



Taft Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XXXIV, No. 3

Summer 2018

William Howard Taft High School Donation Policy

If you are considering making a donation to William Howard Taft High School, I would like to say "Thank you." On behalf of our 3339 students and 280 staff members, I would like to commend you on helping us educate the next generation of Eagles.

There are four ways in which you can donate to our school:

- 1) The first way to support Taft is to make a check payable to **Taft High School**. In the subject line you can either print, General Funds or you may print a sport, club or activity you would like to support (Example, Swimming Team). I will make sure those funds go into the appropriate account. You can mail the check to:
Taft High School, c/o Mr. Grishaber
6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60631
- 2) The second way you can support Taft is to make a check payable to **Taft PTSA**. This is our Parent-Teacher-Student Association. These funds will go directly into helping our students and our teachers. You should mail the check to Taft High School, c/o PTSA and we will place it in their mailbox.
- 3) The third way to support Taft is to make a check out to the **Taft Alumni Association** and mail it to Taft, c/o Alumni Association. The Alumni Association will then mail you a seasonal newsletter updating you on all upcoming alumni reunions and alumni news.
- 4) The last way you can support Taft is to donate furniture, computers, books, etc. to our school. If you would like to donate materials to our school, please contact Mr. Grishaber at 773-534-1017 and I will get back to you and discuss whether or not your donation is needed at Taft.

These are the **only ways** you can support William Howard Taft High School. We do not support or condone any other organizations, foundations or non-profits that claim they are working with Taft High School. Once again, I would like to thank you for your generosity and support.

Warm regards,
Mr. Grishaber, Principal



Welcome
Taft High School
Graduates from the
Class of 2018

Dedicating the Vets Memorial



Thomas Grud was one of Taft's alumni lost during the Vietnam War. His younger siblings attended the dedication. From left to right, with the veterans memorial at Taft are: John Grud and his wife, Ursula, artist JESÚS ACUÑA, Sue Grud Hornecker and her husband Barry.

By **Anne Lunde** (1969)

We're happy to announce that Taft's new Veterans Memorial is in place and was dedicated on Memorial Day Monday, May 28, following the conclusion of the Norwood Park Memorial Day Parade.

The memorial, a brick wall to which names of deceased veterans are attached, is located inside the Hurlbut Plaza entrance. For those who know the "new" 1970s wing, it is along the east wall of the art wing, in the main hall facing the legacy cases and the library entrance.

It's a project that took more than three years to complete, including fundraising, research, design and assembly. The wall is hollow, with plans to assemble a time capsule for future installation.

There are no guarantees that the 44 names from World War II and Vietnam represent the only Taft people who lost their lives in war. If someone is missing from our list, please let us know. There is room and opportunity to add others.

We have two World War II Taft grads who were listed as prisoners of war without having confirmation whether they made it home later. Records also are sketchy whenever someone married or moved before entering service.

It takes friends or relatives with better information to explain the continuity. Marine Capt. **Dale Luster** (Jun '58), for example, who had one of the [Continued on page 5]



Class of January 1953

Date: Saturday, September 15, 2018
Time: 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Location: Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, Buffalo Grove
Cost: TBD
Contact: **Lois Rolf** - 53bvds@gmail.com
Barb Behrens - bbop4404@gmail.com

Class of June 1959

Date: Saturday, October 6, 2018 (All Classes invited)
Time: 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Details: Reception, Dinner, Entertainment
Cost: \$35
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Des Plaines
Contacts: **Anne Fear-McManus** - 630-584-9194
or **Penni Eichin-Isaacson** - 847-945-5168

Classes of January/June 1963

Date: September 7-8, 2018
Time: Friday, 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Rosemont
Time: Saturday, 6:00 p.m.
Location: Golf Center – Des Plaines
Cost: \$30 (cash/check) Buffet Dinner
Contact: RSVP by August 28, 2018 to:
Cheryl Henninger Krupa
cherylkrupa@gmail.com - 847-298-5484,
Co-Chairs: **Donna Griessmer Catlett** and **Wayne Andersen**

Class of 1968

Date: Saturday, September 29, 2018
Time: 2 pm - 5 pm (school tour)
Enter at center main doors on Natoma
Parking lot – enter off Natoma or Bryn Mawr
Location: Taft High School
Reception: 6:00-11:00pm
Location: Colletti's (formerly El-Centro Pizzeria)
5707 N. Central Avenue (at Elston) - Chicago
Details: School tour/catered reception.
Cost- \$75
R.S.V.P.: by August 25, 2018
Contact: **Nancy Warzecha** - nancywarz@sbcglobal.net
or **Carolyn (Sykes) Toerpe** - carolyn.toerpe@gmail.com

Class of 1969

Date: TBD 2019
Place: TBD
Contacts: **Anne Lunde** – alundewriter@gmail.com
or **Laurel Kaage** – kaagefamily@gmail.com

16th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic FLORIDA-WEST

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2019 (11:00 am – 3:00 pm)
Place: Maxine Barritt Park, 1800 Harbor Dr. S, Venice, FL
(Meeting at smaller pavilion near north end parking area)
Pot Luck: a shared dish that serves 6
BYOB: Drinks in non-glass containers only
Photo shoot: 1:30 pm
Donation: \$5 per person, lawn chairs suggested
Contacts: **Leon Kathan** (June '56) - 863-835-2211
leonkathan64@gmail – or
Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson (June '62) 920-559-7440
jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com

9th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic ARIZONA

Date: TBD 2019
Place: TBD
Pot Luck: Bring something to share
BYOB: Beer in non-glass containers only
Donation: \$4 per person, bring lawn chairs
Contact: **Paulette English**, eagleemail@taftalumni.org

6th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic FLORIDA-EAST

Date: Thursday, April 4, 2019 (Noon – 4:00 pm)
Place: [REDACTED]
(For those unable to attend the Florida west coast affair)
Pot Luck: a food item to share (+ BYOB)
Contacts: [REDACTED]
or **Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson** (June '62)
jerrybloomstephenson@gmail.com

4th Annual ALL CLASS Reunion Picnic CALIFORNIA

Date: Saturday, September 8, 2018 (Noon - 4pm)
Place: **House of Savage**, 2372 Recuervo Cove, Del Mar, CA
Details: \$8 includes for Rosati's Chicago Pizza, non-alcoholic drinks, paper products, utensils; please bring a dish to share. BYOB
Contacts: **Mike Day** (June '60) - michael91942@yahoo.com
Jan (Ostromencki) Savage, janhellokitty@hotmail.com

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 or another classmate with information on your request 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 e-mail us at eagleemail@taftalumni.org. The suggested donation for this service is \$5 per name.

This issue **Elaine Blumenthal Jensen** (June 1956) is looking for **1956 classmate Nancy Haaning Johnson.**

Three earn TAA scholarships in 2018



Isabella Morrone (Artisuk Scholarship), Amina Ahmetovic, Christopher Khoshaba.

Through the generosity of various donors, the Taft Alumni Association presents three \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors. **Ruth Artisuk**, one of our retired chemistry teachers, is donating an annual scholarship, to which seniors who plan a science-related career are eligible. She encouraged her students when she was here, and we are grateful she is supporting a new generation, one senior at a time.

Each winner will receive a four-year membership in TAA.

We'd like to note that, since the Artisuk scholarship started several years ago the number of students we're hearing from who are interested in science is up to about half of the applicants this year. (If you or your class would like to encourage other seniors with a scholarship donation, we'd be happy to work with you.)

Isabella Morrone received the Ruth Artisuk Scholarship, which is presented to a senior who is heading for a science-related career. Her goal is to be an emergency room nurse, and she arranged to volunteer at the Ann and Robert Lurie Children's Hospital (the new version of Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago) to get a better understanding of the field.

She has been part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at Taft, ranking 15th with a 5.18 grade point average after seven semesters. She played tennis three years, participated in National Honor Society for two years, raised funds and did projects in the Italian Club and the South Asian Club, and has been mentoring younger students for several years. She was part of the Italian Club's art project (presented last year) which made a large framed Taft Eagle picture out of pennies. She has been in the IB Student Leadership program.

Isabella likes to get involved, and her volunteer work has extended to helping the American Lung Association, Friends of the Chicago River, the Edison Park Fest and other area groups. She helped with freshman orientation and returned to Dever School as a volunteer for report card pickup day.

She plans to attend University of Illinois/Chicago.

Amina Ahmetovic, ranking 12th with a 5.20 average, hopes to go to medical school. She and her teachers wrote about her strong interest in biology. She also has developed an interest in community service.

She was the founding president of Taft's Bosnian Club. She also is involved in the Bosnia-Herzegovinian Cultural Center and its dance team, and is a past co-president of Bosnian Youth of Chicago.

One of her passions is soccer (she's played on teams since she was 8). At Taft she moved up to junior varsity in her freshman year, and earned Defensive MVP and All Conference honors.

Other activities include working in the Eagle Mentoring program, Senior Committee, IB Student Leadership and National Honor Society.

Christopher Khoshaba, ranking 29th at the seventh semester, hopes to become a veterinarian.

He has invested what free time he has in the Helping Hand Club, with food drives, volunteer work for teachers and other projects. He participated in the Chicago River Congress.

He helped the Senior Committee with fundraising for events at school. He worked as a student aide in the Taft office. Hobbies include fencing and playing guitar.

His teachers write about his determination to achieve in the IB program, to earn money toward his college career, and to carry his weight to help his family.

We make the presentation to a senior assembly in June, when everyone comes for graduation instructions. Rather than inviting specific students, who then become the only ones who know, we like to share the good news with their classmates. Then we share it with you.

Taft's 2018 graduating class members will attend more than 90 colleges and universities this fall. Some have earned full scholarships, and some are accepted but will struggle to make ends meet. TAA tends to hear first from the students who need help the most, but we also know how important it is to encourage them and applaud their hard work.

Grads Helping Grads

Mary Jane (Paddi) Struberg from the class of June, 1946, read of another Taft grad in the Spring issue of [Taft Alumni Newsletter](#). In that issue, **Howard Payne** (Jan '42) told us about his experiences as a blind golfer, teaching others golf at a VA Center in Long Beach, CA.

Spurred on by this article, Mary Jane reached out to us asking assistance in contacting Howard. She had been unsuccessful in reaching Howard by phone through the Long Beach Veterans Affairs Health Care Center/Blind Rehabilitation Center. She wanted to help local VA Veterans with a Christmas project she is working on with her local sorority group - Epsilon Sigma Alpha. She thought this would be an especially rewarding effort for her because of the Taft connection.

Howard thanked us for the assistance in getting the two of them together. He said, "Taft is Super....thanks for the contact!" It appears we have another chapter in Howard's long life of helping others, and Mary Jane's part of doing the same.

Chicago's Hot Dog Museum

Next time you're in Chicago, take time to visit a fun new museum, highlighting the Chicago icon: The Chicago Dog. Vienna Beef Company is located along the Chicago River at Damen Ave., just north of Fullerton Ave. in Bucktown. They debuted their new museum on May 30th that is within their factory store and café with memorabilia on the sausage dog and the hot-dog selling history.

Taft Campus Changes

By Anne Lunde

It has been a busy year at Taft.

There has been anticipation for several years that a new high school building in the Dunning area will be built, on a section of vacated property near Oak Park and Irving Park areas which was part of the Chicago-Read State Hospital property through most of the 20th century.

Taft Principal **Mark Grishaber** has been lobbying for a new building down there as a freshman academy (similar to the days of the Taft Branch in the 1960s and 70s), and to locate Taft's popular 7th and 8th grade Academic Center there as well. We've written before that some of the grade schools down there hoped for a local high school of their own. Some of them are already assigned to an area that can feed into Taft; others are closer to Steinmetz High School.

Ground broke this spring, without a clear announcement of who will be at the "Dunning" building.



Alderman Nicholas Sposato (38th, right, talks to LSC members at Taft including (from left to right) Chairman Kathy Fern, Principal Mark Grishaber, community representatives Goran Davidovac and Nick Savich, and parent rep Deanna Schoss.

Ald. Nicholas Sposato (38th) visited Taft's LSC in May to explain the strategy involved in waiting till the last minute for Mayor Rahm Emanuel to announce it, but the signs are trending toward Taft getting the space for its 7th-9th grades and providing shuttles to get the students down there. If all comes to pass, there will be some new labels for Taft's current building and the freshman academy once the second campus opens.

Mark Grishaber said the anticipated extra space, probably in fall 2019, means the Taft building is still going to be nearly bursting at its seams for one more year. Part of that is because Taft is scoring well on tests and attracts students to its academic achievements, and part is because the school has been enthusiastically marketing itself with a series of summer programs for area grade schools. Those provide early coaching for sports teams and a variety of other arts programs. Taft advertised 51 programs this summer for local elementary students.

Taft has also waited a long time for a football field it could use for home games. (Amundsen and Hanson Park always seemed a bit far to be "home.") In the works down in the Dunning area is a football field which might be shared by St. Patrick High School and Taft [Continued on page 13]

This is not Taft history, but, as you know, the Chicago Dog is known world-wide. Remember Hastee-Tastee? Or Super Dawg? Everywhere, loyal Chicagoans search for places to buy the "perfect" dog with the poppy-seed bun.



It was 125 years ago that two Austro-Hungarian immigrants, Emil Reichel and Sam Ladany, first exhibited their now-famous Vienna-style red hots at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. It is their crispy-skinned hot dog that makes the Chicago Dog distinct. Remember, ask for your dog, Chicago-style, meaning an all-beef frankfurter, boiled for just a moment to enhance crispiness, tucked between a fluffy poppy seed bun and topped with mustard, GREEN relish, sliced tomato, a kosher dill pickle, chopped onion, and a sprinkling of celery salt. Sport peppers are optional. Under no circumstances, however, should any hungry museum-goers ask for catsup OR ketchup!

Grads in the News

Rich Lindberg (1971) published his nineteenth book in 2018. The Illinois Historical Society recently awarded his book "Northeastern Illinois University: The First 150 Years" Superior Achievement in academic writing. It is the first published history of the university.

A member of the Taft Alumni Hall of Fame, Rich works in City Hall as a speech writer and legislative aide for Alderman Ed Burke. He resides with his wife Denise in Chicago, and is at work on a new book, "Tales of Forgotten Chicago" with Alderman Burke as a co-author.

Congratulations to current Taft students: **Avery Leska, Daniel Tao, Dylan Allen, Ayden Estrada, and Angel Degente**. Their game won "Most Fun" category in Chicago's first-ever 24-hour Chicago Public Schools Hackathon.

Another Taft student competed with students from other CPS schools. **Noah Trinidad** and his teammate's web-based adventure won "Most Creative".

Congratulations to Freshman **Sean O'Connor**, who qualified for the IHSA State Gymnastics Finals on May 8, 2018 in floor exercise, high bar and vault.

There was a story in **The Chicago Tribune** Sunday, July 1, 2018 on the new property tax methodology in use, though the formulas are not being divulged at this time. The new assessments are based in part on what nearby homes are selling for, and of course Chicago needs revenues to build up its pension funds.

One of the sub-stories was about Sue & **Bob Henning**, (Jun '61). The 1890's house in Edgewater that they bought out of condemnation in 1977 for \$17,000 now has a new assessed valuation of \$1.13 million. Their old assessed valuation was not mentioned, but their most recent property tax bill, before the up-valuation, was \$14,500.

Veteran Memorial Dedication [Continued from page 1]

longest Vietnam service records from Taft is counted by American Legions in three communities based on where he and his family lived, Taft and after.

Some, like

Ann Fear McManus

(Jun '59), repre-

sented their reunion class to document the event. Sometimes it is very personal, especially for the Vietnam generation whose loved ones were more able to travel back to Chicago.

Jock Young, a 1969 classmate and division friend of **Charles Wehrheim**, came. He had been in touch with Wehrheim the month Charles was killed in Vietnam.

We discovered **Thomas Grud's** (Jun '60) younger brother, John, a couple of weeks before the dedication because he came in from Wisconsin to present a scholarship at the May Local School Council meeting. John and his wife Ursula, and his younger sister, Sue and her husband Barry Hornecker, came to the ceremony on Memorial Day.

Tom Wise (Jan '59) from Park Ridge and his wife Gail came to the ceremony because he had been friends and in the half year class between two of the Vietnam lost.

Also there was the artist, Jesús Acuña, who designed the piece and its bronze eagle on top.

Those from the community or who will be in Chicago before the school year begins and wish to see the memorial can make arrangements to visit Taft during the limited summer office hours. Call 773-534-1000 a week in advance to confirm when the office will be open.

We'll try to share some of their stories in future newsletters.

Also available to view, through October, at the Norwood Park Historical Society, 5624 N. Newark Ave. (a block west of Taft) is a separate exhibit on people from Norwood Park and suburban Norwood Park Twp. who served in the military from World War I forward. Admission is free; exhibits are open from noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays.



Dedication Speech

Anne Lunde

President, Taft Alumni Assn. May 28, 2018

Today's memorial project started several years ago for Principal Mark Grishaber. He wanted to recognize graduates who have served in the military. After 77 years of graduates, the criteria was narrowed.

Many have worked on developing parts of the list over the years, including alumni, the Taft Naval Jr. ROTC, and some military enthusiasts. Our Taft Alumni Association started our lists in 2004. We are honoring 44 today.

This list recognizes the Taft people who lost their lives in war, earning Gold Stars for making the supreme sacrifice. It is a different list than those deceased servicemen who lived in Norwood Park or Edison Park or Oriole Park or Edgebrook. But you may find these same names in those communities on gold star markers or church memorials.

The names we have confirmed as Gold Stars so far are from World War II and Vietnam.

The list started, in a way, with our first principal, Leo Hoefer. Within less than two years after he presented the first Taft High School diplomas at the June 1940 graduation, our country was at war and many of the young men at Taft were headed into the service. Some were drafted, some enlisted and some were called up before they graduated.

The support for those young men started at the very top. Mr. Hoefer started an HONOR ROLL list. He corresponded with several hundred graduates, who sent tales of their adventures when the censors allowed it, and offered advice for those who followed to study higher mathematics, or pay attention to shop classes – the skills they would REALLY need. If they registered their military address with the main office, the Taft Trib was mailed to them. Almost every issue had one or more pages of news on who was training where. It could be a comforting voice from home.

Among the Taft faculty and staff called up were Coaches **Joe Kupcinet** and **Jack Rapper**, whose legendary wins came after the war. The only women serving from Taft were two female staff members.

We've been able to confirm 33 Taft servicemen who died in World War II. They were heroes in the Pacific, in Europe, and at home.

Pilot **Tom Flynn** (Jun '41) from Edison Park was based at an airfield in Texas. His plane lost control over the base and plummeted toward a group of school children. He wrenched the controls to save their lives and lost his own.

David Krutch, who transferred mid-high school from Schurz into the brand new Taft, was the second gold star in his family. We've included his older brother, Henry, because Henry would have attended Taft if he'd been younger, and brothers should be together.

Many of the obituaries note that the young men were survived by their wives, who were also Taft alumnae.

Several stories are still to be resolved, as several serving on Army Air Corps crews, flying in raids over Germany from Italy, were shot down and ended up confirmed in POW

Breaking News

This just in! Gary Anderson sent a last-minute notice to us about this upcoming happening: There is a **second annual** (former) Taft Football Players get-together

planned for Thursday, December 6th, 2018 at Gibson's on River Road in Rosemont, kicking off at noon.



camps behind Nazi lines. One brash Taftite escaped from a German POW camp, got back behind Allied lines, and joined the next invasion.



Among visitors to the dedication, waiting outside during the Memorial Day program, are alumni Ann Fear McManus (Jun '59) and Tom Wise (Jun '59), with his wife Gail.

Many of the Taft servicemen from World War II who returned to the northwest side became, in turn, the parents or in-laws of the people in my Taft generation, who saw their sons go to service in Southeast Asia. Two of our future principals, **John Graven** and **Sam Ozaki**, served in the U.S. Forces in Europe in World War II.

Ten names so far are confirmed for Taft young men in the Vietnam War. There's a lot of information on individuals whose deaths are recorded on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, but it doesn't list their high schools. We've checked graduation lists, but some didn't finish school. Others graduated and got married and moved elsewhere, so it took time to confirm why **Thomas Grud** (Jun '60) and **Dale Luster** (Jun '58) from Taft appear on the Park Ridge American Legion monument. (The Gruds moved to Park Ridge after the sons attended Taft and before their sister was in high school.)

Capt. Luster, a Marine pilot, had one of the longest times of service in Vietnam from Taft, but he was married before he went there.

Charles Wehrheim, from my class of 1969, had barely arrived when the helicopter he was riding in exploded.

Two deaths listed in a 1970 Taft Trib were **Marty Huska** (Jun '67), a star shortstop in the Oriole Park little league, and **Spencer Goethe** (Jun '67). Spencer was killed when a land mine exploded. He had made peace with his doubts about the war, but remained a patriot. He wrote he was fighting for the greatest country in the world and the greatest parents in the world.

Marty was remembered by his English teacher, the indomitable **Hattie Marquardt** (Miss Lynch in "Grease" was modeled on



her). "Marty was a true example of today's teenager," she said, "full of life, always anxious to please and carrying his share of responsibility."

Many of these Taft folks met again in the strangest places during their service, and this is a story of two fellows who came back alive.

Toward the end of World War II B-24 pilot **Donald Esser** (Jun '42) and Cpl. **Norman Esserman** (Jun '42), a radio operator, both from the class of June 1942, found themselves on the island of Morotai, in the Dutch East Indies, now part of Indonesia. In 1944 the Americans were trying to set up bases around the perimeter, hoping to recapture the island from the Japanese, and to launch attacks to recapture the Philippines.

One night these two from Taft discovered their units were camped at the same American airstrip, surrounded by Japanese forces, and expected the worst in the pitch black night. Don and Norm started singing the Taft Loyalty Song, ending with "We'll carry your standards onward, Upward to the Sky."

They were suddenly surrounded by Japanese troops. Two hundred and fifty Japanese soldiers... who surrendered to the American forces... Fellow Americans claimed it was the enthusiasm of the singers that won them victory that night.

Go Taft Go!

Taft Deceased World War II

HAROLD ALTHAMAR
JAMES BREDNICKI
FRANK EAGER
JACK FIRTH
HERMAN FISCHER
NORMAN FLASCH
THOMAS FLYNN
JOHN E. FREY

HENRY E. JACOBY
EARLE KARLSEN
WARREN KNAUSS
RICHARD KOFOED
DAVID KRUTSCH
HENRY KRUTSCH
WALTER LAHEY
ERNEST LEASON

RICHARD B. GLAUCHE
DONALD GRINDLE
ROBERT GULBRANSON
GORDON HANKE
RICHARD HILGENBERG
ALAN HOFF
JOHN HOLMES
GEORGE HOPPER

WILLIAM MARUM
HOWARD MATHEWS
EDWIN C. OLSEN
THOMAS J. ORZADA
KENNETH REINHARDT
THOMAS SCHUMACHER
GEORGE E. SMITH
JAMES D. SMITH
JAMES SREDNICKI

Taft Deceased Vietnam War

SPENCER A. GOETHE
THOMAS ANTHONY GRUD
REID CHARLES HENNINGSEN
MARTIN SAM HUSKA
ANDREW PATRICK LUBERDA

DALE ALAN LUSTER
WILLIAM JOSEPH MADSEN
DUANE FRANCIS REDTKE
CHARLES GEORGE WEHRHEIM
WALTER WILKS

The Veterans Memorial, a brick wall to which names of deceased veterans are attached, is located inside the Hurlbut Plaza entrance.

Chick Evans Scholarship 2018



Alum John Grud congratulates Lizette Schroeder, a caddy who earned college scholarships through the Chick Evans program.

For the second year in a row a Taft senior has received a scholarship from a group of Chick Evans Scholars alumni. It's an honor that can be earned only by students who worked as caddies at golf courses during their high school years.

The main Chick Evans scholarships offer a four-year free ride in college for tuition and lodging. Recipients can choose one of 14 universities where chapter houses provide these benefits.

Thanks to a committee including former Taft Evans scholars, a bonus scholarship gives \$2,000 over the same four years to cover food, \$250 per semester. **Lizette Schroeder** (2018) from Taft is one of this year's 270 recipients. Alum **John Grud** (Jun '58) made the presentation in May.

Florida (East) Gathering – 2018



The day was overcast, spitting rain and very blustery. But, the gathering was still enjoyable (inside Lynn Martin's lovely home in Hobe Sound) with good food and conversations. We gathered outside after a break in the rain for this photo. Here (L-R) are Lynne Prichason (friend), **Dennis Dziak**

(Jun '60), **Lynn (Morley) Martin** (Jun '57), Lynn's husband Harry Leinenweber, **Jone (Morley) Dusek** (Feb '49) and **Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson** (Jun '62). [Photo taken by Jerry's husband, Ron Stephenson]

Letters to the Editor

Dear Jerry:

I am writing to let you know that my mother, **Mary Kelly Abraham LeRoy** Class of 1945 will celebrate her 90th birthday on June 21, 2018.

Mary has two children (**Gary Abraham** class of 1968) and Gail Pappas (a grad of Glenbrook South), two grandsons and two great-granddaughters. Mary is in contact with her Nephew **Larry Marsh** Class of 1959, as well as other Taft Alumni from her class and parents and grads from Gary's class of 1968, including **Jeff Holmes** and **Jack Dustin**.

Mary has lived in Glenview, IL since 1968 when she remarried (to Mr. Arthur G LeRoy). Her first husband Gilbert E Abraham passed away (suddenly) in August 1965.

Is there a category for the "Oldest Living Taft Alum"? Dear Old Mom might be a candidate. Best Wishes and Thanks for all you do!

Gary Abraham (1968)

[Gary, Thanks for the family updates. You sound very proud of your mother, and rightfully so! We don't have a category of "Oldest" Taft alum, but I know there are still many from classes 1942-1946 who still enjoy sharing stories of Taft and friends from Norwood area. I encourage you to help your mom share some of her memories with us. We'd love to start a section dedicated specifically for our most senior alums. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor says, "According to our TAA database, we have 26 active members from the classes prior to your mother's, the oldest from Jan '41, and there are 8 classmates from 1945. Naturally, we believe it's being members of TAA that's keeping these nonagenarians young! Your mother is in good company!" Jerry Stephenson, TAA Newsletter Editor]

To TAA,

Enclosed is \$15 for the two-year membership. It was due on May 1st. Sorry for being late.

As always, thank you for your continued work on the Taft Alumni Newsletter. My husband, a Chicago born but not an alumnus of Taft, also enjoys the newsletter as much as I. He often sees familiar names. You do a great job!

Joan (Denney) Sandeck (Jan '56)

To TAA:

In going through the names of the deceased I could not find my brother's name; please add to the list: **George E. Smith** class of Jan. 1941, US Air Force WW II, shot down over Muenster, Germany March 9, 1945. Thank you,

Bess Smith Roggenbuck, (Jun '45)

[Bess, we're sorry for the loss of your brother George, however long ago it was. We'll be sure to post the information on our Memorials page online and in the newsletter. Thank you for letting us know. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

Hi Jerry:

Regarding **Sandie Stewart Tepsick's** (Jun '66) letter [from Spring 2018 issue] about assigning names to the faces in the 'football picture' [Winter 2018 issue] - good luck. However, Sandie may be interested in knowing there were (at least) nine players from 1966 in attendance: **Kent Stocking, Len Wislow, Al Nelson, Frank Lakofka, Tom Hillis, Jack Bresino, Glenn Thorstenson, Tom Wendorf** and me.

Gary Andersen (Jun '66)

Paulette,

For the record, I did attend the AZ picnic and was standing next to Paul in the published picture. LOL

Judith Reid Preston (Jun '65)

[Judy, my sincerest apologies for omitting you, one of our steadfast Arizona picnic supporters. I have corrected the online newsletter, but the hard copy has already gone to press so we'll have to let this serve as acknowledgment of your attendance. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

To TAA,

Enclosed is my check for \$15 for a 2-year renewal. Thanks for the great job with the newsletter!

Dolores (Sherman) Weeda (Jun '46)

Paulette,

Just wanted to add a friend to the Memoriam page. **Bill Hansen** (Class of '74) passed away Feb 19, 2018; diagnosed with MRSA. His widow is **Sue Coutre**, class of '74 as well.. and my bff since kindergarten! It sounds so weird to call her a widow.. omg.

Another passing from the class of '74 - **Cheryl (Galichio) Murray**, (wife of **Jim Murray** class of '74) passed away April 2018. Anyway.. thanks for all you do!

Jan Savage (1974)

[Jan, we're sorry for the loss of Bill and Cheryl. We'll be sure to post the information on our Memorials page online and in the newsletter. The graduation lists were not publicly provided after 1973, and the school has not consistently provided them, so we have a patchwork that we continue to fill in. This helps. Thank you for letting us know. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

To TAA:

I lost my class ring. Class of 1973. Any suggestions on where I could buy one?

Mark Wiklund (1973)

[Hello, Mark, How sad that your ring is lost. You might first try: Jostens Found Class Rings (http://www.jostens.com/rings/class_rings_cp_found_rings.html) If it's not listed, they may be able to replace it for you. Good luck! Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

Jerry,

I can't seem to be able to pay my dues on line. Tell me how.

Leon Kathan (Jun '56)

[Sorry, Leon. The board has a policy to not modernize the payment process by allowing dues to be paid online. We want/need the TAA renewal application filled out with latest updates and mailed with your check. Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson, TAA Newsletter Editor]

Hi Jerry,

A voice from the past. I trust this finds you healthy and smiling every day. I have a problem and I thought you may be the best person I know who could solve it or guide

me. Somehow my Taft yearbook has gone missing and I'd surely like to replace it. I graduated June of 1955. How can I get my hands on a copy? Thanks for any assistance you can give me, if only for old times. Cheers,

Wayne Barton (June '55)

[Hi Wayne, In your era, the yearbooks were bound copies of Taft Tribunes, and there were two versions, one for the January classes and one for the June classes, so the contents are not the same. The 1955 yearbook appears to be the first really separately produced "Aerie." We are lucky if we can maintain a complete set that far back for our archives, and we do a number of research projects for alumni and the school. We only offer yearbook copies for sale if we have extras (none for that year), and very few alums have donated theirs back in recent years. There are occasionally copies to acquire online through companies like Classmates.com. Anne Lunde, TAA President]

Hello Paulette;

I wasn't exactly sure where I should send a death notification, so I hope you don't mind me sending it to you. My cousin, **John Henry (Jack) Meyer** died in May 2002 from cancer. Jack was in the class of June 1966 I believe but it could have been 1967. Jack served in the U.S. Navy and served 2 stints, almost 20 months, in Viet Nam. Jack was a true hero who paid dearly for his service!! Thanks again Paulette, you guys are the best!!

Larry Wojcik (1969)

[Larry, we're sorry for the loss of John Meyer, Jan '67. We'll be sure to post the information on our Memorials page online and in the newsletter. Thank you for letting us know. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

Thanks Paulette,

I still prefer the paper copy, thru pony express!

Leo Drummer (Jan '57)

[Hi, Leo, you've opted to receive the newsletter both ways, so you can still look forward to the hard copy by "pony express". The advantage of your online copy is that it will be delivered sooner and always be available even if you lose the paper edition or if you change addresses. Paulette English, TAA Web Editor]

To TAA,

Any "oldies" living in Madison, Monona, WI area please contact me - marydoherty26@gmail.com. I'm looking forward to hearing from you! June, 1956 or so. I can't believe it!

Mary (Kennett) Doherty (Jun '56)

Jerry,

[I'm] hoping you can help me out. Could you please send me the current newsletter via email once again? I seem to have lost it in the shuffle. Thank you very much,

Jim Jacobs (Jun '60)

[Jim, An emailed copy has been sent to you. However, you should also be able to access and download a copy any time through our website (www.taftalumni.org). Jerry Stephenson, TAAN Editor]

Jerry,

I am sorry to have to tell you that **Miss Rita Einweck**, Taft PE teacher, passed away on March 10, 2018. She was the strictest PE teacher I ever had, but I came to know her as a sweet lady.

Judy Lugs Stephens (Jun '65)

[Continued on page 13]



Class Notes

Your 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

Mary (Kelly) Leroy (Jun 1945), has 2 grandchildren, 2 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Glenview, IL, is a retired homemaker, and worked for the IRS upon graduation from Taft.

Barbara (Lawton) Loeschen (Feb 1946), married **William Loeschen** (deceased) (Jan 1944), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Sarasota, FL, Lake Forest College, is a retired professional fashion and swimsuit model.

Mary Jane (Paddi) Struberg (Jun 1946), has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, lives in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, attended beauty school, is retired after 70 years as a manicurist/pedicurist.

Dolores (Sherman) Weeda (Jun 1946), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Wyoming, MN, Northwestern U BS '50; Northeastern IL MA '77, is retired after 40 years of teaching; wherever she lives she considers herself a Chicagoan.

Raymond Ihrcke (Jun 1948), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, lives in Kalamazoo, MI, ISU BS '57; US Army 3 years, is retired.

Wallace Wilson (Jun 1948), has 5 children, 18 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, lives in Grayslake, IL, is a retired carpenter and Sears home improvement salesman, was married to Betty (now deceased) 55 years, and enjoys the newsletter and all its information.

Philip Klezek (Jun 1949), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Novi, MI, Purdue U ME '53; US Navy 1953-55, is retired.

1950s

John Pitt (Jan 1950), has 5 children, 13 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Loyola U BA Econ '60, is an automotive consultant, and plays trumpet with the Windy City Jammers at Chief O'Neils in Chicago on Monday nights.

Janet (Anderson) Mills (Jan 1953), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Lilburn, GA, Iowa St U BS '57, ISU Ed Ed Cert '69, is a retired teacher for Montgomery County, MD Public Schools.

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

Judi (Moers) Hardman (Jun 1953), has 5 children, 14 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, is a retired homemaker and foster parent, and is always a Taft supporter.

Daniel Rice (Jun 1953), has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, Northwestern U BA '57, Drew U PhD '66; USAF Reserve 1958-63, is a retired professor of philosophy and religion, is still writing and his most recent book, "Rein-

hold Niebuhr and His Circle of Influence", Cambridge U Press.

Marilynn (Loh) Wennerstrom (Jun 1953), married **Ernest "Stan" Wennerstrom** (deceased) (Jun 1952), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Mesa, AZ, Art Institute of Chicago BAE '60, Carroll College 2 yrs, is retired, and both brothers, Russell and Richard, were Taft graduates.

Jerry Becker (Jan 1954), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Deerfield, IL, is retired from international finance.

Darlene (Sweeney) Mcgrath (Jan 1954), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Wright Jr College, is a retired telephone service rep and collection manager.

Tim Wallner (Jan 1954), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, US Army 1957-59, is a retired lithographer.

Norine (Anderson) Kmett (Jun 1954), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Springfield, OH, U Dayton BS, MS Educ, is a retired teacher, and enjoys playing duplicate bridge and spending time with family.

Novelle (Cunningham) Pallanich (Jun 1954), has 2 children, 7 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Cape Coral, FL, Northwestern BS '57; U Utah MS '67; U MO EdD; is retired.

Karen (Kelley) Noble (Jan 1955), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Cranberry Township, PA, M.Ed, is a retired teacher.

Kenneth Kolconay (Jun 1955), has 1 child, 1 grandchild, lives in Park Ridge, IL, is retired.

Madeline (Deichl) Nelles (Jun 1955), married **James Nelles** (Jun 1955), has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, 3 grandchildren, lives in Naples, FL, is a retired buyer of retail furniture.

Jim Nelles (Jun 1955), married **Madeline Deichl** (Jun 1955), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Naples, FL, College; US Army 2 yrs, is retired from AT&T marketing.

Beverly (Kintz) Barker (Jan 1956), has 5 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Ocala, FL, is retired and widowed.

Joan (Denney) Sandeck (Jan 1956), has 5 stepchildren, grandchildren, great grandchildren, lives in Laverne, CA, is a retired AT&T manager.

Mary Ann (Kennett) Doherty (Jun 1956), has 4 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Monona, WI, Wright Jr College '58, Northwestern U, is a retired hospital office manager, was married in Oak Park, Illinois and has lived in Michigan, Florida and Wisconsin.

Lynn (Bletzinger) Hammersmith (Jun 1956), has 6 children, 8 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, attended college, is a retired homemaker.

Leon Kathan (Jun 1956), has 5 children, 9 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, lives in Sebring, FL, Triton College AA '73; FSU MSW '76; USMC 1955-62, is retired.

Lucille (Nutti) Kruczek (Jun 1956), has 4 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Wonder Lake, IL, is a retired bookkeeper.

Chuck Thor (Jun 1956), has 5 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Jackson, MI, BA, MA, PhD; US Air Force 1956-60, is a partner.

Pat (Hansen) Brown (Jan 1957), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Burlington, WI, Denver U BFA; Colorado Interior Design, is retired (a little), and enjoys the newsletter.

Robert Johnson (Jan 1957), married **Barbara Maedge** (Aug 1959), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Aiken, SC, MSU BS Police Admin, U South Carolina MCJ, is retired from the US Government.

Carole (Lewis) Lanka (Jan 1957), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, lives in Huntley, IL, is retired.

Sue (Moshier) Mathews (Jan 1957), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in La Grange Park, IL, UI 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 corporate CFO, and is enjoying retirement in Sun City Grand.

Allen Hooks (Jun 1957), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, WIU BA Bus Admin, is a retired warehouse manager, is a golfer and a Bears fan.

Pat (Schumacher) Plath (Jun 1957), married **Thomas Plath** (deceased) (Jan 1956), has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Roswell, GA, is a retired artist.

William Uhl (Jun 1957), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Kenosha, WI, is retired.

Mary Ann (Balk) Barnes (Jan 1958), has 2 children, lives in Fox River Grove, IL, Luther Cora College, is a retired teacher.

Dennis Duszak (Jan 1958), has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, great grandchildren, lives in Batavia, IL, IIT BS MET, Eng '61, MBA '69, is a retired metallurgist.

Robert Wolter (Jan 1958), has 5 children, 4 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, lives in Ellenton, FL, MI State BA; US Navy 4 years, is retired from food service.

Judith (Edfeldt) Hartman (Jun 1958), has 3 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, is retired.

Margo (Anderson) Makstenieks (Jun 1958), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Woodridge, IL, UI BS '62, is a retired from biological research.

Leslie (Barthel) Slowik (Jun 1958), has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, lives in Apache Junction, AZ, 1 year college, is a retired executive assistant.

Barbara (Maedge) Johnson (Aug 1959), married **Robert Johnson** (Jan 1957), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Aiken, SC, is a retired bookkeeper.

Barbara (Lynn) Templeman (Jun 1959), married **Glenn Templeman** (deceased) (Jan 1959), has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, ISU BS, is a retired teacher.

1960s

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

Connie (Raczka) Baldacci (Jun 1960), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Boynton Beach, FL, is retired from retail management.

Tom Klein (Jun 1960), has 5 children, 9 grandchildren, lives in Fresno, CA, Lewis U BS '68, NIU MBA '69, is a retired accountant.

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, and has been married for 51 years.

Joy (Wallace) Barhite (Jan 1961), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in Ft Myers, FL, is retired.

Holly (Nielsen) Rogers (Jan 1961), lives in St Helena, CA, St. Olaf College '61-63, North Park BA '66, is retired and the St. Helena Community Band flute player and manager since 2008, and has provided free tax counseling and preparation at the library for 14 seasons.

Brian Olson (Jun 1962), lives in Bristol, WI, is retired, and winters in Florida, summers in Wisconsin.

Mae Beth (Frame) Williams (Jun 1962), has 4 children, 12 grandchildren, lives in Columbia, MD, Wheaton College BA, is a retired practice manager of a counseling practice, and like other retirees, life include travel and family, also church activities such as the ESL program.

Claudia (Penn) Anderson (Jun 1963), lives in Huntley, IL, is a retired landscaper, is single and lives in a Del Webb community.

Dan Frizane (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, lives in Minden, NE, Wheaton College BME '68, U Lincoln MM '71, U Kansas DMA '84, is a very retired music teacher, and enjoys retirement, conducting a summer band in Kearney, Nebraska.

Therese (Kasprzak) Furniss (Jun 1963), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Waukegan, IL, attended college, is a retired administrative assistant.

Dlorah (Rud) Hayden (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Sarasota, FL, is a retired office manager and bookkeeper, and having returned to Chicago for the summer after 52 years, looks forward to time with family, old friends, and attending the 55 Year reunion for the Class of '63.

Donald Hoy (Jun 1963), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Schaumburg, IL, Loyola U MBA '74, is retired.

Carolyn (Feare) Rominski (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Batavia, IL, Masters Eng/Reading, is a retired teacher.

Diane (Peterson) Wilk (Jun 1963), married **Jeff Wilk** (deceased) (Jun 1963), has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Harwood Hts, IL, BS Elem Educ '67, is retired.

Margaret (Wingert) Hardy (Jan 1964), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Aurora, IL, NIU BS Edu '68, is a retired elementary school teacher after 35 years, and was remarried in 2017.

Patricia (Zwiki) Swaggerty (Jan 1964), has 3 children, 5 grandchildren, lives in Chicago, IL, is a retired executive assistant, and enjoys travel, gardening, reading and cooking.

John Wulff (Jan 1964), married **Susan Foss** (Jun 1964), lives in Mt Prospect, IL, is a retired airline agent.

Nancy Noble (Jun 1964), lives in Indio, CA, is a retired actress and artist, was inducted into the TAA Hall of Fame and listed in Who's Who for 20 years.

Susan (Foss) Wulff (Jun 1964), married **John Wulff** (Jan 1964), lives in Mt Prospect, IL, Michigan St U BA, is a retired special education teacher.

Nancy (Wendt) Gunning (Jun 1965), has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Luther College BA French, is a human resources administrator.

Brad Schnell (Jun 1965), lives in Des Plaines, IL, UI BA '71, Loyola MBA '79, Peace Corp Ecuador 1987-89, IIT MS '91, is a retired rehab instructor.

Linda (Johnson) Kofink (Jan 1966), married **Charles Kofink** (Jun 1960), has 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, lives in Hanover Park, IL, is retired, and has been married for 51 years.

Dave Bergbreiter (Jun 1966), has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, lives in College Station, TX, MIT PhD '74, is a professor at Texas A&M (www.chem.tamu.edu/faculty/david-bergbreiter/).

Jackie (Luga) Philbin (Jan 1967), has 1 child, lives in Springfield, VA, UIC BA Psych, is a retired United flight attendant on international flights (42 years).

Ida (Webb) Carlson (Jun 1967), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Bonita Springs, FL, is a retired journeyman metering electrician, and enjoys traveling.

Fred Wordell (Jun 1967), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Goodyear, AZ, WIU BS '71; US Navy 1972-75, is retired.

Gary Abraham (1968), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Apache Junction, AZ, NIU MBA, is retired.

Deborah (Schwantes) Domes (1968), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Roselle, IL, is retired.

Judy Eilken (1968), has 1 child, lives in St Louis, MO, UI BA, MA, is a retired high school German teacher.

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

Gail (Mathisen) Cristoe (1969), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, BA Edu, is a retired teacher.

Valerie (Stewart) Sosnowski (1969), has 1 child, 2 grandchildren, lives in Greer, SC, RN, BS Health, MS Nursing, MS Health Svcs Admin, Certified Operating Room Nurse, is a director of surgery.

1970s

Ourania Malliris (1970), has 2 children, lives in Seattle, WA, Radcliffe U BA '74; Harvard U Medical MD '78, is a pediatrician.

Timothy Arado (1971), lives in Chicago, IL, ISU BS Ed '75, Control Data Inst '81, is in real estate management.

Jean Jaster (1971), lives in Palatine, IL, BS Nursing, is a retired RN.

Rich Lindberg (1971), lives in Chicago, IL, NEIU BA, MA, is an author and speechwriter for Ald. Ed Burke, has published 19 books and is a member of the TAA Hall of Fame.

Alan Martin (1971), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Glenview, IL, UIC BS Acct '75; DePaul U MS Fin '87, is a retired accountant and current teacher's aide at NTDS, married wife, Karen, a retired CPS asst. principal in '78.

Carol (Naatz) Wodka (1971), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Hoffman Estates, IL, EIU BS El Ed, is a retired preschool teacher.

Sandra (Bakanowicz) Davidson (1972), has 3 children, 10 grandchildren (6 step grandchildren), lives in Mount Pleasant, MI, is a semi-retired security monitor, and her PsyD daughter Stacie is a doctor/captain in the Georgia Nat'l Guard.

Mike Hanrahan (1972), has 2 children, lives in Plymouth, MN, UIC BA '71, is in advertising.

Judy (Sparesus) Lubinski (1972), has 2 children, 4 grandchildren, lives in Clarendon Hills, IL, UIC BA Bio/Chem '75; UIMC BS Pharm '78, is a pharmacist.

Linda (Vanorum) Andrews (1973), has 2 children, lives in Park Ridge, IL, Mundelein College BA English '79; UIC MSW '06, is a licensed clinical social worker.

Maureen (Nelson) Baricelli (1973), has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, lives in Grapevine, TX, UI BA German, Bus Admin '77, is retired.

Suzanne (Kulak) Guiglio (1973), has 2 children, 1 grandchild, lives in Deerfield, IL, is retired, and returned to Chicago from California after her recent divorce.

Brian Kula (1973), lives in Chicago, IL.

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

Sandy (Marshall) Paik (1976), has 2 children, lives in Austin, TX, NEIU Spec Ed '80, National Louis U M.Ed. Spec Ed '90, is a retired educator and flight attendant, and is now a happy volunteer.

2010s

Amina Ahmetovic (2018), lives in Chicago, IL, is a 2018 Taft graduate and TAA Scholarship winner.

Christopher Khosahba (2018), lives in Chicago, IL, is a 2018 Taft graduate and TAA Scholarship winner.

Isabella Morrone (2018), lives in Chicago, IL, is a 2018 Taft graduate and winner of the Artisuk Science Scholarship.

Welcome to 

Thank you for supporting Taft Alumni Association
This is a great and painless way to do fund-raising! If you shop through Amazon.com, you can benefit. Instead of going to Amazon.com, simply go to the web site your Taft Alumni Association each time you shop. It's true!

Sign on to AmazonSmile.com and register.
Amazon will donate a small percentage of your transaction to the Taft Alumni Association. Just select us as your charity of choice and let Amazon do the rest. This is a great way to benefit the TAA by shopping for things you would buy anyway. Giving a gift while buying things for yourself or others...We see it as a great win-win proposition!

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the 501.C3 charitable organization of your choice. **We've already seen some results with this great fund-raising tool. Simply make Taft Alumni Association YOUR choice! Check in with <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/32-0449628>**



If you learn of a classmate, faculty member or other person affiliated with Taft High School who is deceased, or if any of the information we present appears to be in error, please contact us so that we

can remember them with respect both in the newsletter and on our Memorials page online.

This page on our web site now includes, when known, civil or military service and which conflict, if any, the person was associated with. We always appreciate your help in keeping our files up to date.



Rita Einweck, Taft Physical Education Instructor in the '50s, '60s and '70s. She "was a champion swimmer in high school, often training in Lake Michigan. Fitness was her passion and Rita continued swimming while in college and won many awards. Rita graduated from DePaul University in Chicago and began a career as a dedicated educator at Taft High School in the Chicago Public School System, where she served for almost 30 years." [Excerpt taken from obituary found at www.gmtoday.com]



Raffe Simonian, Taft English teacher for 35 years teacher in the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. He coached boys and girls basketball and tennis and won a silver medal in tennis at Taft Senior Olympics. After retiring, was a local businessman, owning Raffe's Record Riot Shop.



Paul Stewart, Taft Science teacher for 39 years in the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s, died at his home in Park Ridge on September 25, 2017.

Lorraine "Liz" Adele (Schmidt) Daly, class of January 1942, died May 8, 2018.

Fr. John William Bernacki, class of June 1943, died May 13, 2018. He didn't graduate but enlisted in the Navy in his senior year. In 1950, he joined the Dominican Order, and as priest, taught and coached at Fenwick HS over 30 years. He is the brother of Ruth (Bernack) Sabatella and the late Evelyn Bernacki.

Howard "Howie" Clarence Schalk, class of June 1943, died April 9, 2018. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He is the husband of the late Mildred (Tess) Schalk (Jan '43) and brother to the late Dorothy Schalk, the late Walter Schalk (Jun '41) and the late Arlene (Schalk) Gebert (Jun '47)

Virginia "Jeannie" Christina (Romano) Cummings, class of June 1946, died June 20, 2018.

Adele Martha (Grocke) Miller, class of June 1947, died May 5, 2018.

Laurel Jean (Halleen) Wilcox, class of January 1948, died May 5, 2018. While serving as editor of the school paper, she was selected to have an all-expense paid trip to visit the United Nations in New York where she met top officials from around the world. She served as a missionary over 10 years in various South American countries. She is sister to the late Otis Halleen (Jun '52), the late Wayne Halleen (Jan '50) and Owen Halleen (Feb '52).

Frank Moody Anderson, class of February 1952, died May 27, 2018 in St. Charles, IL.

Karen (Gerhardt) Bottomley, class of June 1953, died May 29, 2018. She is sister of Nancy Ericson of Downers Grove, IL

Wayne Allan Monske, class of June 1954, died April 30, 2018. Wayne was an ordained priest in the Episcopalian church, and served parishes in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Charles Robert Mader, class of June 1957, died May 9, 2018. He served 2 years in the US Army. He is brother to Alan (1973), the late Robert and the late Ron Mader.

Glenn Scott Templeman, class of January 1959, died August 11, 2017 from bladder cancer. He is the husband of Barbara (Lynn) Templeman (Jun '59).

Martin Christopher Gutilla, class of June 1963, died April 23, 2018. He was a teacher & asst. Principal, then opened several bars & lounges in Chicago & Vegas. He is the brother of Tony Gutilla (Jun '62).

Jack Richard Briseno, class of June 1966, passed away June 1, 2018 after a long battle with cancer.

John Henry (Jack) Meyer, class of January 1967, died in May, 2002 from cancer. He served two stints in the US Navy during the Vietnam War. He is the cousin of Larry Wojcik (1969).

Margaret Louise (Anderson) Reed, class of June 1967, died May 8, 2018.

William Edward Allen, class of 1969, passed away on June 3, 2018 after extensive surgery to repair a torn aorta. He is the brother of Audrey Jean Allen (1973). Bill served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

William "Bill" Hansen, class of 1974 passed away Feb 19, 2018. He was diagnosed with MRSA. He is the husband of Susan (Coutre) Hansen (1974).

Cheryl (Galichio) Murray, class of 1974, passed away April 2018. She is the wife of **Jim Murray** (1974).



Letters to the Editor [continued from page 7]

Paulette,

Thank you [for the dues acknowledgement]. I much appreciate your keeping me - and all of us - in good standing with TAA. Bless you!

Holly Rogers (Jan '61)

[Holly, we're glad this reminder is useful to our members. Thank you for supporting TAA. Paulette, English, TAA Web Editor]

Paulette,

I appreciate being notified of receipt of my renewed membership dues by email! I so enjoy reading the newsletter every time it is published and look forward to seeing updates posted with classmates' information! Thanks again for your work and for the work of everyone who makes the continuation of this newsletter possible.

Valerie Stewart Sosnowski (1969)

[Valerie, thank you for your kind words and for your continued support. Paulette, English, TAA Web Editor]

To TAA,

I am enclosing my membership for the Taft Alumni Association. I am sorry to say I forgot to send this in earlier. I do enjoy reading the alumni paper. You do a great Job. We are so fortunate to have this great contact with our Alumni. Keep up the great work.

I am currently living in the Atlanta, Georgia area. My husband **Thomas Plath**, Jan 1956 passed in 2016. I was wondering if there are any Taftites living in the Atlanta vicinity.

Patricia Plath (Jun '57)

[Hello, Patricia, Because we cannot give out our members' personal information, we'd like to help with a shout-out to any Taftites in the Atlanta area. You can respond to eagleemail@taftalumni.org and we'll forward it to Patricia. Jerry Stephenson, TAAN Editor]

To TAA:

I am grateful to all of you for your good work in publishing the newsletter. And, I am so sorry not to have sent this {renewal check} before the March 31st deadline. You are doing a great job!!!

Susan (Moshier) Mathews (Jan '57)

[Susan, Thank you for your renewal check. However, the March 31st date was not your renewal date, but the deadline for news articles or update for the next newsletter. Your renewal date is always shown on the back page by the mailing label and below your year of graduation. We have extended your membership to 9/1/2020. Jerry (Beesley) Stephenson, TAAN Editor]

Taft Campus Changes [Continued from page 4]

High School.

Meanwhile, a roller hockey rink, donated to the Chicago Park District through the Chicago Black Hawks, was initially planned for Brooks Park. (GM John McDonagh grew up in Edison Park). This spring it was announced the rink will be relocated to Norwood Park Field House's fields (across from Taft's Hurlbut Plaza), and part of the deal will bring four park-funded tennis courts onto Taft's campus.

Also, on the CPS budget for construction by fall is a \$3.5 million outdoor "sports facility", a turf field with 1,200 seats in bleachers on the far east field area. It will be geared for football, lacrosse and soccer, with three lined fields, allowing for home games for Taft and potentially local grade schools. These are separate from the current baseball and softball fields.

Taft's Naval Jr. ROTC program will remain at Taft. However, a second all-school Naval JROTC high school, the Rickover Naval Academy, will be moving from Senn High School on the city's Northeast Side, to the former Luther North High School building on Berteau (west of Central Ave, near Portage Park). Luther North had closed its doors. Senn is overcrowded and needs the room.

TAA Class of 2018 Hall of Fame Nominees

A large stack of applications has reached our desk. June 30, 2018 was the deadline for accepting all TAA Hall of Fame applications for this session. A review committee has been appointed and the meticulous task of review and grading of each application has begun.

Our endeavor is to complete the evaluation process as quickly as possible. Watch for the announcement in our next issue (hopefully) of the Taft Alumni Association Newsletter.

Thank you to all who have applications submitted. We are excited to soon present the next class of honored alums.

Cook County Veteran Picnic Set

The Cook County Department of Veterans Affairs will host a Veterans Picnic & Outreach Forum at Brookfield Zoo, on Thursday, August 30, 2018. The forum and picnic will be at the Swan Pavilion of Brookfield Zoo.

The forum will provide an opportunity for veterans to visit and talk with the experts from VA, the state IDVA, veterans assistance commission of Cook County, resources for women veterans and information on homeless veteran services. The picnic will be a THANK YOU to all the veterans for their service.

They will need an RSVP for veterans attending the picnic so that they can have sufficient food for all veterans attending the picnic/forum. If you do not complete registration for the RSVP, there may not be sufficient food. All veterans who sign up will be provided a wrist band at the event.

Deadline is August 18, 2018. You may send back by: Email, Fax, or Mail to the following:

Email: veterans.affairs@cookcountyil.gov

FAX: (312) 603-4479 or

Mail: Bill Browne - Director
Cook County Department
of Veterans Affairs
Bureau of Administration
118 N. Clark, Room 801
Chicago, IL. 60602



Taft Alumni Association Merchandise

Qty	Item	Specifics	Price Each	Total Price
	Windbreaker—blue nylon, drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	Medium	\$25.00	\$
	Windbreaker—blue nylon, drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	Large	\$25.00	\$
	Windbreaker—blue nylon, drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	X-Large	\$25.00	\$
	Windbreaker—blue nylon, drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	XX-Large	\$25.00	\$
	Windbreaker—blue nylon, drawstring bottom printed with white TAA logo	XXX-Large	\$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	\$
	T-Shirt—gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	Large	\$10.00	\$
	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	\$
	T-Shirt—gray cotton printed with blue TAA logo	XXX-Large	\$12.00	\$
	Jacket , Fleece – embroidered Taft Alumni Logo	Medium	\$40.00	\$
	Jacket , Fleece - embroidered Taft Alumni Logo	Large	\$40.00	\$
	Jacket , Fleece - embroidered Taft Alumni Logo	X-Large	\$40.00	\$
	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)	Year:	\$30.00	\$
Shipping and Handling: Stickers only = \$1.00, all other orders = \$8.00				\$
Total			Remitted	\$
Name (please print):		Grad Month/Year:		
Address:				
City/State/ZIP:		Phone: ()		
<p>Send check or money order (no cash please) with completed order form to: Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, Chicago IL 60631 Please use a separate order form for separate addresses.</p>				

Time to Renew?!!

Thanks to all who read our plea about keeping current with your TAA 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 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 BIG 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.



**Taft Alumni Association
Membership Application**

Please tell us as much about yourself as you like so that we can share your news in the *Class Notes*.
Only fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required for membership. We will not publish your address or phone number.

About You

*First Name (PLEASE PRINT)	* Last Name at Graduation	* Current Last Name	
*Home Street Address	*City	*State	*ZIP
Primary Phone	Email Address		List in Email Directory <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"/> Do not publish my information in the Class Notes

About Your Taft Graduate Spouse

*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 2-year single membership check or money <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 2-year alumni couples membership order for: <input type="checkbox"/> Donation in the amount of \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter online <input type="checkbox"/> Send newsletter by mail <input type="checkbox"/> Send both by mail and online	

Please mail application and funds to:
Taft Alumni Association, 6530 West Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631 Summer 2018

Taft Alumni Association Board of Directors

Anne Lunde	1969	President, Historian
John Prochaska	1961	Vice President/Treasurer
Arlene (Laufer) Ware	1960	Secretary
Jeraldene (Beesley) Bloom Stephenson	1962	Director, Newsletter Editor newsletter@taftalumni.org (920) 559-7440
Kevin Krieger	1973	Director, Webmaster webmaster@taftalumni.org
Paulette (Zemaitis) English	1967	Director, Web Editor, Newsletter Assistant eagleemail@taftalumni.org
Judy Jacobsen	1970	Director
Paul Madsen	1971	Director
Wayne Schimpff	1959	Director
Ryan Glowacz	2006	Faculty Representative
Frank Heyer	1948	Director, Emeritus

Taft Alumni Newsletter
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

Send photographs and articles for the next issue to:

Jerry Bloom Stephenson
2600 SE Ocean Blvd – Unit G-12
Stuart, Florida 43996

or email newsletter@taftalumni.org

eNewsletter Signup: eagleemail@taftalumni.org

**Submission Deadline for the Fall Issue:
September 30, 2018**

TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
6530 W. BRYN MAWR AVE.
CHICAGO IL 60631-0020
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit NO. 215
Des Plaines, IL

