



# Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXXII, No. 3

Summer 2016

## ***We'll Carry Your Standards Onward***

By **Anne Lunde** (1969)  
President, Taft Alumni Association

There are at least two sides to every story. There are also two authentic halls of fame at Taft High School, the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame and the new William Howard Taft Hall of Fame.

People ask TAA board members frequently about the difference between the TAA HOF and the WHT HOF. They may send letters, emails, and a lot of times they find us in the community or at reunions. Our Hall of Fame was an honor which was never questioned or belittled until Taft Foundation President **Richard Winge** (1970) apparently decided he wanted one he could control. He got full control of the WHT HOF last fall.

Principal **Mark Grishaber** has confirmed to us, several times, that Taft's Local School Council created this second Hall of Fame, and that its organizers refused to give it a less confusing sound-alike name. At first it was to include principals and at one point U.S. President William Howard Taft, who died before the school was named; and retired teachers; and PTA leaders and community people who had done something for the school. Mr. Grishaber said there might be an athletic hall of fame. They all got lumped into one.

The Taft Alumni Association was assured by the school that our Hall of Fame, created in conjunction with the school in 1989, at the time of Taft's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, would remain – it would just not be the ONLY one.

In our spring newsletter, my explanation of TAA's process for induction, compared to last year's creation of WHT, was there as part of a reminder that our hall of fame ceremony was at the end of April. It arrived on doorsteps just before our ceremony. It was not intended to discourage votes for the 2016 WHT HOF, a process which had been independently proceeding since the prior November.

Mr. Winge has demanded we print his rebuttal statement to the newsletter piece, and an opinion piece is included on Page 3.

We had some concerns about the WHT HOF as it was created and presented last year, because the explanations and the process changed. The election process was awkward, and the ballot had not . *(continued on page 8)*

***Remember when Taft's Eagles played Soldier Field?  
Come see it happen again! See Page 9***

## ***Taft graduation ceremony***

By **Anne Lunde** (1969)

Taft held its 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduating ceremonies this year on June 17 in the Rosemont Theatre in Rosemont, Ill. The senior class numbered 676 before the final exam scores were in.

For those who keep track, this is comparable in size to the late 1960s graduating classes. Taft's current enrollment of 3,177 students includes seventh and eighth graders in the Academic Center. *(continued on page 10)*



At Taft's June graduation at the Rosemont Theatre, student speakers including the valedictorian and three salutatorians sat in front with administration leaders as the combined Taft Alumni Chorus, Eagle Singers and Taft Wind Ensemble performed together.



### Class of June 1959

**Date:** October 1, 2016 – 5 PM

**Place:** Hilton Garden Inn – Des Plaines  
Special buffet dinner, casual

**Contact:** **Anne (Fear) McManus**  
annemcmanus@me.com  
630-584-9194

**Website:** www.taftreunion1959.com

### Class of June 1965 (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion)

**Date:** October 22, 2016 (6 PM – 10 PM)

**Place:** Pinstripes, 100 West Higgins Road, So. Barrington, IL

**Contact:** **Bonnie Stewart Jilek** - taftjune65@gmail.com

### Class of January and June 1967 (50<sup>th</sup> Reunion)

**Date:** TBD 2017

**Place:** TBD

**Contacts:** **Ed Krzeminski**, [edward.krzeminski@gmail.com](mailto:edward.krzeminski@gmail.com)  
**Paulette (Zemaitis) English**, [eagleemail@taftalumni.org](mailto:eagleemail@taftalumni.org)  
Facebook page: Taft High School class of 1967

### Class of 1971

**Date:** September 24, 2016 (6 PM – 1 AM)

**Place:** Skokie Banquet & Conference Center  
5300 W. Touhy, Skokie, IL

**To register:** Mail check to **Jim Lucchessi**, 6521 N. Sayre,  
Chicago, IL 60631 or visit [www.1971taftreunion.com](http://www.1971taftreunion.com)

### Class of 1976 (40<sup>th</sup> Reunion)

**Date:** October 8, 2016 (**Reserve by May 1, 2016**)

**Place:** Crowne Plaza Hotel – Northbrook, IL

**Contact:** **Dayle Klingler** - [TaftReunion1976@gmail.com](mailto:TaftReunion1976@gmail.com)

### 14th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic FLORIDA-WEST

**Date:** March 18, 2017 (10 AM – 2 PM)

**Place:** Maxine Barritt Park, 1800 Harbor Dr S, Venice, FL  
(beach, fishing pier, hiking trails available before + after)

**Pot Luck:** a shared dish (+ BYOB – NO GLASS ALLOWED)

**Photo shoot:** 1:30 pm - **NOTE PLACE + TIME CHANGE**

**Donation:** \$5 per person, lawn chairs optional

**Contact:** **Leon Kathan** (Jun '56) 863-835-2211  
leonkathan@yahoo.com  
or **Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson** (Jun '62)  
920-559-7440 – [jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com](mailto:jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com)

### 4th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic FLORIDA-EAST

**Date:** Saturday, April 29, 2017 – (Noon – 4 PM)

**Place:** [REDACTED]  
(For those unable to attend the Florida west coast affair)

**Pot Luck:** a food item to share (+ BYOB)

**Contact:** [REDACTED]  
**Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson** (June '62)  
[jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com](mailto:jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com)

### 7th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic ARIZONA

**Date:** TBD - 2017 (11 AM – 3 PM)

**Place:** Stillman Ramada, Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale

**Pot Luck:** Bring something to share

**BYOB:** Beer in non-glass containers only

**Donation:** \$3 per person, bring lawn chairs

**Contact:** **Paul Frizane**, [aztaftalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:aztaftalumni@yahoo.com) or  
**Paulette English**, [eagleemail@taftalumni.org](mailto:eagleemail@taftalumni.org)

### 3rd Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic CALIFORNIA

**Date:** July 15, 2017 (11 AM – 4 PM) (tentative date)

**Place:** 2372 Recuervo Cove, Del Mar, CA

**Details:** \$8 for pizza and beverages, Chicago dogs extra,  
grandkids free. Bring side dish, salad or dessert to  
share. BYOB. Swimming pool.

#### **Contacts:**

**Paul Laudicina** (June '61) [longbeach1942@gmail.com](mailto:longbeach1942@gmail.com)

**Mike Day** (Jun '60) - [michael91942@yahoo.com](mailto:michael91942@yahoo.com)

**Jan (Ostromencki) Savage**, [janhelloworld@hotmail.com](mailto:janhelloworld@hotmail.com)

## Three Receive 2016 TAA Scholarships



### **Scholarship Recipients Maxymilian Karkut, Alyssa Correa and Lazma Deeb**

The Taft Alumni Association presented three \$1,000 scholarships this year to graduating seniors.

A new scholarship, sponsored by retired Taft chemistry teacher **Ruth Artisuk**, is geared for students aiming for a career in the sciences. It attracted new interest and a number of applicants in related fields. The winner was **Lazma Deeb**, ranking 49<sup>th</sup> in her class, with a straight A average and a lot of service at school and in the community. Her goal is to become a dentist, and to help people “become more comfortable and confident with their smiles.”

**Alyssa Correa**, who ranks 46<sup>th</sup>, was chosen for the Dr. John P. Graven scholarship, named for Taft High School’s fourth principal. It is sponsored by his widow, **Anastasia Graven**. Alyssa, who has been very active in performing arts leadership (Drama Club vice president, Eagle Singers section leader and student conductor, and Acapella co-captain) is interested in an accounting or management career. She said she learned to overcome shyness by talking to someone in every class, learned to handle great responsibilities and set more ambitious goals for herself because of what she learned at Taft.

**Maxymilian Karkut**, who ranks 26<sup>th</sup> in the class, wants to become a physicist or an astronomical researcher and do research in the cosmos, a lifelong interest which was energized by teachers at Taft who showed him it was possible for him to pursue his passion. His scholarship is funded by the Taft Alumni Association.

We congratulate all three of these outstanding young people. We also thank Mrs. Graven and Mrs. Artisuk for their support of the scholarship program.

## ***Why Wonder? Read on.***

Submitted by **Richard Winge** (Taft 1970)  
President, Taft Foundation

The purpose of this letter is to respond to an article (which appeared in the Spring Taft Alumni Newsletter) in which Anne Lunde, the current president of the Taft Alumni Association, explained the difference between the William Howard Taft Hall of Fame and the Taft Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

How many Taft graduates have there been since the high school opened in 1939? A fair estimate might be 40,000 graduates, an average of about 525 per year since the early 1940's. But of the 40,000 Taft alumni, TAA has only inducted 58 alumni into its TAA Hall of Fame. It is fair to say that Taft graduates in their 20s and early 30s may not have lived long enough to reach "Hall of Fame" consideration. If we do not count any graduates from 2000 forward there are still over 32,000 Taft graduates that could be considered for any "Taft" hall of fame.

The TAA board of directors has only inducted 58 Taft alumni into its hall of fame in the 28 years they have operated it. Only 7 have been inducted from years after 1969. Only 18 alumni from the Baby Boomers were worthy enough to meet their exalted standards of what it takes "to make the grade" and be invited to be inducted into the TAA Hall of Fame. Interestingly, Anne Lunde is a 1969 Taft alumna, and only two alumni from the 1969 class are in the TAA Hall of Fame.

The need for an active, involved, motivated and results-oriented Taft Hall of Fame has been discussed for over five years. Taft Principal Mark Grishaber agreed that celebrating wonderful Taft alumni was one of the objectives of his administration and he began in earnest two years ago to do just that. The WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HALL OF FAME was created and it began to involve all alumni in the process of honoring and celebrating deserving Taft alumni.

Mark Grishaber favored inducting retired Taft teachers, highly successful Taft sports teams, and even the few Taft parents that made a significant impact on Taft students and teachers. It was a plan for success.

The Taft High School Foundation (which was formed one year before Mark Grishaber became Taft principal), was fully supportive of the effort to celebrate Taft High School and the hundreds upon hundreds of wonderful alumni that make the school proud and who are equally proud of their *alma mater*.

The first annual election in April 2015 was conducted on the Taft High School website. Over 100 nominations were submitted. The vote was conducted through May 2015 and the top vote recipients were determined. Over 30 graduates and retired Taft teachers, along with two Taft sports teams, were honored last September at the first annual William Howard Taft fundraiser banquet held at the Ridgemoor Country Club.

The second annual election process began last fall as the Taft High School Foundation administered the nomination process from November 2015 through March 2016 and the final voting process from April 2016 through mid-May 2016.

Taft alumni nominated over 150 graduates and over 65 retired teachers and principals. The top nominees on each list produced a final ballot of 39 Taft graduates and 34 Taft retired teachers. Hundreds of Taft alumni cast over 3,000 total votes for candidates in both categories.

I believe that article in the Spring TAA newsletter undermined the results of this election process, and questioned the integrity of the people administering the election results. In fact, every candidate on the final ballot had submitted a biographical statement that was placed on the ballot.

Twenty-four Taft graduates were elected and 22 Taft retired teachers were elected to be inducted into the William Howard Taft Hall of Fame on Sunday, Sept. 18 from noon to 5 p.m. at Cafe La Cave Banquets in Des Plaines, IL. Of the 24 graduates, the TAA has not inducted 22 of them. All the individual inductee names are listed on the website mentioned below.

Also five sports teams will be inducted including the 1986 Girls Softball team, which was Taft High School's first girls' championship sport team since "Title IX" became law. The twelve 48-year old 1986 alumnae championship ladies will be there to celebrate their achievement with 300 other Taft folks.

Just like many high school reunion events, a complete dinner will be served to all who attend the 2016 William Howard Taft Hall of Fame fundraiser celebration. Information is on the [www.TaftHSFoundation.org](http://www.TaftHSFoundation.org) website for you to learn more details and to purchase tickets.

There will be 23 graduate alumni along with 11 retired teacher alumni attending the celebration to be honored by the throng of Taft folks.

If you were a candidate for a Hall of Fame of any large organization which process would you prefer?

The Spring Newsletter article began with a question from a Taft graduate asking why "we" have two Halls of Fame. The article states others have asked, too. The answer to that question is elementary.

Taft High School has only one Hall of Fame. It is called the William Howard Taft Hall of Fame. Anne Lunde's organization has its own Hall of Fame, just as the Taft PTA could have its own Hall of Fame and hypothetically there could be a Norwood Park Taft Graduates Hall of Fame, an Oriole Park Taft Graduates Hall of Fame and a Taft Cheerleaders Hall of Fame. Even the Taft High School Foundation could create its own Hall of Fame but we will not and would not.

The only true "Taft" Hall of Fame is the high school's Hall of Fame: the WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HALL OF FAME.

I invite comments from anyone and please direct your comments to the "Contact Us" tab on the Taft High School Foundation website address listed above.

## Lost Classmates

Are you looking for old classmates with whom you've lost touch? We will help you in your search by publishing the name(s) in this newsletter. **If that party responds to us and agrees to share the information, we'll 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 eagleemail@taftalumni.org. The suggested donation for this service is \$5 per name.

This issue we are helping the following alumni to find several people. Can you help?

**Roland Carlson** (Jan '57) is searching for **Thomas Ralley** (Jun '56), whom Roland describes as "a most interesting character!"

**Carl Edward** (Jan '53) asked for assistance in locating two old friends and classmates: **Bill Newman** (Jun '54) and **Dennis Smith** (Jun '53).

## Letters to the Editor



To TAA:

This is an open letter shared for the 1966 reunion committee of Al, Jack and Kathy, Gary, Tom, Karen, Russ and Linda,

Much thanks to all of you for all of your work and planning and time put into our 50th class reunion. I had a marvelous time. It was great seeing everyone, exchanging life stories and reconnecting. All that you did was truly appreciated! The tour of Taft and the SuperDawg lunch were definitely "icing-on-the-cake". Thank you, thank you, thank you.

**Terry (Klein) Davis** (Jun '66)

Hi Paulette,

Thanks for reminder will try to get a check in mail next week for my renewal. Appreciate all the effort your staff puts in alumni newsletter. Great way to stay connected,

**Joan (Schwarek) Orr** (Jun '49)

*[Thank you, Joan. We're glad you enjoy the newsletter and happy that you are renewing. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor and Newsletter Assistant]*

Hi, Anne,

Thanks for doing such an outstanding job at the all-class reunion, April 30, 2016. I have lived in Des Plaines for 57 years--and did know **Richard Wessell** (Jun '40) [one of our newest TAA Hall of Fame Honorees]. I encourage alumni to attend events like the April Hall of Fame Induction and reunion at which Anne Lunde, TAA President, did an outstanding job in welcome and induction ceremonies.

**Don Gloor** (Jun '46)



Brothers **Bill Blomquist** (Jun '67) and **Rick Blomquist** (Jun '64) carry out their bucket list. Explained Bill, "We played golf at the "Old Course" in St. Andrews Scotland ...It's the actual birthplace of golf....The sight of many Open (British) Championships. It's Golf Mecca!"

To TAA,

Great coverage in the Spring 2016 Newsletter of the Hall of Fame ceremony held April 30. As was mentioned in that edition, it was an extremely cold, wet, day which I'm sure deterred more from attending.

Those honored certainly deserved the induction. I was particularly struck by the work and account of Susan Murphy Milano, and the lasting positive impact she had on victims of abuse (as she was herself). She addressed an issue and provided a resource for these individuals at a time when the subject was certainly not broached as done today. I was also impressed to hear that she received support from Jim Jacobs, and a touring cast of "Grease" that donated their time and talent to participate in a fund raiser for the program she started-Project Protect.

After the program I toured the building. Strolling the corridors, I could actually see the faces and hear the voices of other who had come before, and after me...because others were also touring and having a great time reminiscing. (Somehow the school looked bigger in '73.)

I'm looking forward to attending additional functions. Speaking of which, doesn't the Drama Club stage an annual musical/drama for the students and public? Is this advertised, and when is it usually held?

**Steven Jancovic** (1973)

*[Steven, your comments regarding the Hall of Fame induction are greatly appreciated. And, those of us who have had the opportunity to wander the halls looking for our old locker or homeroom have experienced what you did. Thank you for sharing that with us. We will look into and provide information on any productions that Taft stages for the public. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]*

Dear Paulette and [your mother] Jane,

It is with very heavy heart that I read of **Frank's [Zemaitis]** (Jun '40) passing. Now I am the only one (that I know) still living from our class. You have my deepest sympathy.

**Muriel Kaminski** (Jun '40)

*[Muriel, thank you for your kind words. Mom and I appreciate them. Although you are the only active member of the first graduating class, I'd like to think there are still a few of you out there. It's remarkable to think that you and your classmates spent but one year at Taft, but you helped to lay the foundation and the spirit that continues today. Do please stay in touch. Paulette (Zemaitis) English, TAA Web Editor & Newsletter Assistant]*

To TAA:

Our California All-Class Reunion was held July 17<sup>th</sup> and we had a fun afternoon. The "vintage" Taft letterman's sweater, shown below belongs to my mother, **Jeanette Malon Ostromencki** (Jan '44) (she's 90 now). Gail and I were both Taft Cheerleaders in the 70's.

**Jan Ostromencki Savage** (1974)



**Gail Uhlar Murray ('76) and Jan Ostromencki Savage ('74)** showing off Jan's vintage Taft sweaters



Left to Right: **Mike Day** (Jun '60), **Patrick Raetzman** (Jun '57), **Linda Gawlik Newell** ('76), **Jan Ostromencki Savage** ('74) with Ruffy, **Gail Uhlar Murray** ('76) and **Brownie Strass Estephan** ('76)

Dear Paulette,

Thanks to you and everyone for all your hard work and dedication--it is really appreciated. [Can you tell me]: Are Taft sweatshirts ever offered for sale?

**Lynn (Foerster) Nelles** (Jun '60)

*[Thank you, Lynn. I assure you it is a group effort made by many good people. As to the sweatshirts, we do not currently have a TAA sweatshirt to offer, but certainly it might be considered for the future. Thanks for the suggestion. Paulette English, Web Editor and Newsletter Assistant]*

Hi Paulette,

Here is a photo (below - taken May 29<sup>th</sup>) of four proud Taft alumni: (Left to Right - my sister, my wife, myself, my sister.) We thought you might want to share this photo in the next issue of the Taft Alumni Association Newsletter.

Carole & I (and Ralph Infusino and a few others) are looking forward to seeing you at the [Arizona] reunion. Have a safe and healthy Memorial Day.

**Dave Moresi** (Jun '67)



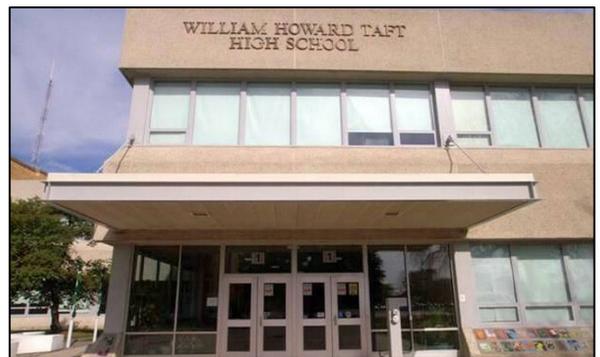
L-R: **Susan Moresi** (Jun '73), **Carole (Eckwall) Moresi** (Jun '67), **Dave Moresi** (Jun'67); **Chris Moresi** (Jun '75).

Hi Paulette,

Thanks Paulette [for the renewal reminder], it is always so nice to read about the school and classmates!

**Maureen Baricelli** (1973)

*[Thank YOU, Maureen, for your continued support. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor and Newsletter Asst.]*



Taft Entrance on Bryn Mawr Ave.

## Alumni Chorus 1<sup>st</sup> Year A Success!

"It far exceeded my expectations" is what Founder and Director **David Barth** (Jun '62) said when asked how he felt about The Taft Alumni Mixed Chorus and their first year of singing. "When we started putting this together a year ago, my biggest concern was the quality of singers we would attract", David said. "Well, let me tell you, no one skipped a beat between their singing in either the Mixed or Girls Choruses and our first rehearsal....many years later. I was speechless with their sound!"



After singing at the Winter Holiday Concert in December and The Spring

Fine Arts Festival and Graduation in June, the next goal is to keep building the roster as The Taft Alumni Chorus prepares for the 2017 school year.

The Chorus has very simple eligibility requirements and is open to all singing Taft alumni, their non-alumni singing spouses and children over the age of 18, plus friends who might just enjoy singing a couple of times a year with an alumni friend. Music scores, a performance recording and individual parts recordings are sent out months in advance of singing, so learning can be on an individual as time permits basis. There are then two full chorus rehearsals the two weeks before each concert. And that's it. It really isn't time consuming at all!

And by the way, if you haven't seen them yet, go to Facebook and type in Taft Alumni Chorus. You'll have to page down a bit, but you'll find three separate video posts, one for each of their three numbers they sang last Christmas.

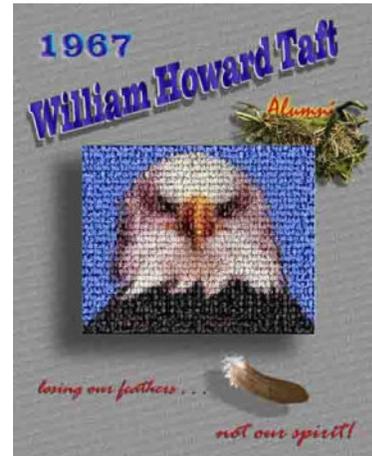
The Chorus is indebted to **Brain Lavery**, the Performing Arts Chair at Taft and Principal **Mark Grishaber** for their simply outstanding backing and cooperation in making The Chorus's inaugural year the outstanding success it has been. And also, David thanks The Foundation's **Rick Winge** (1970) for his initial backing and efforts to get them started.

For further information, call or write:

David Barth, Director Taft Alumni Mixed Chorus  
1035 Hummingbird Way  
Bartlett, IL 60103  
630-855- 8558

[davidbarth@comcast.net](mailto:davidbarth@comcast.net)

To conclude, David stated, "To some it's Mr. Stamm. To others it's "JJ". But either way, in conversation with him, he is so proud!"



Class of 1967  
Reunion Program Cover



TAA Treasurer & VP **John Prochaska** (Jun '61) and granddaughter **Riley Marie Tremblay** in the Grand Marshal's car in 2016 Park Ridge Memorial Day Parade.



To TAA,

The Class of June 1959 held their Annual Spring Luncheon on Friday, 22 April, at the Des Plaines Hilton Garden Inn. Shown with Class President, **Larry Marsh**, is **Sally Dern** who was valedictorian of the very first TAFT January graduating class in 1941, and who has now become an honorary member of the 1959 Class. Sally is still quite active, intelligent, and lucid. One of our Classmates ran into her and invited her to attend our 56<sup>th</sup> Reunion last fall. She provided a great 10 minute "reminisce" during the Reunion, and she said she wanted to keep coming to our events. She plans to join June 1959 for their 57<sup>th</sup> Reunion this coming October 1<sup>st</sup>. Also attending the Luncheon was current TAFT Principal, **Mark Grishaber**, who provided a short, positive, and very informative update on TAFT today. He is shown in the back row, far right. A good time again was had by all: catching up, renewing friendships, remembering, enjoying good food, and singing the "TAFT Loyalty/Fight Song.

**Larry Marsh**, President Class of June 1959



**Annual Reunion Luncheon - June 1959**



**50 Years From Hitch**

To TAA:

Saturday, June 18, we had a "50 Years from Hitch" reunion at my house. We had 20 (of the original 59 at 1966 8th grade graduation) participate: **Mike Kubalewski, Bob Bellini, Peter Angelakos, Tom Hamilton, Lee Nichols, Jamie Nicholson, John Montgomery, Jack Wydra, Judy Jacobsen, Larry Ozog, Carolyn (Yell) Allison**, Marianne Djidich (Amundson graduate), **Robert Peroni**, Dan Volocyk (Notre Dame graduate), **Judy (Clune) Tetour, Dave Graf, Jan (Veesenmeyer) Oswald**, and **Bonnie (Biggerstaff) Ferraro**.

Also attending but unavailable for the 50-Year Mug Shot were **Nancy (Carlson) Behm** and **John Sowinski**.

**Judy Jacobsen (1970)**

**We'll Carry Your Standards Onward** (continued from page 1)  
been checked for errors.

When the school posted its new HOF ballot to the web site last year there were still no dependable criteria, and the categories included graduates along with all the others listed above. People were invited to submit names and vote, but since there was no way to notify most alumni, or the general public, the only ones who knew to look for it had to be told individually, by people "in the know." Someone added names of nearly all the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame inductees from previous years, not even in the right categories, without notifying most of them, or the Alumni Association. Other names which had been submitted, for people erroneously believed to be former staff or graduates, got enough votes to push out legitimate candidates. So a person's popularity became a key factor, among those limited people who were weighing in on the candidates they saw.

The presentation was scheduled for September. The Taft Foundation had hosted a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner in 2014. It got to host the WHT HOF induction as the program for a fundraising dinner, which it is making an annual event. Therefore, to have a program, the WHT HOF needs to have an annual induction.

Last year, including retired teachers, two deceased principals, graduates and members of several city championship sports teams, the number of actual individuals who were to be honored were close to 80. However, with only a couple of exceptions, anyone who was not represented in person (themselves or family), was not mentioned by the emcees at all during the evening. Honoree **Coach Joe Kupcinet**, whose city championship football team also was honored, was only mentioned by several of his players who were inducted individually.

There will be five teams honored this year, only one of which has been announced. The "retired teachers" actually include the late **Sam Ozaki** as well as recent retiree **Dr. Art Tarvardian**, both long-tenured principals, and three assistant principals (**James Smilgoff**, **Robert Goldberg** and **Norman Bakall**). We hope that the Foundation will take the time this year to personally recognize all of the people who are scheduled to be honored.

The Foundation should reconsider Mr. Winge's statement of how "few Taft parents... made a significant impact on Taft students and teachers," as there have been hundreds of parent leaders, in the Taft PTA, PTSA, LSC and LSIC, who served Taft and the Chicago Public Schools in working to improve education over 75 years. Before there was an alumni association or a foundation or an LSC with any budget to allocate locally, the PTA was Taft's fundraising arm for decades. Those moms and dads deserve better credit, or at least one slot every year on the WHT HOF.

Since 1989, the Taft Alumni Association has inducted 54 alumni. In 2004 we added a Book of Honor, with names of more than 100 former teachers and administrators, and invited as many of them as we could find, and their families, to be honored at Taft's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Graduates sent in their nominations for these honors. Four of our inductees are

going into the WHT HOF this year; others were on last year's induction list.

We believe it is important to give proper recognition and honor to each inductee, so each TAA HOF induction "class" has been limited in number. It does not happen every year. A committee of rotating board members evaluates the nominees we receive, but we do not "invite" people to be inducted. We have included deceased alumni since 2009. Graduates cannot nominate themselves.

Our 2015 induction ceremony was deliberately moved away from last fall to this spring, to not intrude on the WHT HOF dinner.

We continue to invite nominations for our TAA Hall of Fame. The nomination forms and the rules are on our web site and can be submitted at any time. We want more than a brief biography; it's up to the nominator to make the case for their candidate. We continue to encourage more recent classes to nominate their classmates, but it often takes at least one class reunion for grads to catch up with each other's news.

Merriam-Webster identifies "fame" as "the condition of being known or recognized by many people; public estimation (reputation) and popular acclaim (renown)."

Mr. Winge has demanded an apology from me, personally, because he does not think the WHT HOF should be called a "popularity" contest, and because a lot of people voted this year for the candidates whom he posted. Voters got more than one vote in each of the categories, so 3,000 votes does not guarantee there were 3,000 voters. That's his election process.

The ones receiving the most votes won. We never said they were not good candidates. We never told people not to participate in the voting. We haven't asked alumni to pick sides in this.

So, if you voted for WHT HOF 2016 candidates, will you back up your votes by attending the Sept. 18 luncheon when these people are to be honored, and pay for a ticket or a table? Single seats start at \$75. The Foundation uses this dinner as its major annual fundraiser.

At a time in Chicago of school deficit budgeting, Taft High School really needs support to keep many of its outstanding academic programs in place. It is the Taft faculty and staff who are producing our future Hall of Famers. We are all challenged to find the right places to help the school succeed.

The Alumni Association would rather work with the school and share the school's heritage with the next generation. Should we apologize for caring about Taft High School and its Academic Center or for having pride in the achievements that have come from this special place in our hearts?

Our selection processes for the halls of fame will continue to differ. A raw popular vote does not always work. In the United States there are several ways to pick winners in a presidential race. Each candidate tries for the popular vote through the campaign by making bold statements to make the other side look bad, until there is only one person left standing in their party at (continued on page 9)

## Taft & Mount Carmel Rematch



1960 Taft Eagle / Mount Carmel Caravan Game

On Sunday, August 28, 2016 the Taft Eagles Football Team will be taking on the Mount Carmel Caravan in a rematch of the 1960 Prep Bowl Game. The game will be played at 3 PM at Soldier Field and we are hoping to have as many alumni, students, teachers, and members of the community in attendance as possible. We will be honoring members of the 1960 teams from both Taft and Mount Carmel before kickoff.

Tailgating is permitted and encouraged on the upper level of the Waldron Deck lot, located off the 18<sup>th</sup> Street exit from the Drive. There are no assigned areas, but our parent organization will arrive early to host a tailgate party for all Taft fans. The famous Taft Marching Band as well as the Taft Cheerleaders will be at the tailgate to rally everyone before entry into the stadium.

Each participating school has received 350 adult tickets, which cost \$10 a piece. Tickets will be available at the gate. As a Taft Football Alumni myself I am very excited about this opportunity to showcase Taft and honor our alumni from the 1960's. Please feel welcome to invite family and friends.

**Ryan Glowacz** (class of 2006)  
William Howard Taft High School  
Athletic Director, RAA,  
773-534-1011

**We'll Carry Your Standards Onward** (continued from page 8) the convention or the fall election. November's popular vote getter will not always go to the White House. The Electoral College chooses the president – a different process it's true, but the one which is still accepted as the official decision after more than two centuries.

There are two sides to every story.

**Dear Taft, you've our loyalty. We're yours to command.  
In vict'ry or in defeat, our courage will stand.  
We'll fight for your fame. To your name we'll bring honor.  
We'll carry your standards onward, upward to the sky.**

## In The News

**Faro Vitale** (Taft 1971) was recognized this spring by the Taft Alumni Association with a special certificate of appreciation. In 2009, when fans of the rock band, Chicago, wanted Taft High School to recognize the late **Terry Kath**, a Jan '65 Taft alumnus, there were two major stumbling blocks. One was that Kath had never been nominated. The other was that, up till that time, TAA Hall of Fame inductions had been limited to living graduates. The TAA Hall of Fame committee first had to change its rules before Kath or any other deceased graduates could be recognized.



The certificate thanks Vitale for reminding TAA that it was important to open our Hall of Fame to deceased alumni, so that there would be an opportunity to recognize all our graduates for their lives' achievements. The rules were changed in 2009.

Another thing the TAA board agreed was important was to teach current Taft students about the legacy Kath left for future musicians and the famous musicians he inspired. Talking does not illustrate the unique aspects of a musician's talents. TAA officers contacted Principal **Art Tarvardian** to see if there was a way for a Chicago tribute band to play at Taft to demonstrate that legacy. Vitale got permission to have the band play the following spring, and sponsored another Chicago tribute concert several years later.

Kath's only activities entry in his senior class activities was "Band." That means that band and orchestra teacher **Walter Fredman**, who influenced several generations of Taft musicians, may deserve some credit as well.

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**Jack Suwinski** (2016) is truly in the spot-light this year, as he was drafted in June by the San Diego Padres in the 15<sup>th</sup> round. This is quite an accomplishment, as it happened right after his graduating from high school. His high school performance record this spring certainly had some strong influence on this decision. He was drafted primarily as an outfielder, but also is a strong left-handed pitcher. On the [www.perfectgame.org](http://www.perfectgame.org) web

site he is shown as ranking #3 in Illinois for his outstanding out-fielding performance.

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## In The News

(continued from page 9)

He was only 17 years and 10 months old at the draft signing! Jack will start at the University of Indiana this fall, while remaining committed to the Padres. He already is working with the Illinois Indians minor league baseball team this summer, as shown in this recent Illinois Indians publicity photo. Best wishes in working up the ladder in the minors, Jack!

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**Brian Arnspiger** (Jun '61) wanted to update us on one of his Homicide Cases that aired on the Discovery Channel on July 27, 2016, the "Perfect Murder" series. The Case involved the Murder of Carol Montecalvo, and was titled "Murder by the Book". The Case was cold for two years and given to Brian, who managed to solve the case in three months during the time he was a detective with the Burbank, California Police Department. There were 85 witnesses called, 185 pieces of circumstantial evidence presented and a seven week trial.

The result was that a jury convicted the husband Daniel Montecalvo of the murder. He received 27 years to life in prison. Daniel died in prison of sepsis in September 2013. He was a bag man for the Columbo family in Massachusetts and had a very long rap sheet for robbery.

Brian has been inducted into the TAA HOF and about to be inducted in WHT HOF.

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## 2016 Graduating Class

(Continued from page 1)

Principal **Mark Grishaber**, a big cheerleader for Taft progress, was very excited about the performance of this year's class and the school in general. It is several years since Taft and the academic center shifted to International Baccalaureate (IB) training for all six grade levels, which gives an improved education for all Taft students, not just those aiming for IB certification.

Taft's Class of 2016 scored the highest cumulative ACT score in Taft's history, Grishaber announced.

"You will always be remembered," he promised: "Statistically, you are the smartest class to have ever walked our hallways. You have 133 National Honor Society members; 41 Illinois State Scholars; six Posse Scholars; four Chicago Masonic Scholars; two Golden Apple Scholars; one Gates Millenium Scholar; one National Merit commended scholar, one Wentcher Scholar; one Coca Cola scholar." Two seniors attained Eagle Scout rank.

Last year's graduates earned a record \$14,512,000 in scholarship money. This year the total is up to \$21.5 million. Close to 99% of the graduates have been accepted to a college or university; the other 1% will enter the U.S. military where they will get an opportunity for college under the GI bill.

Taft students have been accepted to schools in 25 of the 50 states, including all the Big 10 schools.

Taft's Pom Pom Team members were two-time city champions.

The Girls Rugby team placed as runners up in the Illinois state championships.

Conference championships this school year were won by Taft in girls' swimming, girls' basketball, boys bowling, girls' bowling, boys' basketball, boys' swimming, boys' water polo, wrestling and girls' water polo.

Graduate **Jack Suwinski** has been drafted to play baseball for the San Diego Padres.

The Eagle Singers (older alumni can equate their quality to the years of **J.J. Stamm's** Mixed Chorus) recently took third place in a national competition sponsored through Walt Disney.

The Taft Marching Band was the only marching band from Illinois represented at the National Memorial Day parade in Washington, D.C.

In addition to Valedictorian **Tania Rakovic**, there was a tie for second, so three salutatorians, **Kimberly Burger**, **Klaudia Konieczny** and **Veronika Matsuk**, also spoke.

Performing at the ceremonies were the Eagle Singers, the Wind Ensemble, and the new Taft Alumni Chorus which organized last year.

Grishaber challenged the new graduates to go out and make a difference. "Change the way the world looks at its priorities. Be a vocal advocate for laws that place children as the Number One priority. Make sure our schools and universities have all the money they need. (I actually thought my generation would get it done, but we failed... so now it's up to your generation.)

"I'm not going to stand here tonight and tell you to go out and be a doctor or a lawyer. That's too easy. Class of 2016... Go out and change the world. You changed a school... Changing the world should be easy."



Check out the work of internationally acclaimed artist Matt Hoffman now adorning our school! The project resides at the southwest corner of the old building. (from Taft Today website)

## Class Notes



TAA Class Notes includes names of both new TAA members and renewals, when received prior to going to press. If you want to include other special details, please include that information on your membership form as shown on the inside of the last page of this newsletter.

### 1940s



First Taft Principal, Leo Hoefler

**Muriel (Davies) Kaminski** (Jun 1940), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Lindenhurst, IL, is a retired receptionist at Baxter, wonders how many 1940 grads are still out there - she is 93.

**Doris (Venema) Brunkhorst** (Jan 1941), has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Sun City West, AZ, is retired.

**Sally (Dern) Duski** (Jan 1941), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, DePaul U School of Music, is a retired music teacher and real estate broker, and was class valedictorian.

**Ralph Capparelli** (Jan 1942), lives in Chicago, IL, NIU; US Navy, is a retired member of the Illinois House of Representatives, is a TAA Hall of Fame inductee.

**Al Rettenmier** (Jun 1943), has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Lacey, WA, U IL, Utah State, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, is a retired insurance broker, has been married 64 1/2 years, is a Rotarian and is active in Boy Scouts of America (training volunteers), lives in Panorama, a top CCRC, and two 6'8" sons played basketball for Gonzaga U in the 70s.

**Irene (Ross) Fransen** (Jan 1944), has 8 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Westmont, IL, is retired.

**Howard Nelson** (Jan 1944), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Oconomowoc, WI, US Navy '44-'46, North Park Col AA '48, Northwestern BSBA '49, is a retired senior VP, is getting older but enjoying every minute of it.

**Mary Ellen Bryce** (Jun 1945), lives in Chicago, IL, is a retired secretary at Montgomery Ward (35 years).

**Edwin Hildwein** (Jun 1945), married **Joan Czirak** (Jun 1947), has 2 children, lives in Boise, ID, U OF WA BS '49 Acct, CPA '51; US Navy 10 months 23 days, is a retired financial executive for Boise-Cascade.

**Donald Gloor** (Jun 1946), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Des Plaines, IL, AA, BGS, MDA; USMC SSgt 6 years, is retired from the Defense Dept and an industrial labor relations officer, serves on the Des Plaines Arts Council Board of Directors.

**Joan (Czirak) Hildwein** (Jun 1947), married **Edwin Hildwein Jr** (Jun 1945), has 2 children, lives in Boise, ID, Boise St AS '73, is a retired RN.

**Rodney Lowell** (Jun 1947), has 2 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Tucson, AZ, U Chicago BA; US Army 1952-54, is a retired physics technician.

**Dick O'Connell** (Jun 1947), lives in Houston, TX, Marquette U BS '51, MIT MS '54, is retired from the EPA.

**Mary Jane (Chmielowski) Schaeferle** (Jun 1947), has 5 children, 12 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, lives in Garwin IA, is retired, widowed in 2012, winters in Florida.

**Jean (Tapp) Beal** (Jan 1948), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Rockford, IL, Cornell Coll BA Educ '52, is a retired grade school teacher, became a widow 8 years ago, now living at Wesley Willows Methodist Retirement Community.

**John Nelson** (Jan 1948), has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Kingston, WA, Purdue BS '52 MS '53; U of MN PhD '60, is retired.

**William Cantwell** (Jun 1948), has 10 children, lives in Inverness, IL, CPA, is a retired accountant.

**Raymond Ihrcke** (Jun 1948), has 3 children, many grandchildren, many great grandchildren, lives in Kalamazoo, MI, IL State MS '57; 3 years military service, is retired.

**Wallace Wilson** (Jun 1948), has 5 children, 18 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, lives in Grayslake, IL, is a retired carpenter, Sears outside sales, expects two more great granddaughters in August.

**Don Black** (Jun 1949), married **Joanne Dass** (Jun 1951), has 5 children, 9 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Macomb, IL, Blackburn BA, NIU MS Edu, IU EdD; US Army '54-'56, is a retired Supt of Schools in Macomb, is employed in Rantoul, IL.

**Nancy (Mondientz) Tibbitts** (Jun 1949), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Santa Barbara, CA, NIU BS, is a retired teacher.

**Jessie (Douglas) Uzdrowski** (Jun 1949), lives in Elk Grove Village, IL, is retired.

**Jeanne (Waschow) Wead** (Jun 1949), has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, lives in Sun City West, AZ, is a retired dental assistant.

## 1950s



**Principal Miss Mary C. Gillies**

**Dick Murbach** (Jan 1950), has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, lives in Las Vegas, NV, Northwestern U, US Navy Reserve 4 years (2 years active), is a retired financial controller, he and wife Nancy will be married 62 years this June and in good health.

**Mary Ann (Buddenbaum) Tittle** (Jan 1950), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Marco Island, FL, Northwestern U BS '54, is a retired PE teacher, loves, skiing, biking, life.

**Pat (Ryan) Michalski** (Jun 1950), has 6 children, 12 great grandchildren, lives in Oak Park, IL, Wright Col '72, is the retired Asst. to the Cook County Treas., is in the TAA Hall of Fame.

**Dennis Schachner** (Jun 1950), has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Estero, FL, DePaul U BA, is a retired telecommunication engineer.

**Sylvia (Spencer) Rieling** (1950), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Springfield, VA, BS MS Edu, is a retired elementary school teacher, while she didn't graduate from Taft (1946-49), she still feels connected to the class of 1950.

**Margaret (Krebs) Grumbine** (Jan 1951), married **Donald Grumbine (deceased)** (Jan 1950), has 4 children, 3 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Schiller Park, IL, is a retired homemaker.

**Edmund Tridemy** (Jan 1951), married **Judy Holzman** (deceased) (Jun 1954), has 2 children, lives in Des Plaines, IL, Naval Air Reserve 10 years, NAS Glenview, is a carpenter supt. retired after 41 years, working on new and old office buildings in downtown Chicago for a large construction company.

**Ed Archambault** (Jun 1951), has 5 children, 12 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in Sun City West, AZ, DeVry Tech Inst, is a retired senior technical director for WGN-TV, is working on his senior "Bucket List".

**William Kammer** (Jun 1951), has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Oakland Park, FL, 2 years

college; US Army 2 years, is the retired owner of Real Estate Appraisal Corp..

**Richard Lally** (Jun 1951), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Edgerton, WI, Chicago Tech; US Army 2 years (Korea), is retired.

**Jane (LaMarche) Adair** (Feb 1952), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Oro Valley, AZ, Beloit Coll BA; U of FL MA; U UT PhD, is a teacher.

**Louise (Vandemerkt) Lowry** (Jun 1952), has 3 children, 10 children, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Mundelein, IL, is retired.

**Carl Edwards** (Jan 1953), married **Alice Taylor** (Jan 1953), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, Wright Col; Milwaukee Sch of Eng, is retired from real estate and construction.

**Alice (Taylor) Edwards** (Jan 1953), married **Carl Edwards** (Jan 1953), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, North Park Coll AA '55; CTC '61, is a retired 6th grade teacher.

**June Sandahl** (Jan 1953), lives in Santa Clara, CA, is retired from clerical work.

**Phyllis (Geisert) Umphres** (Jan 1953), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Chatsworth, CA, 4 years nursing, is a retired RN.

**Jane (Meadows) Abramchik** (Jun 1953), lives in Skokie, IL, BS Edu, is a retired special education teacher.

**Rich Albrecht** (Jun 1953), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Lake Geneva, WI, Beloit Col BA, is a retired CEO of Federated Foods, has been married to Carol Vining for 56 years.

**Roberta (Lockerbie) Fiali** (Jun 1953), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, 4 grandchildren, lives in McHenry, IL, Metropolitan Bus, McHenry Cty Comm Col, is self-employed and semi-retired from Fairview Fin LLC, Fairview Svcs, Fairview Farm, and Maui Sunset Rental, says "I see no good reason to act my age," would like to hear from classmates who feel the same.

**Judi (Moers) Hardman** (Jun 1953), has 5 children, 14 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, is a retired miniaturist and homemaker, attends the "Florida West" all-class reunion and summers in Door County, WI.

**Harry Magee** (Jun 1953), married **Meg Goodell** (Jan 1955), has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Ellicott City, MD, Northwestern U BA, is an analyst for the Social Security Administration.

**John Petrie** (Jun 1953), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 grandchildren, lives in San Angelo, TX, Elgin Comm Col '61-'62, MIT Urban Exec. Program '73, is retired from municipal data processing, enjoys chess, golf, photography and wood working.

**Roger Skiple** (Jun 1953), married **Joyce Padgitt** (Jan 1956), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, is a retired maintenance carpenter.

**Darlene (Morris) Stenstrop** (Jun 1953), has 3 children, lives in S Barrington, IL, is retired, enjoys luncheons with other grads from '52 and '53.

- Darrel Tate** (Jun 1953), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in The Villages, FL, IL Wesleyan BS; US Army Reserves 6 years, is retired from the insurance business, plays tennis and watches "da Cubs".
- Judy (Gibson) Ellis** (Jan 1954), lives in Lindenhurst, IL, is retired.
- Darlene (Sweeney) McGrath** (Jan 1954), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Wright Jr Col, is a retired telephone service rep and collection manager.
- Wally Valters** (Jan 1954), has 4 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, Loyola U BSC '58, PhD '83, is a retired auditor.
- Norine (Anderson) Kmett** (Jun 1954), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Springfield, OH, BS, MS Educ, is a retired teacher.
- Searles Laswell** (Jun 1954), lives in McHenry, IL, is retired.
- Ken Motzny** (Jun 1954), has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Rockford, IL, BS Eng, is retired from 23 years of aeronautical engineering.
- Ramona (Amado) Nemeth** (Jun 1954), has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Norridge, IL, is a retired office worker.
- Claire (Roszkowski) Papiewski** (Jun 1954), has 3 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Elgin, IL, is sewing for her local hospital's childrens unit and grows orchids.
- Robert Roehl** (Jun 1954), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Homosassa, FL, U of CO, is retired from finance at General Motors.
- Alan Avery** (Jan 1955), has 1 child, 1 grandchild, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is retired.
- Meg (Goodell) Magee** (Jan 1955), married **Harry Magee** (Jun 1953), has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Ellicott City, MD, Northwestern U, Appalachian St, is a retired medial secretary.
- Lois (Weldon) Dowd** (Jun 1955), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, lives in Nokomis, FL, is a retired cost accountant, volunteers as treasurer of her park's social club, keeps busy, has been widowed for 8 years.
- Marlene (Cerny) Williamson** (Jun 1955), has 3 children, lives in Glendale, AZ, is a retired administrative assistant.
- John Beall** (Jan 1956), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Newport, NC, Clemson U BS, is a retired from personnel and industrial education, is traveling in a motor coach and serving as a volunteer in Christian ministries.
- Joyce (Padgitt) Skiple** (Jan 1956), married **Roger Skiple** (Jun 1953), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, BS Educ, is a retired teacher.
- Lynn (Bletzinger) Hammersmith** (Jun 1956), has 6 children, 7 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Park Ridge, IL, 2 years college, is a retired homemaker.
- Lucille (Nutti) Kruczek** (Jun 1956), has 4 children, children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Wonder Lake, IL, is a retired bookkeeper.
- Thomas Mucha** (Jun 1956), married **Nancy Dinnella** (deceased) (Jan 1957), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Mountain View, CA, BSAE '60; MSME '61; PhD '65, is a retired engineer; his wife was inducted into the TAA Hall of Fame.
- Diane (Gotz) Ranieri** (Jun 1956), has 1 child, lives in Schaumburg, IL.
- Tom Tubbs** (Jun 1956), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Rosemount, MN, is retired.
- Roland Carlson** (Jan 1957), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Maple Plain, MN, U MN BA '62, is a retired farmer.
- Robert Johnson** (Jan 1957), married **Barbara Maedge** (Aug 1959), lives in Aiken, SC, is retired.
- Sue (Moshier) Mathews** (Jan 1957), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in La Grange Park, IL, MA English, is a retired high school and university English teacher.
- Ronald Underwood** (Jan 1957), has 3 children, lives in Surprise, AZ, Northwestern U BSBA '61, U Chicago MBA '67, CPA, is a retired CFO and controller, tells us Arizona weather is not hot, "we have dry heat".
- Allen Hooks** (Jun 1957), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, Western IL U BA Bus, is a retired warehouse manager, is a golfer and a Bears fan.
- Arleen (Galla) Soteris** (Jun 1957), has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, is a retired pole dancer.
- William Uhl** (Jun 1957), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Kenosha, WI, is retired.
- Marianne (Burgbacher) Celce-Murcia** (Jan 1958), has 1 child, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Venice, CA, U of IL BA Eng '62; UCLA MA Linguistics '64, is a retired professor of applied linguistics.
- Dennis Duszak** (Jan 1958), has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Batavia, IL, IIT BS Met Eng '61, MBA '69, is a retired metallurgist.
- Richard Shattuck** (Jan 1958), lives in Edmonds, WA, Iowa St BS Forestry '63, is a retired sales manager.
- Robert Wolter** (Jan 1958), has 5 children, 4 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Ellenton, FL, MI State BA; US Navy 4 years, is retired.
- Bob Zaun** (Jan 1958), has 2 children, lives in Mundelein, IL, BA Bus and Music; Captain US Air Force 4 1/2 years, is a retired mortgage banker, leads the vocal group "Jazz Spectrum", and is proud to be considered for induction into the WHT Hall of Fame.
- Lytton Andersen** (Jun 1958), has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Hillside, IL, Wright Jr Col; US Army SP4 Ft. Knox KY 2 years, 158th Army Band, is retired, all but 1 grandchild live in Anthem, AZ.
- Janet (Lewis) Baker** (Jun 1958), has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Greenwood Village, CO, CO State U BS '62, Lesley Col ME, is a retired English teacher, travels the Western civilization extensively.
- John Croll** (Jun 1958), married **Nancy Novak** (Jun 1960), has 1 child, 3 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL, U of IL BS Acct; US Marine Corp, Captain, Vietnam, is retired from software sales.
- Lynn (Anderson) Lee** (Jun 1958), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Three Lakes, WI, BSN, is a retired RN.

**Joan (Petersen) Murray** (Jun 1958), married **Robert Murray** (deceased) (Feb 1952), has 5 children, 11 grandchildren, lives in Niles, IL, is a part time customer service rep, and was married for 54 years.

**Barbara (Maedge) Johnson** (Aug 1959), married **Robert Johnson** (Jan 1957), lives in Aiken, SC, is retired.

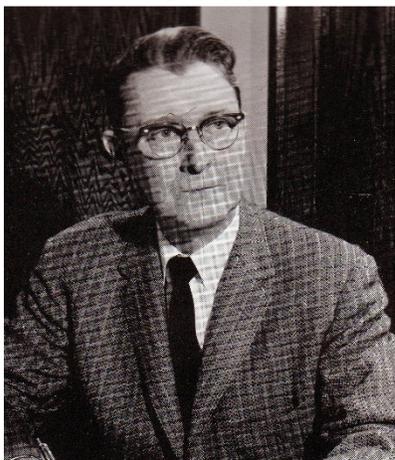
**Dan Isacksen** (Jan 1959), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Bourbonnais, IL, Bradley U BS Mktg, Stonier Grad School Rutgers U, is a retired banker.

**Fred Allegretti** (Jun 1959), married 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Mundelein, IL, Syracuse U MBA; US Army Security Agency 1962-65, is a retired consultant. He was inducted into WHT HOF in 2015.

**Larry Marsh** (Jun 1959), lives in Front Royal, VA, US Naval Academy BS EE, nuclear submarine officer 35 years, Int'l Relations post-grad study, is a retired career officer, was president of a non-profit foundation 11 years, has been married to wife Barbara, a teacher, for 44 years, and was inducted into both the TAA HOF and WHT HOF.

**Barbara (Knudson) Newlin** (Jun 1959), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Richmond, VA, Geo Washington U MS, is a retired human resource director, is exhibiting art work, traveling as frequently as possible, and loving her Virginia yard.

## 1960s



**Principal Gerald J. Haley**

**Linda (Carlson) Fisher** (Jan 1960), has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Keswick, VA, Northwestern U BA Edu '63, is a homemaker.

**Lynda (Billhardt) Hartwig** (Jan 1960), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, U of WI BS Econ '64, is a retired banker and preschool director and teacher.

**Martha (England) Woodman** (Jan 1960), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in McFarland, WI, is a retired bank bookkeeper and day care teacher, has been happily married for 47 years.

**Barb (Noon) Blitzen** (Jun 1960), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, is retired.

**Nancy (Novak) Croll** (Jun 1960), married **John Croll** (Jun 1958), has 1 child, 3 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL, is retired.

**Carol (Karowsky) Enslow** (Jun 1960), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Littleton, CO, BS Chem, is retired.

**Mick Geyer** (Jun 1960), married **Judy Peinert** (Jun 1960), has 5 children, 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Gays Mills, WI, US Marines '61-'64, served in Viet Nam, is a retired construction materials inspector.

**Judy (Peinert) Geyer** (Jun 1960), married **George (Mick) Geyer** (Jun 1960), has 5 children, 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Gays Mills, WI, Carroll U, is a retired human resources manager.

**Charles Kofink** (Jun 1960), married **Linda Johnson** (Jan 1966), has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Hanover Park, IL, US Army 1963-66, is retired, has traveled to all 50 states and many countries.

**Ken Kortas** (Jun 1960), has 1 child, lives in Simpsonville, KY, U of Louisville BS, is retired.

**John Majka** (Jun 1960), has 1 child, 1 grandchild, lives in Louisville, KY, UIC BS Engr; US Army 3 years, Vietnam 2 years Sgt E-5, is a retired engineer and teachers, has been an amateur radio operator for 55 years (KGAAN).

**Norm Phoenix** (Jun 1960), lives in Chicago, IL, Wright Col AA '63; IIT BSEE '67, MSEE '72; Nat'l Louis MAT '08, is a retired electrical engineer and educator.

**Ron Tarica** (Jun 1960), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Templeton, CA, IIT BS Chem Eng '64; NU MS Chem '67 PhD '69, is retired, is a business manager and treasurer for a non-profit arts education agency in San Rafael CA, and teaches music appreciation to senior citizens.

**Noel (Tureck) Thomson** (Jun 1960), married **Donald Thomson** (Jun 1961), has 4 children, 11 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in St Charles, IL, is retired, winters in Estero, Florida, loves to travel and spend time with the great grandkids.

**Marge (Brownfield) Galivan** (Jan 1961), has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Chattanooga, TN, is retired.

**Evelyn (Kuehn) Kuznicki** (Jan 1961), has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Franklin, NC, Roosevelt U BS, is retired.

**Holly (Nielsen) Rogers** (Jan 1961), lives in St Helena, CA, St. Olaf Col '61-'63, North Park Col BA '66, is retired and a volunteer band manager for St. Helena Community Band, says it's a joy to play flute again, the first time since playing at Taft.

**Nancy (Edwards) Miklasz** (Jun 1961), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, is a retired homemaker.

**Eileen (Gierke) Rasmussen** (Jun 1961), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Paradise Valley, AZ, BA, is a retired court clerk supervisor.

**Donald Thomson** (Jun 1961), married **Noel Tureck** (Jun 1960), has 4 children, 11 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, lives in St Charles, IL, is retired after 42 years as an All-State Ins. Agent, winters in Estero, Florida, loves to travel and really loves spending time with the great grandkids (2 in Illinois, 2 in Florida).

- Doret (Cunis) Tookey** (Jun 1961), married **Bob Tookey** (Jun 1961), lives in Hermitage, PA.
- Bob Tookey** (Jun 1961), married **Doret Cunis** (Jun 1961), lives in Hermitage, PA.
- Stephen Wren** (Jun 1961), lives in Seminole, FL, RN, BA, MPA; US Army officer 1966-72, is retired from the Univ of South Florida, now works for the local Supervisor of Elections.
- Louis Vassos** (Jan 1962), married **Joanne Wemstrom** (deceased) (Jun 1962), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, NU BS Elec Engr, is an engineer.
- Marilyn (Prochaska) Copeland** (Jun 1962), has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Tampa, FL, NIU AA.
- Phyllis Miller** (Jun 1962), has 1 child, lives in Crescent City, FL, Roosevelt U BA Eng, is retired from the State of IL.
- Ron Rusing** (Jun 1962), has 2 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Austin, TX, MS Mil Arts & Sci; US Air Force 28 years, 2 tours in Vietnam, is a retired fighter pilot, enjoys the newsletter, and is saddened by the death of **Judy (Andersen) Mack** (Jan 1961), a real sweetheart.
- Paula (Simonides) Weglarz** (Jun 1962), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Palatine, IL, BA English, is a retired editor.
- John Alley** (Jan 1963), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Green Valley, AZ, Vietnam 1966-67, is retired from management.
- Jim Fenner** (Jan 1963), has 4 children, 58 grandchildren, lives in Cumming, GA, Cal State Fullerton BA; USMC 4 years, is retired from food service distribution.
- Bill Green** (Jan 1963), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Roselle, IL, U IL BA Arch, Loyola Chicago JD, is a writer, publisher and architectural consultant.
- John Knecht** (Jan 1963), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Chicago, IL, MSEE, MBA, is retired.
- Darlene (Leff) Polzin** (Jan 1963), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, is retired.
- Ellamae Braun** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Barrington, IL, is working for an auto dealership.
- Dan Frizane** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Minden, NE, BME '68, MM '71, DMA '84, is a happily retired music teacher after 39 years, conducts the Kearney Adult Community Band, will celebrate 50 years of marriage in August.
- Jim Groll** (Jun 1963), married **Janet Loose** (Jun 1967), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is a retired Chicago police officer.
- Carol (Thorson) Hildebrand** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, lives in Poinciana, FL, Gustavus BA '67, National U MS Med '80, is a retired Commander, US Navy Nurse Corps 20 years, for 30 years has been with PEO (Philanthropic Education Organization) raising scholarship funds benefitting women throughout the world.
- Barbara (Puccinelli) Monstvil** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Morton Grove, IL, is retired.
- Jim Ohlson** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, lives in Rockville, MD, Wheaton Col BS '67, U of Pittsburgh MA '72.
- Carolyn (Feare) Rominski** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Batavia, IL, Masters +30 hrs, is a retired middle school teacher.
- Patricia (Naumes) Sherman** (Jun 1963), lives in Arlington Hts, IL, Wright Jr Col AA; Elmhurst Col, is retired from sales, was widowed in 2015.
- Mary (Fijak) Thomas** (Jun 1963), married **James Thomas** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in London, ONT, U of IL BS Econ, is a retired accountant.
- Jim Thomas** (Jun 1963), married **Mary Fijak** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in London, ONT, Roosevelt U BSBA, MA Labor Relations, is a retired management consultant.
- Diane (Peterson) Wilk** (Jun 1963), married **Jeff Wilk** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Harwood Hts, IL, BS Educ, is retired.
- Jeff Wilk** (Jun 1963), married **Diane Peterson** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Harwood Hts, IL, BA Educ, is retired, two grandchildren attend his alma mater, Garvy.
- Margaret (Wingert) Hardy** (Jan 1964), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Aurora, IL, Northern IL U BS '68, is a retired elementary school teacher after 35 years.
- George Streske** (Jan 1964), has 4 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, 2 years college, is a retired general contractor, will celebrate with his wife their 50th anniversary on July 30.
- Glenn Erickson** (Jun 1964), married **Judy Schmook** (Jun 1967), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Rio Rancho, NM, AA, US Army '68-'70, is a retired police officer.
- Nancy Noble** (Jun 1964), lives in Indio, CA, is an artist and teacher, was inducted into the TAA Hall of Fame.
- Susan (Engel) Sommerfeld** (Jun 1964), lives in Pittsburgh, PA, BS Comm (Journalism), is semi-retired.
- Richard Anderson** (Jan 1965), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, US Army '66-'68, is retired from telecommunications.
- Chuck Mugnolo** (Jan 1965), lives in Cape Coral, FL, is retired from Ford Motor Co in 1998 after 30 years, moved to Florida in 2004.
- Rita (Golterman) Barth** (Jun 1965), lives in Park Ridge, IL, is retired.
- James Fleming** (Jun 1965), has 1 child, 3 grandchildren, lives in Addison, IL, BA '69, MBA '84, is retired.
- Judi (Luga) Stephens** (Jun 1965), married **Dennis Stephens** (Jun 1965), has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Barrington, IL, BA French Ed, MA French, is a volunteer.
- Dennis Stephens** (Jun 1965), married **Judi Luga** (Jun 1965), has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Barrington, IL, BSEE, MSEE, is an electronics engineer.
- Wayne Willems** (Jun 1965), has 2 children, lives in Dallas, TX, Western IL U BA Bus, Northwestern U MBA, is retired.
- Oscar Marquis** (Jan 1966), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Park Ridge, IL, U IL Law, Northwestern U BA, is a privacy lawyer, retirement not in sight.

**William Moldenhauer** (Jan 1966), lives in Des Plaines, IL, is a retired retail worker, enjoys bike riding, bowling, and volunteers at a food pantry.

**James Bixler** (Jun 1966), married **Gail Ponce** (1968), lives in Oceanside, CA.

**Theresa (Klein) Davis** (Jun 1966), has 4 children, lives in Hurley, WI, U of IL '71 BA Art, is an art teacher, had a wonderful time at the June 50 Year Reunion in Chicago.

**Michael Megaris** (Jun 1966), has 3 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Overland Park, KS, MBA Fin, CMA; USMC Reserves '66-'72, is a college teacher.

**Lynne Ostfeld** (Jun 1966), lives in Chicago, IL, U IL BA, MAT French, John Marshall Law School JD, is an attorney.

**Ron Stolle** (Jun 1966), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Hudson, OH, Northeastern IL U BA '71, Loyola MBA '76, Washington U EdD '01; Army Reserves 1970-76, is retired.

**Len Wislow** (Jun 1966), married **Gaye Swatek** (Jun 1967), has 3 children, lives in Winnetka, IL, is the retired president of Beco Inc. Engineering & Technical Services.

**Joyce (Kerstein) Donicht** (Jan 1967), lives in Colorado Springs, CO, U of WI Stout '71, is retired.

**Bob Elezian** (Jan 1967), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Parker, CO, Southern IL U BA Comp Sci/Math; US Navy Flight Engineer, is a retired software engineer.

**Dean Gritsonis** (Jan 1967), has 3 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Carol Stream, IL, NIU '71; Army Reserves '71-'77, is a retired retail manager.

**Jackie (Luga) Philbin** (Jan 1967), has 1 child, lives in Palm Harbor, FL, U IL Chicago, BA Psych, is a retired United flight attendant, flew for 41 years and loved it, the best layovers being in Paris, London, Hong Kong, Honolulu, Tokyo, Beijing and Shanghai.

**Charles Bajerski** (Jun 1967), has 5 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Cary, NC, retired.

**Judy (Schmook) Erickson** (Jun 1967), married **Glenn Erickson** (Jun 1964), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Rio Rancho, NM, is retired from purchasing for an electronics company.

**Janet (Loose) Groll** (Jun 1967), married **Jim Groll** (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is a semi-retired school occupational therapist in Park Ridge/Niles.

**Lynn (McCraw) Meyer** (Jun 1967), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Huntley, IL, is retired.

**Jim Schroeder** (Jun 1967), has 6 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Richmond, VA, Luther Col BS, MCV DDS; MCV MS Biochem, is a retired associate professor, VCU and LBD Consulting.

**Gaye (Swatek) Wislow** (Jun 1967), married **Len Wislow** (Jun 1966), has 3 children, lives in Winnetka, IL.

**Bob Altergott** (1968), lives in Lake in the Hills, IL, is a retired senior project superintendant.

**Mary (Kemblowski) Berg** (1968), lives in Frederick, MD, BSN, MS Healthcare Admin, is a retired healthcare admin.

**Alexis Bernard** (1968), lives in Brookfield, WI, U MA BA '81, is a retired corporate training consultant.

**Gail (Ponce) Bixler** (1968), married **James Bixler** (Jun 1966), lives in Oceanside, CA.

**Marlene (Porter) Boehler** (1968), has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, is retired from the employee benefits industry.

**Linda (Lease) Dustin** (1968), married **Jack Dustin** (1968), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, BA, is a retired teacher.

**Deborah (Schwantes) Domes** (1968), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Roselle, IL, is retired.

**Jack Dustin** (1968), married **Linda Lease** (1968), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, MD, is a family practice physician.

**Gale Fabisch** (1968), has 3 children, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Southern IL U, BS Env Engr '73; IIT Env Engr grad studies, is a semi-retired consulting engineer and real estate broker; he enjoys frequent vacations and road trips in the Austin Healey, and family activities.

**Mary (Stoklosa) Ferrandino** (1968), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Barrington, IL, WIU BS, MS, is a retired elementary school teacher.

**Kathleen (Suba) Firnsin** (1968), has 3 children, 11 grandchildren, lives in Villa Park, IL, is retired.

**Cheryl (Brandt) Mccauslin** (1968), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Lake Villa, IL, is retired, volunteers with TNR Lake County and Save-a-Pet Shelter.

**Sharon (Holm) Najdowski** (1968), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Sugarland, TX, is a retired homemaker.

**Gail (Galla) Nehrig** (1968), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Estes Park, CO, BS Elem PE, is a wife, mother and proud grandmother of 19 mo. old Eleanor, and is happy in her beautiful mountain home with husband Russ of 45 years.

**Daniel Popp** (1968), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, U IL BS Acct '72, Roosevelt U MBA Fin/Acct '85, is an accountant, is recently retired and loving it.

**Woody Powers** (1968), has 4 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Johnsburg, IL, is a business owner and CEO.

**Tim Raetzman** (1968), has 2 children, lives in Park Ridge, IL, is retired.

**Kathleen (Marquardt) Tellefsen** (1968), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Eden Prairie, MN, SIU BS Edu '72, is a retired homemaker.

**Carolyn (Sykes) Toerpe** (1968), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Naperville, IL, is retired.

**Gail (Mathisen) Cristoe** (1969), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, BA Educ, is a 5th grade teacher.

**Bob Kanen** (1969), has 3 children, lives in Waldwick, NJ, Northeastern U BA Soc '74; BA Psych '75, IL Sch of Prof Psych PsyD '82, is a clinical forensic psychologist.

**Richard Karneboge** (1969), has 2 children, lives in Pekin, IL, is retired.

**Patricia (Bates) Patty** (1969), married **Paul Patty** (1968), has 2 children, 2 step-grandchildren, lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, BA, is retired.

**Valerie (Stewart) Sosnowski** (1969), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Lindenhurst, IL, RN, BS Health, MS Nursing, MS Health Svcs Admin, Certified Operating Room Nurse, is a director of surgical services.

**Doug Ulasy** (1969), lives in Bull Shoals, AR, is retired.

## 1970s



**Principal Sam Ozaki**

**Jerry Herreweyers** (1970), has 1 child, lives in San Diego, CA, BS Computer Eng '74, MS EE '81, is a product manager, and married to wife, Janet.

**Margaret (Kosinski) Lacerra** (1970), married **Fred LaCerra** (1970), has 3 children, 11 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Oakton Comm. Col, cosmetology, is a genealogist (24 years) and licensed cosmetologist (44 years), is conference chair for the Polish Genealogical Soc. of America and United Polish Genealogical Societies. She is on the 2016 WHT HOF induction list.

**Constance (Sowa) Newton** (1970), has 1 child, lives in Des Plaines, IL, is an import manager.

**Fred Lacerra** (1970), married **Margaret Kosinski** (1970), has 3 children, 11 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Northeastern IL U, is a teacher, coach and athletic director.

**Barbara (Heinz) Olle** (1970), married **Ron Olle** (1985), lives in West Chicago, IL, U OF I BS '75, MS '89, is a retired occupational therapist, and is a former TAA board director.

**Robert Peroni** (1970), lives in Austin, TX, DePaul U BSC '73, Northwestern U JD '76, NYU LLM Taxation '80, is a law professor.

**Steven Terlecki** (1970), has 3 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Littleton, CO, U of NM BA Geology, is a petroleum geologist, enjoys skiing, hiking and ice hockey.

**Timothy Arado** (1971), lives in Chicago, IL, IL St U, Control Data Inst, is in real estate management.

**Meg (Martin) Betzel** (1971), has 2 children, lives in Charlotte, NC, U AR BSDH '75, is retired.

**Melody Childs** (1971), lives in Sandia Park, NM, Northeastern IL BS Biol '75; U IL MS Microbiol '77; U NM BSN '89, is an RN and freelance writer.

**Debbie (Pokorny) Kolze** (1971), lives in Mesa, AZ, Rosary Col BA '84 (Foods & Nutrition, Bus Admin), is a retired food product developer and food sanitation instructor, moved to Arizona in December 2014 and loves it.

**Rich Lindberg** (1971), lives in Chicago, IL, Northeastern IL U BA, MA, is an author and speechwriter for Ald. Ed Burke, has published 17 books about the Windy City including "Gangland Chicago: Criminality and Lawlessness in the Windy City" and has just completed work on the first institutional history of Northeastern Illinois Univ. coinciding with its 150th anniversary. He was a former TAA board member and is in the TAA HOF.

**Sheryl (Schmidt) Pierce** (1971), lives in Hot Springs Village, AR, is a part time office manager, lives in a golfing paradise.

**Sandra (Bakanowicz) Davidson** (1972), has 3 children, 10 grandchildren, lives in Mount Pleasant, MI, is a receptionist, in August her daughter will have her doctorate in psychology and practice in Georgia.

**Jan (Cramer) Grana** (1972), has 2 children, lives in Prospect Hts, IL, RT, BS, MS, MEd, U IL PhD '99, is a physicist.

**Judy (Spierowski) Kearney** (1972), has 1 child, lives in Chicago, IL, UIC BA '75, WRIGHT AAS '96, NIU MST '10, is a CPA.

**Nancy Stevens** (1972), lives in Clearwater, FL, U IL BS, U South FL MA, is a teacher and counselor.

**Maureen (Nelson) Baricelli** (1973), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Grapevine, TX, U IL BA '77, is retired.

**Adrienne (Ostfeld) Bohnenkamp** (1973), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Omaha, NE, BS, is a tumor registrar.

**Mary Kay (Kretch) Haben** (1973), has 2 children, lives in Glenview, IL, U IL BS Bus Adm '77, U MI MBA Mktg/Fin '79, is retired.

**Steve Jancovic** (1973), lives in Chicago, IL, BS, is in sales.

**Mark Krejci** (1973), has 4 children, lives in Huntley, IL, some college, US Army 6 years, is an electrical field engineer.

**Robin (Adkins) Lasnoski** (1973), has 2 children, 12 grandchildren, lives in Green Bay, WI, Marquette U BS Dental Hyg, is manager of her husband's dental office.

**Joyce (Luga) Selker** (1973), has 2 children, lives in Schaumburg, IL, is a medical receptionist.

**Sheila (Graniero) Siarkiewicz** (1973), has 4 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Algonquin, IL, is retired.

**Marge (Taff) Clements** (1974), has 2 children, lives in Charlotte, NC, Paralegal Tech, Int'l Bus, is a credit analyst.

**Diane (Siciliano) Bugajski** (1975), has 1 child, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, is an administrative assistant.

**Jamie (Moffat) Pastwa** (1975), lives in Orion, MI, MA, is a teacher.

**Gail (Krusinski) Harned** (1976), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Lexington, KY, Murray St U, is retired, is married to Hal and winters in Naples, FL.

**Jeanne (Czech) Szafranski** (1978), has 1 child, lives in Park Ridge, IL.



## 1980s



**Principal William R. Watts**

**John Gilmore** (1980), has 2 stepchildren, 4 grandchildren, lives in Racine, WI, is in law enforcement.

**Sandra (Dillon) Orzolek** (1982), has 3 children, lives in St Charles, IL, is homemaker, asks, "Where is everyone from the 1980s?"

**Ron Olle** (1985), married **Barbara Heinz** (1970), lives in West Chicago, IL, is a train conductor and in the reserves.

**Karen (Lepinski) Sidlow** (1988), has 1 child, lives in Grayslake, IL, U IL Chgo BSEE '92, MS Computer Sci '95, is an IT analyst at Exelon.

**Christina Whitty** (1988), has 2 children, lives in Batavia, IL, DePaul U MBA, is a field manager.

## 2010s



**Principal Mark Grishaber**

**Alyssa Correa** (2016), lives in Chicago, IL, Taft High School '16, is hoping to become an actuary or accountant, is the winner of the 2016 Graven Scholarship.

**Lazma Deeb** (2016), lives in Chicago, IL, Taft High School (2016), is hoping to become an orthodontist/dentist, is the winner of the 2016 Artisk Science Scholarship.

**Maxymilian Karkut** (2016), lives in Chicago, IL, Taft High School (2016), is hoping to be a physicist or astronomical researcher, is the winner of the 2016 TAA Scholarship.

## Reminiscing - Just a fun and informative addition

Submitted by **Pat Murphy Crum** (Steinmetz 1952)

While all three of us [sisters] were Norwood Park residents mostly while growing up only my older and younger sisters, **Lois Wilson Cox (Jun '47)** and **Mary Wilson Richards** (Jan '56) became Taft alumni. I ended up going to Steinmetz. And yet, still often thought of old classmates and attachments from my own Norwood Grammar School days.

Thus, what a huge surprise ever so many years later when I chanced on a book about Lombard, I believe, and how it chanced to be settled by relatives of a Taft alumni, **Norton Bud Wrisley**, (husband of **Marsha Lein**) (both Jan '53). It was clear Bud was named after this earlier Norton and I thought how nice it would be if I could see that he and his family got this ancient publication. But how, for now 40 to 50 years had already passed since I'd had any knowledge of these ole time classmates?

And then, along came another Taft news-letter my kid sister gets with a photo and update of Bud and dear spouse. Well, it didn't take me long to manage to get in touch and send on that text filled with photos of things, many now long gone but to memory. And what a treasure it certainly proved to be both for the Wrisleys and for me. Ah, to enjoy our ole time connections.

If I recall correctly, Wrisleys lived in Chicago and had a soap factory in Lombard as early as Civil War Times. And were the ones who came up with the idea of soap flakes. It was the Chicago Fire and the need to then rebuild that caused a change in local [usage]. I think the book spoke of two Wrisley brothers [Norton and Allen B. Wrisley] involved in the manufacturing of their soap that undertook to make this change. Since one was named Norton I was left to suppose that he was probably Bud's grandfather. For I think Bud had an older brother who was perhaps named after their dad. Some years have passed since I perused the material in that book and then sent it on to Bud and family. And alas, the mind isn't as sharp as it once was.

So, a big thanks to you folks at Taft's Alumni Association for making that possible for us. For a time the Wrisleys and I have been out of touch. But again, through a recent Taft newsletter I have seen these folks have sent you this update. And that they are doing well. I am hanging in there myself. Just wanted to let you folks know what your doing can be more special than you might think.



## Jeffrey Komada, Tech Expert for Taft, Dies

Jeffrey Komada joined the Taft faculty just about the time the school was starting to be wired for computers. He became the school's tech and computer guru over the next two decades, understanding the networks within the building and the computer terminals and laptops used to teach both computer skills and eventually, almost everything else, from linking online to the latest generations of standardized testing. This was a teacher who made learning a lot easier for everyone. He was a kind and helpful person. He had been a great help also to the Taft Alumni Association, in many ways, and made sure before he left school on Friday, April 29 that TAA was all set for our Hall of Fame ceremony the following afternoon.

On Saturday morning, April 30, while driving southbound on the Tri-State Tollway near his home in Des Plaines, he was involved in a multi-vehicle accident. He got out to help the passengers in the car behind his, and was struck by a fourth vehicle. He died of his injuries.

Many Taft faculty and staff members, past and present, attended his wake to express their condolences to his wife and daughters. The school organized a fundraising site to help the family at <https://www.gofundme.com/226yzqz6>.



Jeffery Komada



## Taft Loyalty Song

Now known as "The Taft Loyalty Song", the original version was written as the "Taft Founders' March" by John "Pops" Rapier, Taft's first band and orchestra director. It was a tribute to the founders on the faculty introduced when the school was dedicated.

For many years students sang this song with gusto at school assemblies, rallies, basketball, baseball and football games. Few of today's students even know this song exists. Principal Grishaber is looking to change that.

Respectfully dedicated to the Students of the Taft High School

## TAFT FOUNDERS' MARCH

Dear Taft you've our loy - al - ty We're  
yours to com mand. In  
vic - try or in de - feat. Our  
our - age will stand. We'll  
fight for your fame To your  
name we'll bring hon - or We'll  
car - ry your stan - dards On - ward,  
up - ward to the sky.

O Taft sei hoch in Ehren  
Lieb Schule unser Treu  
Wie stolz sind deine kinder  
So schön bist du und nou  
Dich werden wir immer lieben  
Dir bieten wir Herz und Hand  
Dein Ruhm wird sich verbreiten  
Weit über Meer und Land.  
*Translation by Dr. BUCHWALTER*

Chere Taft tu as notre loyauté  
Commande nous sommes a toi  
En victoire ou en défaite  
Notre courage vestera  
Battrous pour ta gloine  
Del honneur nous t'apparterons  
En haut meme au ciel  
Tes drapeaux nous promenerons.  
*Translation by Miss LODEMANN*

O Taft! care  
Fidelitatem habes  
Victoria aut ruina  
Nos imperes  
Pro fama pugnabimus  
Ad te honorem feremus  
Signa tollemus  
Supra ad coelum.  
*Translation by Mrs. LEWIS*  
Taft Founders' March, 2

O Taft! tienes nuestra lealdad  
Somos tujos a mandar  
En victoria o en derrota  
Nuestra coraje durara  
Lucharemos para tu fama  
Tu nombre honraremos  
Llevaremos tus banderas  
Arriba hasta el cielo.  
*Translation by Miss KILG*



The "In Our Memories" page on our web site now includes, when known, civil or military service and which conflict, if any, the person was associated with. Feel free to contact us with any updates or corrections. We always appreciate your help to keep our files up to date.

**Mary Richardson**, a former faculty member at Taft died December 15, 2015. \*

**Frank Cappitelli**, husband of Mary Kay (Philbin) Cappitelli, died June 1, 2016 from a 21-year battle with reoccurring cancers. Mrs. Cappitelli was at Taft for a year and a half, June 2012 to Nov 2013 as principal and three years as asst. principal. He is also the brother-in-law to Jacqueline (Luga) Philbin, (Jan '67).

**Lois Belle (Wilson) Cox**, class of June 1947, died as a result of Parkinson's disease on Thanksgiving Day, 2015. A sister Mary was also a Taft grad (Jun '56).

**Delmar Ronald Johnson**, class of June 1950, died July 12, 2016. He had a distinguished career in the electronics industry with Cook Research, Ampex Corp. and Bell & Howell, doing pioneering work in the fields of missile

**Holly Mae (Gundlach) Mihalovich**, class of January 1967, died date unknown.

**Celeste (Hinchliffe) Hengsgen**, class of June 1967, died date unknown.

**Thomas Edward Marquardt**, class of June 1967, died date unknown.

guidance systems, VCR technology, microfiche and scanning systems.

**Ronald William Anderson**, class of June 1951, died June 11, 2016 near his home of Hendersonville, NC.

**Raymond Lewis Schiefelbein**, class of January 1956, died May 12, 2016, He was a retired ordained Lutheran minister who served 6 years in the US Army Reserve during the Vietnam War. He is brother to the late Gordon Schiefelbein (Feb '52) and Richard Schiefelbein (Jan '53).

**Kenneth Brian Dopp**, class of January 1956, died February 1 2016. His was brother to James Dopp (Jan '60) and Craig Dopp Jun '66).

**Karen Anne (Kelly) Sutherland**, class of June 1960, died July 26, 2016 of a sudden, acute lung problem which did not respond to treatment. She lived in Vancouver, WA.

**Mary Louise (Herman) Drish**, class of June 1961, passed away July 9, 2016 in Albuquerque, NM after a long illness. She loved choral music from her time as a member and soloist with Taft's Mixed Chorus. She is the sister to Leslie J. Herman (June 1965).

**Kenneth Anderson**, class of June 1967, died date unknown.

**Barbara (Demma) Harrington**, class of June 1967, died date unknown.

\* We have no further information on Mary Richardson. If you remember her, we ask you to contact us so we can update our historical records. We would appreciate knowing the subject she taught at Taft as well as the time period she was with us.

## Lloyd Hoover Founded Taft's Steel Drum Band



Retired Taft teacher **Lloyd Hoover**, 71, died in June. It was unexpected. He is survived by his wife, Marta, a sister and a brother, and various in-laws.

When **Thomas Cunningham** became Taft's principal, he recruited music teacher Lloyd Hoover to join the Taft faculty. Mr. Hoover had previously taught at Amundsen and Clemente high schools, and at Clemente, the music department had been teaching steel drum music, a particularly Caribbean music with a Spanish flair.

When Mr. Hoover came to Taft, special set of drums were made from discs of metal. They were tuned with several different voices, and hung on special stands. The thing that impressed the audiences at Taft was how quickly these music classes mastered the instruments, how well the music sounded, and what a lift it gave to the band and orchestra concerts. Mr. Hoover joined the students on stage, playing with them, but the students mastered the drums.

On one memorable day, when a touring company of "Grease" was playing in Rosemont, the show chorus and guest star Frankie Avalon (reprising his film role of Teen Angel) came to Taft with alumnus and show co-creator **Jim Jacobs** (Jun '60) to try (successfully) to break the record for the greatest number of people doing the Hand Jive. The steel drum students played on stage, and after the official ceremony, Avalon came on stage to play steel drums with Hoover and the students.

Mr. Hoover also served for several years as chairman of the fine arts department. When Mr. Hoover retired a few years later, Taft's enrollment was growing so fast that the drum program was disbanded. Not just anyone could teach steel drums.

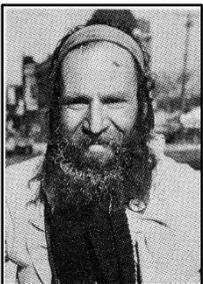
Mr. Hoover may also be remembered from his years as a soloist and choir director at Edison Park United Methodist Church in the 1960s and 1970s, where many Taft students and grads were in the choir and congregation.

## Lewis brothers' 1976 Adventure Featured in New Book



Brothers **Reid and Ken Lewis** (Jan '58 and Jun '55, respectively), who grew up in Edison Park and attended Taft, invested part of their earlier adult years making history by re-living it and sharing their adventures with the world.

Reid (inducted into the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame three years ago) studied French at Taft and became a French language teacher in Elgin, Illinois. Ken became an actor. They were inspired to recreate the journey of Louis Joliet and Father Marquette, which was one of the first visits by white explorers to Chicago. That was a relatively small expeditionary team, but several years later as the anniversary approached of Robert Cavalier de la Salle's trip from Montreal, Quebec, to the Gulf of Mexico, Reid conceived re-living that trip as well.



**Ken Lewis**

He and several adults including Ken trained with 16 of his Elgin High School students, through their junior and senior years, to build strength and endurance. They learned to make and repair their own canoes with the late Ralph Frese of the Chicagoland Canoe Base. They set out, following LaSalle's records, in summer 1977, canoed across four Great Lakes, and presented programs about the voyageurs and their adventures as they passed communities. For those shows, Reid would don a long, curly wig, a fancy hat and a bright red coat, appropriate formal wear for a nobleman.

At Taft, some of their former teachers, including **Robert Nachtway** (a long-time business teacher who was by then teaching photography) kept up with the adventures.



**Reid Lewis**

There were no social media outlets or laptop computers then (or in LaSalle's time), but the support team on land which tracked the group, communicated news back to friends and the Lewis's parents. The voyageurs stuck to their plan to not take the easy way out, so they had no modern parkas or buses or heated high school gyms).

What they had not counted on was the coldest winter in decades (1977-78), which was far worse than LaSalle experienced. They would camp along shore at night, only to find that the canoes were frozen in by morning and they would have to chop their way free. They missed Chicago's big welcoming ceremony at the Adler Planetarium because they couldn't get out of the frozen harbor in the northern suburbs. The smaller rivers in Illinois were even less cooperative and they had to portage their canoes and supplies across land for many extra miles.

They had opportunities to compare the modern condition of the Mississippi River with what LaSalle had experienced. And, beyond all odds due to the awful winter, they arrived at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico on time in spring 1978.



**Canoing Lake Michigan Past the  
Baha'i Temple off Wilmette, Illinois**

Coming up on the 40th anniversary of their adventure, Lorraine Boissoneault was preparing research on LaSalle's adventures, and discovered someone had done it in real life. She has just published a book, "The Last Voyageurs," through Pegasus Books, based on extensive interviews with the Lewis expedition. An interview with her, Reid and one of the former student voyageurs was broadcast on PBS's "WTTW Chicago Tonight" (Chicago's Channel 11) on June 22 and can be viewed through their program archive online. (The book is available from Barnes and Noble and Amazon.)

The late Jacques Cousteau became a fan of the LaSalle II adventure, and filmed part of the expedition team on his National Geographic special on the Mississippi River. The cooperation engendered between Canada and France and Reid's program has led to other projects, including a search now for one of the ships supposed to assist LaSalle that was lost in the Great Lakes.

For those who followed the original expedition reports in the Edison-Norwood Review, it's a great opportunity to get a closer look on this truly unique adventure, made possible by Taft alumni.

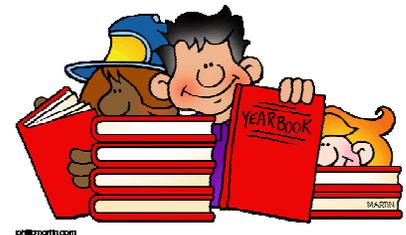
## Taft Alumni Association Merchandise

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—gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	Medium	\$10.00	\$
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	T-Shirt—gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	X-Large	\$10.00	\$
	T-Shirt—gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	XX-Large	\$12.00	\$
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	Jacket , Fleece - embroidered Taft Alumni Logo	XX-Large	\$40.00	\$
	Jacket , Fleece - embroidered Taft Alumni Logo	XXX-Large	\$40.00	\$
	Taft Yearbook (be sure to state year)	<b>Year:</b>	\$30.00	\$
<b>Shipping and Handling:</b> Stickers only = \$1.00, all other orders = \$6.00				\$
Total			Remitted	\$

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<p><b>Send check or money order (no cash please) with completed order form to:</b>  <b>Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago IL 60631</b>  <b>Please use a separate order form for separate addresses.</b></p>	

### Yearbook Inventory

A complete audit of our yearbook inventory is currently underway. The updated list will be available, hopefully by the next issue of our newsletter. We are unable to fill any requests for yearbook purchase until this audit is completed. Thank you for your patience.



### Time to Renew?!!

Thanks to all who read our plea about keeping current with your membership. If you receive the newsletter electronically, you'll find an emailed reminder in your inbox when you are about to or have lapsed. If you receive the newsletter by post, check your address label for your year of graduation above the eagle logo on the back page. Is it correct? Also, check the expiration date of your current membership with the Taft Alumni Association located just below the graduation date.

If your expiration date is close, we urge you to sit down NOW, complete the membership form on the next page and write out a check for \$15 or just \$20 for husband/wife graduates at the same address. You'll receive **TWO** full years of newsletters filled with opportunities to learn about classmates, reunions, school events and alumni programs. Be sure to use the application on the following page to share with us the latest updates in your life.

Thanks to all who have opted to receive their newsletter electronically. It has made a difference in our printing, mailing and handling newsletter costs. Bottom line, it gives us more opportunity to use our funds for other important TAA projects for Taft.

<b>Taft Alumni Association</b> <b>Membership Application</b>			
Please tell us as much about yourself as you like so that we can share your news in the <i>Class Notes</i> . Only fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required for membership. We will not publish your address or phone number.			
<b>About You</b>			
*First Name ( PLEASE PRINT)	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name	
*Home Street Address	*City	*State	*ZIP
Primary Phone	Email Address	<b>List in Email Directory</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
*Month/Year You Graduated	Number of Children _____ Children, _____ Grandchildren, _____ Great Grandchildren, _____ Great Greats?		
Higher Education, Degrees, Military Service, Years			
Occupation	Retired? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Elementary School	
Other news you'd like to share?			<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Do not publish my information in the Class Notes</b>
<b>About Your Taft Graduate Spouse</b>			
*First Name	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name	
*Month/Year Spouse Graduated	Higher Education, Degrees, Military Service, Years		
Occupation	Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Elementary School	
Other news you'd like to share?			
Enclosed is a <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 <b>2-year single membership</b> check or money <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 <b>2-year alumni couples membership</b> order for: <input type="checkbox"/> Donation in the amount of \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter <b>online</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter <b>by mail</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Send <b>both</b> by mail and online	
Please mail application and funds to: <b>Taft Alumni Association, 6530 West Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631</b>			Summer 2016

### Taft Alumni Association Board of Directors

Anne Lunde	1969	President, Historian
John Prochaska	1961	Vice President/Treasurer
Arlene (Lauer) Ware	1960	Secretary
Jeraldene (Beesley) Bloom Stephenson	1962	Director, Newsletter Editor <a href="mailto:newsletter@taftalumni.org">newsletter@taftalumni.org</a> (920) 559-7440
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Frank Heyer	1948	Director, Emeritus

### Taft Alumni Newsletter [www.taftalumni.org](http://www.taftalumni.org)

The TAA publishes the *Taft Alumni Newsletter* quarterly.

Please address general correspondence and changes to:

**Taft Alumni Association**  
 6530 West Bryn Mawr Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60631  
**or email** [eagleemail@taftalumni.org](mailto:eagleemail@taftalumni.org)

Send photographs and articles for the next issue to:

**Jerry Bloom Stephenson**  
 542 Tacoma Beach Rd., Apt 22  
 Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
**or email** [newsletter@taftalumni.org](mailto:newsletter@taftalumni.org)

**eNewsletter Signup:** [eagleemail@taftalumni.org](mailto:eagleemail@taftalumni.org)

**Submission Deadline for the Autumn Issue:**  
**September 30, 2016**

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