3

Summer 2007

Welcome to the Taft Alumni Association - Class of 2007

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2007. You are now part of a special group of men and women known as alumni of Taft High School.

Our purpose in the Taft Alumni Association is to provide a means for alumni to continue or renew friendships begun at Taft, to provide service to the school and, most importantly, to preserve its history. We publish a newsletter up to four times per year to let you know what other alumni are doing and to keep you informed of activities affecting the Taft community.

As you continue your education, embark on a career or get married and start a family, remember us. Drop a line to let us know your new name and/or address and what you've been doing since graduation. This information will be very helpful for your first class reunion five or ten years from now.

An application form to join the Association is on the last page of this newsletter. The membership fee is only \$15, which covers two years worth of membership. Considering the rising costs of printing and postage for these newsletters, that's a pretty nice bargain! We wish the best of luck to you. Hold your heads high and be proud to say you came from Taft High School.

Five TAA Scholarship Awards!

Thanks again to the generosity of several people this year, we expanded the Taft Alumni Association scholarships offered to graduating seniors to five awards. There are two special \$1000 scholarships in honor of Dr. Graven, who passed away last year. Then, we have another \$1000 scholarship in honor of **Robert W. "Bill" Hendricksen**, class of June 1960, presented by his widow **Darlene (Bruemmer) Hendricksen** (June 1962). And, as in the past, there are two \$750 awards to deserving seniors from your TAA funds.

There were a total of fourteen applicants who vied for these prestigious honors. The resulting recipients gave the awards an international flair this year. We have two awarding graduates who were born in the Ukraine and another from Columbia, South America.

\$1000 Graven Scholarship awards were given to two deserving young people. **Oksana Pasioka** shines as a dedicated and focused student with her sights on a career in medicine. She has decided to attend Loyola University this fall in the pre-med school. As this year's valedictorian, she demonstrates her abilities scholastically and

her service outside of classes show her drive for success. She finished her four years at Taft with a perfect attendance record and a 4.7 GPA.

The second Graven Scholarship was awarded to **Yaryna Klimchak**. She has been accepted by five major universities around the Midwest. She earned the rank of #26 in a class of 452. It will be interesting to see which school is the final choice to pursue her interest in Journalism or Business.

The Robert Hendricksen \$1000 award was given to the salutatorian of her 2007 graduating class. **Melissa Morales** will attend The University of Illinois at Chicago, with her focus on biomedical engineering. She hopes to become a doctor specializing in reconstructive surgery.

The first Taft Alumni Association scholarship of \$750 was awarded to **Volodymyr Hirnyj**. He
(continued on page 2)



Taft Class Reunions

Jan. - June 1948 60th Reunion

To determine if there is sufficient interest, advise Frank Heyer if you would plan to attend.

Write: 5549 N. Austin- Chicago 60630

Phone: 773/631-4701

E-Mail: frankheyer@msn.com

January 1952

Date: October 13, 2007

Place: Hackneys, Glenview, IL

Contact: Bill Becker HWBeck@aol.com

June 1957 - 50th Reunion

Date: October 5-7, 2007

Place: Doubletree Hotel - Arlington Hts.

Contact: Bob Fizzell - 608/365-0096 or
BobFizz@sbcglobal.net

June 1958

Date: October 2008

Place: TBA

Contact: Juanita (Amado) Phillips
J-E.Botg-SC@juno.com

June 1959 - 50th Reunion

Date: September 27-29, 2009

Place: TBD - Picnic, dinner/dance, football game & school tour

Contacts: www.taftreunion1959.com

Larry Marsh - faireas2u@earthlink.net

Pat Lutz - patlutz@comcast.net

Kent Meyer - clmokm@comcast.net

Sue Willers Bruce -
mrmrsjbruce@verison.net

1966

Date: July 28, 2007

Place: Deer Grove East #44
Palatine, IL

Contact: Linda (Kelly) Zak 847-725-9808 or
lulusak@aol.com

1987

Date: July 28, 2007

Place: Westin - Chicago North Shore,
Wheeling, IL

Contact: Joe Barthel - (847) 368-8014
josef425@comcast.net

1997

Date: November 28, 2007

Place: Gibson's Steak House, Rosemont IL

Contact: Latosha Howard -
shelby10-@yahoo.com

All Taft Classes - 6th Annual Reunion Picnic

Date: Sunday, March 16,
2008

Place: Ft. DeSoto Park,
St. Petersburg, FL

Shelter number 14 -
11AM to 5PM

(park phone number - (727) 582-2267)

Contact: **Leon Kathan** (if needed)

117 Monte Real Blvd.

Sebring, FL 33876-8056

(863) 655-4559 - leonkathan@yahoo.com



**NOTE: Newsletter deadline for
Articles or events for next issue:
September 15, 2007.**

Elementary School Reunions

1958 - Norwood Park School 50th Reunion

Date: Summer 2008

Place: TBD

Contact: **Jerry Beesley)**

Bloom (June 62)

(920) 743-8449 or jerrybloom@fales.org

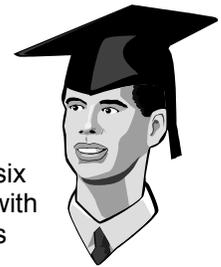
1967 - Ebinger School - 40th Reunion

Date: October 27, 2007 (6 pm - Midnight)

Place: Four Points Sheraton - Schiller Park IL

Contact: Timothy Arado - 773/456-4140
seymore90@aol.com

TAA Scholarship Awards



(continued from page 1)

has been part of Taft for the past six years, as he entered in 7th grade with the gifted junior high program. His focus right now is in Electrical Engineering. But whatever his final goal, his leadership abilities will take him to loftier heights in his chosen field. He finished with a class rank of #36 - ranking him in the top 10% of his class.

The second \$750 Taft Alumni Association scholarship was given to **Jessica Koza**. She ranked fourth in her class, with a GPA of 4.6122. She, too has an interest in the field of medicine. Jessica plans to attend University of Illinois - Chicago Campus this fall to begin her schooling and training as a pharmacist.

A Gauntlet Dropped...

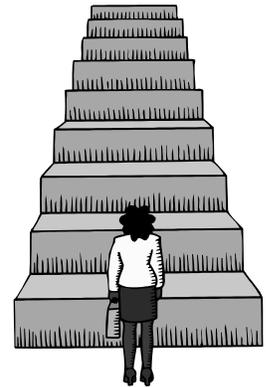
My name is **Darlene (Bruemmer) Hendricksen**. I graduated in June 1962. In the year 2000, I had read in the Alumni newsletter that an anonymous donor had died. He had been giving money for an annual scholarship.

It was the 40th reunion for the class of 1960 that year. My late husband **Robert (Bill) Hendricksen** was part of that class. I was going to write a letter to that reunion challenging someone, or a bunch of someones, to step up and replace that donor. I kept thinking about it but never wrote that letter. Instead, I personally stepped up to replace that donor.

So far, I have had the pleasure to award seven \$1000 scholarships to deserving seniors. I enjoy choosing someone. I feel we all should do something to help someone else.

However, it would be nice if the recipients of these scholarships would take the time to write a thank you note. I personally have never received one. Next, it would be nice if any of the recipients who have ever received an Alumni Association scholarship would like to write and tell us what they are doing now. There is a group of people who cared enough about you to award you a scholarship. Can you care enough about them to keep them informed? Am I asking too much?

This is my next challenge - surprise us and answer. It will be interesting to see how many of you respond. Also, since someone helped you, it would be nice if you helped someone along the way, too.



Who Remembers Bob Hanssen?



All Taft alumni should know just a little bit about him. He is the subject of a 2007 movie called "Breach", and an earlier TV film called "Masterspy".

Robert Phillip Hanssen, Taft [June] 1962, is the former FBI agent who sold US secrets to Russia. He once walked our same halls, sat at our same desks and jumped at our same bells. He was born in 1944 and his family home was [in the 5800 block of] Neva. A neighbor called him an "intelligent kid" and he once told his Russian handler that he could remember any conversation he ever had. With his abilities he could probably have made his one and a half million dollars the honest way. His motives remain unknown, but according to the Russian he had wanted to be a double agent ever since he was age fourteen. He appeared to be very religious, and once confessed his actions to a priest.

John Heinz '52

He was arrested in 2001, after 15 years of spying, perhaps through a tip from that Russian handler. He is now in a super maximum prison in Colorado.

A book bibliography on him is: The Bureau and the Mole, by David Viss, The Spy Who Stayed Out in the Cold, by Adrain Havill, and The Spy Next Door, by Elvie Shannon. Also, a good local interest article was in the Chicago Tribune, November 21, 2001; available from any reference librarian. See also numerous on-line sources. [Notations in brackets are corrections by editor Jerry Bloom.]

Lost Classmates

Are you looking for old classmates you've lost touch with? 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.

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.

The suggested donation for this service is \$5 per name.

CLASS NOTES



1940s

LORRAINE (SCHROEDER) JOHNSON (JANUARY 1941) lives in Norridge, IL, has 1 child and is retired spending winter in Marco Island, FL.

RITA (WINKATES) CAPPELLER (JUNE 1941) graduated from Mundelein BS 1947, lives in Lake Bluff, IL, has 4 children and is a retired food service supervisor

LEONE (SHADEL) WOLFE (JANUARY 1942) lives in Lewellen, NE, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

CHARLOTTE (ZIMMER) KENZEL (JUNE 1942) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

CAROYLN (RAPPOLD) REID (JUNE 1942) graduated from North Park AA 1944, U of Chicago BS 1946, lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

DAVE WHITTIER (JANUARY 1943) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 4 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired, spends summers in Michigan.

LEONA (CABOOR) LAMCZYK (JUNE 1943) lives in Hot Springs, AR, has 4 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

AUDREY (RUNDE) FLETCHER (JUNE 1944) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 1 great grandchildren and is a retired secretary.

JOHN O'CONNELL (JUNE 1944) lives in Glenview, IL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is a marketing manager retired.

LORRAYNE (WEBER) RAIMAN (JANUARY 1946) lives in Chicago, has 7 children, (6 graduated from Taft), 19 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and is retired.

DAVE NELSON (JUNE 1947) MARRIED MARILYN (NETT)(JUNE 1947) he graduated from U of I BS 1957, they live in Leawood, KS, have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and both are retired.

DICK O'CONNELL (JUNE 1947) graduated from Marquette BS 1951, MS Inst of Tech MS 1954, lives in Houston, TX, has 5 children, 11 grandchildren and is a retired Federal employee.

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

LOIS (MAGOON) ROSE (JANUARY 1949) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is a retired claims adjuster.

RAYMOND GODZICKI (JUNE 1949) lives in Chicago, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

DONALD JAMES (JUNE 1949) graduated from Beloit BS 1953, lives in Ft Myers, FL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

1950s

GERTRUDE (GADEN) BASQUIN (JANUARY 1950) graduated from Northwestern BS 1954, lives in Elkhart, IN, has 4

children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

RUTH (EGELAND) WITTHOEFT (JANUARY 1950) lives in Unionville, CT, has 1 child and is retired.

MERRITT LEWIS (JUNE 1952 MARRIED JOYCE (RUTTKAY) (JUNE 1956), they live in Arlington Hts, IL, have 2 children and are retired.

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

BARBARA (THOMPSON) OLSON (JANUARY 1953), graduated from St Olaf BA 1957, Mankato MA, lives in Edina, MN, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired special ed teacher.

JANET (REBSCHER) EASTMAN (JANUARY 1954) lives in Northbrook, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a travel manager and meeting planner.

JACQUELINE (EARNEST) NELSON (JANUARY 1955) lives in Apple River, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired from banking.

RONALD GOHL (JUNE 1955) lives in Wonder Lake, IL, has 7 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

MADELINE (DEICHL) NELLES (JUNE 1955) MARRIED JAMES (JUNE 1955), they live in Palatine, IL, have 5 children, 6 grandchildren and are retired.

JOHN SNOW (JUNE 1955) graduated from Coe

College BA 1959, lives in Palatine, IL, has 2 children and is a retired truck driver.

MARILYN (TREADWAY) ARMENTROUT (JANUARY 1956) graduated from U of Chicago BS 1959, lives in Irvine, CA, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is a school personnel coordinator at U of CA, Irvine.

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

AUDREY (HILL) STANTON (JANUARY 1956) lives in Brookings, OR, has 6 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired graphic artist.

SUZANNE ANDERSON (JUNE 1956) graduated from Grant Hospital RN 195, U of Redlands BA 1977, lives in Escondido, CA and is an RN.

PAULETTE (HUSE) MC GUIRE (JUNE 1956) graduated from IL State BS 1960, lives in Frankfort, IL, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired teacher.

DICK TEUSCHER (JUNE 1956) MARRIED ADRIENNE (THOMPSON) (JANUARY 1958), Dick graduated from Carroll College BS, they live in Fishers, IN, have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and own "Sir Richards Christmas Village", a gift/tobacco store.

LOIS (NIELSEN) WASCHOW (JUNE 1956) lives in Chicago, has 3 children (all Taft grads), 5 grandchildren, 1 great grandchildren and is a medical volunteer at Resurrection Hospital.

DOEN WIECHMANN (JUNE 1956) lives in Blaine, WA, has 2 children,

4 grandchildren and is retired.

LEO DRUMMER (JANUARY 1957) lives in Elgin, IL, has 1 child, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

JAY FORBREGD (JANUARY 1957) lives in Phoenix, AZ, has 1 child and is the owner of a gun shop.

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

SUSAN (GOETZ) ALDOUS (JUNE 1957) lives in Salt Lake City, UT, has 3 children and is in public health.

ROBERT FIZZELL (JUNE 1957) graduated from Beloit College BA 1961, Northwestern MAT 1966, PhD 1975, lives in Beloit, WI, has 3 children and is a retired professor/consultant.

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

DONALD ERICKSON (JUNE 1958) graduated from Northeastern BA, lives in Phoenix, AZ, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired sales director.

JUDITH (EDFELDT) HARTMAN (JUNE 1958) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is homemaker.

DIANE (BIESTER) CARLSON (JANUARY 1959) graduated from Roosevelt BA 1979, Webster MA 1990, lives in Palatine, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

DOROTHY ENGELS (JUNE 1959) graduated from Drake BFA 1963, lives in Chicago and is a retired flight attendant.

JOYCE (SLOWN) STARK (JUNE 1959) lives in Bensenville, IL, has 2 children and is a library assistant.

1960s

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

KAREN (JENSEN) PICKETT (JANUARY 1960) MARRIED DENNIS (JUNE 1958), they both graduated from Northern BS 1973, Karen MS 1977, Dennis MS 1969, they live in De Kalb, IL, have 2 children, 2 grandchildren and are retired.

SHIRLEY (KALIVODA) DE WEESE (JUNE 1960) lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a furniture sales consultant and the TAA VP and Treasurer.

CAROL (PTAK) DE WIRE (JUNE 1960) lives in Punta Gorda, FL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

RAYMOND FAIRBANK (JUNE 1960) graduated from Golden State AA 1974, lives in Victorville, CA, has 3 children and is an insurance broker.

DENNIS FERSON (JUNE 1960) lives in Wakefield, MI, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired labor relation's manager.

MARILYN (STANO) GUILLEMETTE (JUNE 1960) lives in Chicago, IL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is a retired buyer and manager.

PAT (LATIMER) MORTENSON (JUNE 1960) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 1 child and does accounting.

DONNA (ZAPP) REUSING (JUNE 1960), graduated from Wright AA

1962, lives in Braselton, GA, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

SUSAN (RICHARDSON) VOGT (JUNE 1960) graduated from Bradley BA 1964, U of I Med 1968, lives in Wheaton, IL, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

LINNEA (LUNDBERG) CONWAY (JANUARY 1961), graduated from SIU BA 1964, Washington U MSW 1971, lives in Mission, TX, has 4 children, 1 grandchild and is a clinical social worker who also breeds Cocker Spaniels.

STEVE REGOPOULOS (JANUARY 1961) graduated from U of I BS 1969, lives in Barrington, IL, has 4 children, 2 grandchildren and is a real estate developer.

ARTHUR HELT (JUNE 1961) graduated from Wright AA 1963, lives in Lake Forest, IL, has 7 children, 7 grandchildren and is an industrial consultant.

ARTHUR KAY (JUNE 1961) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and does prepaid legal services.

MARGERIE MC LEAN) a KULLMAN (JUNE 1961) life in Pluth, MN, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

ROSEMARIE (CARONE) CHANNON (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Northeastern BA 1966, MA 1978, lives in Skokie, IL and is an educator.

RICHARD WENDRICKS (JANUARY 1962) lives in Hot Springs Village, AR, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

NANCY (MILLER) ASHBY (JUNE 1962) lives in Linn, MO, has 3 girls, 7 grandchildren and is a

baker at a local school. Her husband taught ROTC at Taft 1970-72.

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

LOWELL JOHNSON (JUNE 1962) graduated from Augustina BA 1966, U of IA MAT 1968, Lake Forest Grad School MBA 1985, lives in Hendersonville, NC, has 2 children and is retired from teaching.

JOYCE (ERLANDSEN) KLODNICKI (JUNE 1962) graduated from U of I BS 1966, Rollins College MA 1987, lives in Coca, FL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired from nursing.

PATRICIA (DU FOUR) LORTZ (JUNE 1962) graduated from Wright AA 1964, U of Denver BFA 1966, BA 1967, lives in Maricopa, AZ, has 1 child and is an art teacher and decorator.

KATHIE (SCHROEDER) WHITEHURST (JUNE 1962) lives in Crossville, TN, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

JEANETTE (OLSON) GILBERTSON (JANUARY 1963) graduated from Northwestern BA 1965, lives in Tampa, FL, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

RICHARD HOEHN (JANUARY 1963) MARRIED MARGE (SAUER) (JUNE 1964), he graduated from IIT BS 1971; they live in Chicago, have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

MICHAEL BIENIK (JUNE 1963) lives in Palatine, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is a mold maker.

CLASS NOTES

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

LINDA (SCHNEIDER) KOSIOL (JANUARY 1964), lives in Glendale Hts, IL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is a computer education assistant.

JANET (COMO) HAGEL (JUNE 1965) graduated from Loyola BSN 1969, Aquinas College MM 1993, lives in Holland, MI, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired realtor.

MARCIA (BERWEIT) JARECKI (JANUARY 1965) lives in Chicago, IL, has 1 child, 3 grandchildren and is an administrative assistant.

LINDA (SPECKMANN) HARRETT (JANUARY 1966) graduated from Northern BS 1970, U of Louisville MA 1977, lives in Jeffersontown, KY, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a teacher in a psychiatric hospital.

JUDITH (SWANSON) STONE (JANUARY 1966) graduated from Eastern BS 1970 Concoria MA 1994, lives in Twin Lakes, WI, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

JANET (WILKE) GIBSON (JUNE 1966) graduated from North Park BA 1971, lives in Bloomington, MN, has 2 children and is a marriage and family therapist.

NANCY (KNAPP) GRECO (JUNE 1966) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is an assistant manager for Hallmark.

BOB FRIEDLANDER (JANUARY 1967) graduated from SIU BS 1971, lives in Richland, MI, and is a scout for the LA Kings.

RICK HUNT (JANUARY 1967) lives in Elmhurst, IL, has 1 child, 3 grandchildren and is a distribution center manager.

HOLLY (GUNDLACH) MIHALOVICH (JANUARY 1967) lives in Charlotte, NC, has 1 child and is a housewife.

STEVE JOHNSON (JUNE 1967) graduated from Northeastern BA 1972, American Academy of Art AA1 1976, lives in Chicago, has 1 child and is an artist and teacher.

RICHARD ROZYCKI (JUNE 1967) graduated from U of I BS 1971, U of NH MAT 1977, lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 3 children and is retired.

MARY (STECKIEWICZ) GARZINO (JUNE 1968) MARRIED FRED (JUNE 1968), she graduated from De Paul BS 1982, Loyola Med 1976, Fred graduated from Drake BA 1968, U of NC MA 1974, Northwestern MA 1980, De Paul JD 1998, they live in Chicago, where Mary is an educational writer and Fred is an attorney.

WINNI (JOYCE) JOHNSON (1968) lives in Cincinnati, OH, has 11 children and is a Mom.

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.

RANDY ADKINS (1969) lives in Indine Village, NV, has 1 child and is a business owner.

ED PRELLETZ (1969) lives in Peoria, AZ, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a small business underwriter for American Express.

EDWARD SEMMERLING (1969) lives in Tampa, FL, has 2 children and is a Northwest Airline ticket agent.

1970s

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

GARY RICHERT (1970) graduated from Purdue BS 1974, MS 1975, lives in Hinsdale, IL, has 3 children and is a district manager.

NANCY (DOBBERTIN) BLANCO (1971) LIVES IN Winnetka, CA and is a business analyst.

KATHY (KWITEK) MOUNTFORD (1971) graduated from College of Lake County AA 2003, Roosevelt BA 2005, lives in Lake Zurich, IL, has 2 children and is a special Ed teacher.

JOANNE (MANTHIE) KAHN (1972) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 1 child and is a manager MIS operation.

PATRICIA (WENDT) WIEMER (1972) lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 2 children and is a part time teacher assistant.

ADRIENNE (OSTFELD) BOHNENKAMP (1973)

graduated from U of NE BA 1981, lives on Omaha, NE and has 3 children.

SHERYL (SATOTZ) HABEL (1975) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 1 child and is a food service and catering manger.

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

GAIL (KRISINSKI) HARNED (1976) lives in Lexington, KY, has 2 children, sells Mary Kay Cosmetics, is a Curves trainer and spends winters in Naples, FL.

INGRID KAEV (1978) graduated from U of I BA 1982, lives in Buffalo Grove, IL and is an accountant.

1980s

NADINE (KOZIOL) KLEINFELTER (1980) graduated from IL Wesleyan BA 1984, lives in Allentown, NJ and is an actuary.

RAY NELSON (1980) graduated from De Paul BS 1984, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 1 child and is an actuary.

THOMAS HIZEL (1982) lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is an CNC programmer.

Gale (GUNDERSEN) GARDNER (1986) MARRIED ROBERT (1988), they live in Chicago, have 2 children and Gale is an event planner.

1990s

NICOLE NOVAK (1997) lives in Chicago and is director of referral services for Prudential Real Estate.

In Our Memories

Loraine Chmielowski, class of June 1942 passed away on May 6, 2007 from pancreatic cancer.

Lorraine Peterson, class of June 1942 passed away May 22, 2007.

Robert Matheson, class of June 1944 passed away June 27, 2007.

Marjorie (Beesley) Pelton Anderson, class of 1945 died from complications following cancer surgeries June 20, 2007 in Seattle, WA.

Lois (Williston) Spotholz, class of January 1948 died February 15, 2007 of cancer.

Barbara (Hollander) Echeverri, class of 1951 died January 1, 2007.

Arlene Nettland, class of June 1953 passed away May 19, 2007.

Ronald Cwiklinski, class of June 1955 died June 2, 2007 from lung cancer.

Judith (Morrison) Bateson, class of January 1958 died March 21, 2007.

Janet (Bettle) Zofkie, class of June 1961, passed away May 19, 2007 due to complications from lung cancer treatments.

Marcia Dahl, class of June 1966, passed away in November 2005.

Correction: Lynn I. Terry (June 1957) was listed erroneously last issue as the son of **Caryl (Anda) Stecher**, a January 1950 graduate who has recently passed away. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



Alums In The News

John Heinz, Taft 1952, Curator of the Chicago Maritime Society, will give an illustrated lecture on Great Lake Divers in Fact and Fantasy on Saturday, October 27th at the Helix Building, sixth floor, at Racine and Jackson at 1:00 PM, free admission and free parking.

John is the author of over 70 articles on Great Lakes history and the winner of numerous awards in film-making. This seasonal talk will feature the gothic era of helmet diving and primitive submarines. It is a serious adult presentation.

Passing the Torch...

Congratulations and best wishes to the latest group of teachers who are retiring or leaving Taft this June. They will be missed! They are: Geraldine Rizek (Asst Principal), Nilda Paulet (Drama), Rosie Purkett (Secretary, transferring to Kelvin Park), Chris Jones (Asst. Principal, going to be Principal at Mather, his former HS), Norika Arakawa (Dean of Students), Chris Dedes (Spanish) and John Mullins (Coordinator of the I.B. program).

Is your E-mail address up to date?

This notice is being repeated as a reminder. Since its inception eight years ago, the Taft Alumni E-mail Directory has become a popular feature of the TAA website. Over 1,500 alumni from the Classes of 1940 through 2002 have registered. The directory, however, can connect classmates only if the information is accurate. As this issue is being sent (additionally) to those former members who have yet to send in renewal dues along with all the new graduates, we feel this information needs to be restated.

Please take a moment and check your entry at www.taftalumni.org (click on Searchable e-mail Directory) to verify that we have listed your name, your year of graduation, and your e-mail address and/or website accurately. Write to eagleemail@taftalumni.org if you wish to add your name or make any changes.



For your protection, we do not post your address as a hyperlink. Your bio and street address information should be addressed directly to TAA President Kay Kuciak at taftalum@cox.net.

Anyone Planning a Reunion...?

Paulette English, Secretary, TAA

Your class's anniversary year—10, 25, (gasp!) 50—is approaching. You anxiously read the TAA newsletter and comb www.taftalumni.org for news that someone has gotten the ball rolling. Sound familiar? The catch is that everyone is doing the same...and no one is taking the bull by the horns. The excuses? It's too hard...I don't have time...(and my favorite) I was a nobody in school. Nonsense!

Most alumni equate reunion planning to root canal, but let's be honest—today's root canal has become fairly painless. So has reunion planning, and with some careful thought and an enthusiastic planning committee, YOU can pull it off. TAA has accumulated lots of reunion experience, so we're offering a few tips to get you started.

Do-It-Yourself or Professional Planner?

If you anticipate that your turnout will be small, or if you prefer to keep your hands on the reins at all times, then do-it-yourself is the way to go. Begin a year before the projected reunion date, if possible, by first forming a committee. If you don't live locally, contact a few classmates who do. Consider contacting the class officers. Delegate one person to maintain the master class list. Select reliable people on your committee to whom you'll delegate budgeting, securing a site, catering (often handled on-site), decorations, mailings and invitations, phone calls, door prizes, souvenir book, etc.

If you don't have the luxury of time, and most of your friends live out-of-town, you'll want to consider hiring a professional planner who does most of the work for you with your committee's input at various steps along the way. The planner is able to handle credit card payments, secure the site with a deposit, book a band or DJ, hire a photographer, etc. without any advance layout from you. Generally, their fees are bundled into the price of the ticket. (Amazingly, the reunion committee for the successful 35 year reunion of the Class of 1967 never met once as a committee in person, but conducted all business online using the services of a reunion planner.)

Building Your Class List

Whether you use a planner or not, it's best that you keep control of the class list. Begin by requesting a list of current TAA members from Kay Kuciak (taftalum@cox.net). This can be the foundation of your list. (And by the way, this is the only time a list of TAA members is released on request.) Now, grab your yearbook to fill in the missing names. The professional planner may have access to a few databases that you don't, but for the most part you can easily scan Classmates.com, Reunions.com, Switchboard.com and many others. One of the first mailings should be a request for each classmate to send in a list of every other classmate with whom they're in touch.

After the reunion, a planner should return the final list to you without charge. If an address has not produced a response of some sort, be skeptical of its accuracy unless it comes from an unimpeachable source—a parent, let's say. Flag the address as questionable, and then send a copy of the final list back to Kay Kuciak for her records. Continue to send subsequent updates to Kay.

Formal or Informal?

You may have attended a traditional reunion in formal wear complete with band, white table cloths, and three course meals. If that's not your style, be creative; consider other alternatives. Does a classmate own a restaurant, bar or other possible reunion site? In the summer, consider a picnic in the forest preserves, at a beach, or a state park—maybe include the whole family. How about a sock-hop at a local gym or American Legion hall? When you put your heads together, you'll think of lots of interesting venues.

Advice from Rich Lindberg, Class of 1971

For the first reunion, it is wise to engage a reunion planning company to do the initial address lookup spadework. The company will initiate the first database -- that should be kept on file by the committee and made available to future committees. The second reunion -- five or ten years hence -- the committee can build upon the old list. With the search tools available on the web, it is much easier now to locate people than before.

This is what Faro [Vitale] and I did for the 35th last year. It took the resources of a dedicated committee, all engaged in the look-up process, to pull it off. But we did it without the help of a private firm, proving that it is possible. Also, grammar school lists might be available from former classmates. The initial mailing should ask the alums to share such lists, or whatever word of mouth information that can be passed along.

Miscellaneous Thoughts

- Consider having mini-reunions within the reunion—learn what elementary schools your classmates attended, and then include the school’s name on the name badges.
- Think it might be a low turnout? Include January and June classes or a even whole decade together in your plans. And why does it have to be every 10 years? Why not have a 17-year reunion? Or how about an all-class reunion for your locality as has been done annually in Florida?
- Bring your own stereo, boom box or satellite radio and forego a DJ. (Be sure to ID your personal CDs.)
- Use disposable cameras if you are fearful of mislaying that expensive digital model, but by all means take lots of photos.
- Sing the Taft Founder’s March (lyrics posted on www.taftalumni.org). It doesn’t matter if you forget the words or sing off key—just sing it LOUD!
- Display TAA merchandise order forms and membership forms next to the memorabilia table. Contact Frank Heyer regarding available merchandise at the time of the reunion.
- Solicit donations from your classmates and local businesses for door prizes. The businesses can advertise in your souvenir book.
- Relax and have fun! Accept the fact that *something* will probably go wrong, but it won’t be the end of the world. Before the reunion, take a long hot bath, listen to some oldies, and tour the old neighborhood to get yourself into the right mood.
- Hold an ice-breaker event the day/evening before the reunion to kick off the weekend. Contact Frank Heyer (yes, he does get around) to arrange a group tour of Taft. Check the TAA website for a comparative floor plan. If you haven’t been back since the construction of the last addition, you’ll be amazed.
- Above all, don’t skip the reunion because you’ve lost your girlish figure or you’ve traded one six-pack for another. Jump in with both feet! You could be missing the time of your life...and who knows? Maybe the one that got away didn’t get too far away after all.

When it’s over, tell us all about it. Send your comments and photos to Jerry Bloom so that we can share them in the newsletter. If you have other helpful suggestions to offer future reunion committees, send those in as well.

TAA Approved Professional Reunion Planners

Beware! Not all planners are reliable. We’ve heard sad tales of reunions in ruins due to unscrupulous or inexperienced planners. When you call a planner, ask for references—a reputable planner will provide you with a list of past customers. *Call all of them!* Below is one planner with whom positive experiences have been reported. We’ll add to this list as we hear from other satisfied reunion committees.

Sentimental Journey, Morton Grove, IL, 847-657-3639 or 847-329-0111

Letters to the Editor

Jerry,

[I] read in a recent letter about **Jim Hoppe** ('54) and would like to contact him...

Had a mini Taft reunion a couple of weeks ago at **Gordon Arnspiger's** ('57) in Flagstaff, AZ. Attendees were **Ken Eeles** ('57), **Lynn Terry** ('57), **Denny Pickett** ('58) and our wives. I'm sure photos will be forthcoming!

Thanks, **Dick Teuscher** ('56)
dicknade@sbcglobal.net

[Editor's note: If Jim sees this note, we hope he contacts you. Sorry, no photos were received on this mini-reunion. Maybe next time... J. Bloom, TAA newsletter editor]

Hi Jerry,

It's been a while since I contacted you or the TAA but I try to keep up to date through my daughter **Paulette English**.

Arnold Lund was definitely in the JUNE 1940 class, as was I. He and I were teammates on a couple of teams. I'm glad to have the chance to contact him at the address you listed. Perhaps we can induce him to join the association. You might send him a Newsletter and call attention to the application form. Since those of our class are now mid-octogenarians, there may only be a handful still kicking. Only 3 are in the Email address directory. How many are members of TAA? Our next reunion might be in a telephone booth.

I would like to commend you and the staff for the great job you are doing. Having been involved with the TAA and several other organizations I understand and appreciate your efforts.

Frank Zemaitis ('40) penstabs@hotmail.com

[Note from Pres.: Now Frank, how silly of you, I have 27 people from your class in the computer so you will definitely need more than a phone booth for a reunion! Also remember that there are probably people out there that may not know about us or have moved so many times that we lost them. Regards, Kay Kuciak]

To Jerry:

Thank you [to you] and all of the Alumni Newsletter staff for your time and talent in producing this wonderful communication device. It is much appreciated by this reader, and I know [my sister, **Janet (Beltle) Zofkie**] also looked forward to receiving each issue.

Phyllis (Beltle) Brown, (June '63)

Dear Jerry,

Recently I was going through my record albums (yes, albums!) and found a record that the Taft Girls' Chorus made when I was a member.

A wonderful gentleman, Mr. C.

Joseph Compton,

was the director.

He wanted to share our Christmas concert with the community and asked the

chorus members to seek a place where we could perform on a weekend. I asked my minister, Rev. James A. Shiflett of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, (which was across the street from my house) if the chorus could perform there. He readily agreed, and the chorus sang on a Sunday afternoon in December. I believe it was 1959. If I remember correctly, one of the chorus members, **Marilyn Omland**, had a relative who worked for Delta Records. St. Andrew is blessed with perfect acoustics, so a recording was made of our performance. A harpist accompanied us on some of the songs. I must confess that I was, and still am, in awe of Marilyn's beautiful soprano voice. It has been many years since I last heard that record; what wonderful memories came back of the Girls' Chorus concerts, the chorus members, and, of course, a gifted musician and outstanding teacher, Mr. Compton.

Thanks for letting me share my walk down Memory Lane with you.

Pam Fisk Lobenhofer (June '62)

Dear Jerry,

In the most recent newsletter, someone wrote in to ask if there were plans for a 60th reunion for the June 1947 class. You responded that you were unaware of any plans for one.

That is not my class, I am June 1948, but a close friend of mine has been telling me about the upcoming 60th reunion for his 1947 class scheduled for the weekend of July 21, 2007. I thought you would like to know in case anyone else asks about it and also maybe you would want to let **Dick O'Connell** know about it (he was the man who inquired). The person making the arrangements for the reunion is **Don Williams**... I hope that this is of some use to you.

Robert Machon (June '48)

rmachon@machoninsurance.com

[Editor's note: Don Williams is a dues paying member and we double-checked to make sure we didn't miss his announcement. Checking with Don, he stated he simply "forgot" to contact us about the event. Please see article in this issue about planning reunions. J. Bloom, TAA news editor]



Dear Jerry,

The spring newsletter mentioned the TAA Scholarship of "**Bill**" **Hendricksen**. That name brought back a memory of Taft that I had long forgotten. There was a beautiful red-headed girl [with a similar name] named **Barb Henriksen** who I believe was in the class of 1962 (Culbertson's home room), who once saved me from being raped. ...Even though she may not even realize or remember me, or this incident, I don't think I ever thanked her; and it's been a long time coming. I'll relate the story here in hopes that she or even her family can see it... This will be the first time I've ever spoken or written about this day.



I came to Taft from a Catholic high school when I was in my junior year. Because I was missing some required classes to graduate [from] Taft, I had to take some sophomore classes and that's how I became friends with some of the "younger" girls who were also very popular, Barb being one of them. On an early summer afternoon, my best friend at the time, "Nancy", had her dad's car and a group of us girls decided to cut class and go out to "Dam No. 4". To this day, I do not remember where it's at, but I'll never forget the name. It was located in the woods somewhere and there were going to be guys there. We were going to just have fun. The boys (there were about 7 or 8 if I remember) that were there were mostly older and were considered the "cool guys" at Taft. Some I believe were even portrayed in "Grease" years later, but some were really losers, so names will not be mentioned. I remember someone had a radio playing music and we were all sitting around in a shelter with picnic tables. I remember some were drinking beer. I liked a couple of the boys, but I was the "Ugly Betty" of the 60's. Some may remember me as "dog face", one of the lovely names a particularly nasty guy gave me during my time at Taft.

I don't remember how long we sat around. I think one or two couples paired off and were making out. At one point, I was sitting near the radio, listening to a song I really liked when I turned around and all the girls had left. I could see them in the distance heading back toward the parking lot. As I got up and walked out of the shelter to catch up to them, one of the boys yelled "Don't let her go", and within seconds three or four boys had grabbed me and lifted me up and carried me back to the shelter by my arms and legs. The humiliating thing was that I had on a full skirt and they were carrying me with everything totally exposed to their view. I remember they were all laughing. They put me on top of a picnic table, and while two boys held my arms, one walked up to me and started to unbutton my blouse. Another was trying to push up my skirt. I felt anger well up and I managed to pull an arm free and went to hit the one unbuttoning my blouse. He grabbed my arm and a look came over his face that frightened me and my anger turned to real fear. I realized suddenly that I was totally alone with all these guys and there was no one there to help me. I also realized that they had stopped laughing. Now other thoughts were in their minds, and I believed I was about to become a victim. But, at that age, I had no idea how horrific it might have been and how much danger I was in. I was more concerned about in what a humiliating way I was being treated by boys that I thought were "cool". I don't remember what they were saying to me. I do remember one boy who looked scared at what was happening and I believe he even said something to try to stop it. All of a sudden, this beautiful red-headed angel appeared and said something, I don't remember exactly what, and took my hand and walked me out of the shelter toward the parking lot. I believe these boys knew and respected her brother and her and made no further effort to follow us.

I don't remember anything that was said after that, except my best friend being mad at me for not leaving when they did, even though I tried to explain that I didn't notice them all leaving and no one came to get me. I only know that if it weren't for Barb Henriksen being concerned enough to come back and confront these guys who had been drinking, and physically pull me away from them, my life would have changed drastically on that warm, summer day.

Barb, I hope you're still here to know this and to accept my gratitude for your loving concern for someone who wasn't even that close a friend, even if you don't remember me or this incident, I will always be grateful to you. Thank you.

Margie Saiger Hallwas (1961) - mistylou2005@sbcglobal.net

Dear Taft Alumni Association
Hendricksen Scholarship

I would like to take this opportunity to thank your generosity and Mr. Hendricksen's family. I am very honored to be the recipient of this award. I thank you for your confidence and willingness to help me reach my goals. I am sure your kindness will make a profound impact in my future college career.

This coming fall, I will be attending the University of Illinois at Chicago, where I plan to study Biomedical Visualization, and in four years from now, I will be applying to the Northwestern University Medical School. Receiving this scholarship motivates me not only to maintain my good grades, but also to give back to the community one day when I become a doctor. I promise to keep you updated.

Sincerely,
Melissa Morales
(2007)

Hi - Had a hard time negotiating your web site. Is there a list to be added to so that I would be contacted if there were a reunion?

Thanks, **Heidi (Hoffer) Berthiaume ('75)**

[Heidi, We welcome your feedback. The website was recently updated, so I'm anxious to learn of any bugs that made browsing difficult..

Traditionally, a reunion committee contacts TAA for the latest list of classmates who are members of TAA or at-

tended a previous reunion. The committee then uses that list to contact classmates. It also refers to the e-mail directory online, so it's in your best interest to be an active member of TAA, or at the very least, to be sure to have yourself listed on the directory--free of charge--and to keep the listing up-to-date in case your e-mail address changes.

While sending an automatic e-mail with reunion information would be fabulous, we are not yet that sophisticated, but we'll hang onto that idea for future enhancement. Paulette (Zemaitis) English - TAA Web Editor]

To the Taft Alumni Newsletter:

Just a note to let you all know that the Class of 1954 is Active and Well! We continue on a rotating basis, a small group of us who have remained in close contact since organizing past reunions, including our latest - 50th. in 2004, we either meet over dinner at each other's home or at some other event. This year, **Rosalie Streng** invited us again to attend the Kentucky Derby races viewing at Trackside Restaurant in Arlington Park, May 5, 2007.



Pictured above: **Hank-(Lane Tech.) & Margie Nugent Claeson, Gloria Peterson Kavadas,, Betty Yost, Carole Lubinetz Vix, Bob Eischen ('52), Rosalie Streng, Pat Link Eischen, Sonja Lubinetz Swanson, Tona Madsen Bloomster, and Clem Bloomster.** Not shown, **Lois Tortorrelli (Jan.'54).**



Kay, here's a picture of the Taft January 1957 50th Reunion at Del Webb Sun City Illinois in the Drendel Ballroom, May 4, 2007. Hopefully you can get this into the Alumni Newsletter. Thanks, **Leo Drummer**

Greetings,
I have been trying to find out something about the '67 Taft gathering [June 9-10, 2007] at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas...I see it on the Vegas convention listing but can't find any details on the event. Do you know anything about it or who I could contact? According to the Las Vegas Convention Bureau it is 06/04 - 06/08 -

Taft High School Class Reunion 1967 - Chicago Flamingo Las Vegas - 40 attendees expected.

Thanks, Tom - southportbeach@hotmail.com
[Tom, the good news is that there is a reunion. The bad news is that it's for Taft HS in the Bronx. Details can be found here: <http://bronxboard.com/reunion.php>. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

Taft Gear

Get your Taft gear. Use the order form below.



Secretary Needed

We are looking for someone to be board secretary. We meet approximately 4 times a year on Thursday nights at Taft and duties include taking notes at the meeting and e-mailing or U.S. mailing them to all board members. If interested call Shirley DeWeese at 847-885-8655 or e-mail jtdsad@earthlink.net.



TAA Merchandise Order Form

Please Print

Qty	Item	Specifics	Price Each	Total Price
	Windbreaker—blue nylon drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	Medium Only	\$25.00	\$
	Baseball Cap—blue embroidered “Taft Alumni” with full-color eagle	One Size Fits All	\$15.00	\$
	Car Sticker—clear printed in blue/gray “You Can’t Hide That Eagle Pride”	----	\$ 3.00	\$
	T-Shirt—heather gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	Medium	\$10.00	\$
	T-Shirt—heather gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	Large	\$10.00	\$
	T-Shirt—heather gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	X-Large	\$10.00	\$
	T-Shirt—heather gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	XX-Large	\$12.00	\$
	T-Shirt—heather gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	XXX-Large	\$12.00	\$
	Taft Yearbook (be sure to state year)	Year:	\$30.00	\$
Shipping and Handling: Stickers only = \$1.00, all other orders = \$6.00				\$
Total Remitted				\$
Name (please print):				
Address:				
City/State/ZIP:				
Grad Month/Year:				
Phone: ()				
<p>Send check or money order (no cash please) with completed order form to:</p> <p>Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago IL 60631</p> <p>Please use a separate order form for separate addresses.</p>				



Yearbooks: 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 your lost or destroyed books.

Currently, as of July 19th, we have the following yearbooks available:
 1942 Jan (1), 1947 Jan (1) 1962 (1), 1982 (8), 1983 (2), 1984 (2), 1985 (25), 1986 (54),
 1987 (84), 1990 (48), 1991 (23), 1992 (132), 1993 (4), 1994 (48), 1995 (186), 1996
 (65), 1997 (49), 1998 (152), 1999 (147), 2000 (349), 2001 (122), 2003 (16), 2004 (17)
 and 2005 (16).

TAA Board Meeting

August 30, 2007 at 7 pm is the date and time for our next board meeting at Taft High School. All interested alumni and friends of Taft are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**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					
<hr/> <hr/>					
Occupation:			Other Interests:		
Other News or Information:					
<hr/> <hr/>					
<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					



Summer 2007

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 Directors: Beth Charvat (1967)
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 E-mail - jerrybloom@fales.org
 Assistants: Kay / Tom Kuciak - (623) 544-0226
 E-Mail Listing Co-ord.: Paulette English (1967)
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 Historian: Anne Lunde (1969)

Please Renew Now!!

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.

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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