

EHS Missing Link '56

Fall 2022
John Carr Editor

Website
www.ehs56.org

As I sit down to begin this, Juneteenth is over and the longest day of the year has passed, although the way things are going, all the days seem extremely long.

Within the last year I have started communicating with a woman in Florida who stutters, which is quite strange because we only talk by text. The other week she got in touch to tell me she was late for work and by the time she finished, she was late for lunch.

I have a cousin, Russell Reeves (an East High grad) who stuttered as a child and overcame it to become an excellent minister and is now retired. One of my doctors took Seminary training along with medicine, which sometimes shows up in his practice. He took me off one of my blood pressure medicines and told me to go and liSINopril no more.

As I indicated, things are strange, it takes me longer to get to see my auto repair shop than it does my doctor and my brother-in-law who spends time between Iowa and Colorado drove to Laramie, Wyoming to get a haircut, went three places, one was a three week wait, one was a five week wait and the other was closed, so he came home and let my sister help him; he now has the best permanent wave in Walden, Colorado and several of the lumberjacks he works with are jealous, but a couple like it, I mean really like it...

Paraphrasing Gene Autry:
"We're back at the Hilltop again, out where a friend meets a friend"...

We had our spring luncheon at the Hilltop Restaurant, there were only 16 that showed up but I left the table and when I came back, it sounded like there were about 50 people chattering (and there were only five of us men there); everyone seemed excited to be together, so it was good Those attending were:

Bette Lou (Raymond) Neal
John Carr
JoAnn (Brady) Wilson
Larry & Jackie Soloman
Janet (Bales) & Glen Douglas
Kay (Edwards) Alcantar
Janeene (Miller) Carlisle
Carol Adams & John Jones
Bob & Connie Trotter
Tom Abbot
Norma (Treanor) Burke
Jean Allstead

Once again, we would like to thank those who are able to contribute to help this publication exist:

Kay (Edwards) Alcantar
Norma (Treanor) Burke
Eugene Davis
Ronald Larson
Romona (Hitchcock) Moore
Dennis Parker
Sharon (Whitehead) Stilwell
Lyle Simpson
John Carr

If prices keep rising, Bob is working on a plan where you can drive by and he will hand you a newsletter to save on postage.

Sadly, we lost more of our classmates:

2021
Edward O. McCartney
Terry Stover
2022
Kay L. (Sullivan) Kloppenberg
Janeene A. (Miler) Carlisle
Jerry O. Smith
Lyle R. Norman

There is a school of thought that we die twice, once when we pass on and then when there is no one around who remembers us. Ancestry research has given us one way as individuals, however it gives me sort of a secure feeling to think that through our scholarships, the class of 1956 will be remembered as long as there is an East High School.

We have a note from our recent scholarship recipient:
Dear Robert Trotter,
Thank you so much for donating the EHS Class of 1956 scholarship to the EHS Alumni Foundation. I appreciate your support and willingness to help me. I plan to attend Iowa State University and major in software engineering.
Sincerely,
Jacob Biondi

Yesterday is history
Tomorrow is a mystery
But today is a gift
That's why it's called
"The Present"

With the passing of Janeene Carlisle, temporarily send any change of address, phone numbers and updates, along with donations to:

Bob Trotter
5625 Lakepoint Circle
Johnston IA 50131

Donation checks payable to:
EHS Class of 1956

The wind in the west has all of our archives for any back-dated information:

Tom Lettington
17055 Oculito Court
San Diego, CA 92127
tlettington@san.rr.com

As for me, my little brain isn't very bright, but for stories, comments or criticisms:

John Carr
2317 E. 11th St.
Des Moines IA 50316

(It probably won't do any good to criticize because so as I know nobody else wants my job...)

This 45 year old woman is naked and jumping up and down on her bed, laughing and singing.

Her husband walks into the bedroom and sees her. He watches her for a while then says, "You look ridiculous! What on earth do you think you're doing?"

She says, "I just got my check-up and my doctor says I have the breasts of an eighteen-year-old." She starts laughing and jumping again.

He says, "Yeah, right. And what did he say about you 45 year-old ass?"

"Your name never even came up," she replied.

Why do they put Braille dots on the key pad of the drive-up ATM?

1938

In mid-February, the second Agricultural Adjustment Act is passed allowing the government to buy and store farmers' surplus crops. On March 13, Nazis march into Austria. Nearly 10 million people are unemployed. Minimum wage is set at 25c and hour and mandates a 44-hour workweek. (Average annual wage in the South is about \$865 a year.) Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan sets out from New York, headed for California and ends up in Dublin, Ireland. Eddie Rickenbacker assumes control of Eastern Airlines. On Armistice Day, Kate Smith sings *God Bless America* on her radio show. (It's the first time the song was ever performed in public.) Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians strikes out 18 batters in a nine-inning baseball game, and most of you were born that year.

A cowboy goes into a bar and orders a beer. His hat is made of brown wrapping paper and his shirt and vest are made of waxed paper; his chaps and his pants are made of paper as well; even his spurs are made of tissue paper—pretty soon, they arrested him for 'rustling'.

Polk County was established in 1846, when James K. Polk was the nation's 11th president. The Iowa legislature passed separate acts that established its boundaries and created a mechanism for governing, such as the office of county sheriff, surveyor, and recorder. In July the first sales of lots in Fort Des Moines was held.

Why isn't phonetics spelled with an "F"?

STRANGE MEETINGS

Two guys show up in Heaven at the same time. The first guy says he froze to death, and the second guy tells him that he died of a heart attack.

"How did that happen?" asks the first guy,

"Well, I came home and thought I heard my wife with another man. But when I searched the house I couldn't find anybody. I was so stricken with remorse for wrongly accusing my wife of infidelity, I had a heart attack and died on the spot"

"Geez," says the first guy. "If you'd opened the freezer, we'd both be alive right now."

Speaking of strange meetings:

The class luncheon
will be held at
Hilltop Restaurant
On Monday
September 26th
At 11:30 a.m.
You can order
from the menu

Dessert will be provided

One stormy evening a knight was riding through the forest. His horse went lame and he was forced to walk until he came to an inn.

"Have you a horse I can use, innkeeper?" asked the knight "I have only a big dog," said the innkeeper, pointing to a huge dog sleeping in the corner.

"I'll take him for my mount," the knight said, whistling for the dog. "But sir," said the innkeeper, "I can't do that." "I wouldn't send a knight out on a dog like this."

**HOPE YOU CAN
MAKE THE LUNCH**

Longevity isn't what it used to be. The Bible says that before the flood man lived to an average age of 912 years, 910 if he smoked. Secular findings reveal the prehistoric man lived to the age eighteen and died from a blow to the head. (Today, thanks largely to improved nutrition; and eighteen-year-old is merely stunned by the blow to the head.) Since that time, life spans have crept upward. Life expectancy in New England in 1789 was 35.5 years, a fact not lost on the Founding Fathers, who set the minimum age for presidency at thirty-five to promote turnover. Statistically, Scandinavians live longer than anyone except French-women. Americans live longest in states with the fewest distractions: South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, and, the winner in the longest run, Nebraska, where a woman who isn't seventy-four isn't trying. On the other hand, a man in Arkansas is a good as dead. Americans, it turns out, could live a year longer if they moved to Canada, but would find magazines slightly higher. Clergymen outlive athletes, but college graduates die like everybody else. The average married man lives 2,005 days longer than his unmarried counter-part. According to Metropolitan Life, life insurance policyholders live two-and-a-half years longer than the uninsured, or, as fate would have it, nearly exactly the time it takes to earn the premiums. Curiously, the best source for finding out who lives how long where, is the CIA *World Factbook*.

The world record for holding your breath is 15 minutes, two seconds; some people can't hold their tongues that long.

...your brain recognizes your favorite song in less than one second. The average recognition time for familiar tunes was 100 to 300 milliseconds.

The 8 glasses of water a day may be a myth. As we age our sense of thirst is less acute. This increases the risk of dehydration. Drinking 8 glasses of water a day is NOT a good guide to hydration. Instead, simply drink enough so that your urine is a pale yellow. (Great! Now I have to wear my glasses just to pee.)



When we think of the Puritans, we usually think of wholesome God-rearing, upright people, in black clothes with buckles on their hats. But the Puritans may not have been "puritanical." They left Europe because of religious intolerance, but once in Massachusetts, they denied their own settlers any religious freedoms of their own. Religious dissenters were expelled from the colony. They weren't big fans of democracy either—the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, John Winthrop, described democracy as "the meanest and worst of all forms of government." *Justice* to the Puritans meant "just us."

How much you know matters less than how much you care.

DEODORANT:
The older of two aunts.

THE JELL-O WAY
In 1845, Peter Cooper created an entirely new desert made of gelatin. His patented creation was described as "a transparent, concentrated substance containing all the ingredients fitting it for table use in a portable form, and requiring only the addition of hot water to dissolve it, so that it may be poured into molds and when cold will be fit for use." It sat on the shelf for the next fifty years, when Pearl B. Waite and his wife, May added fruit flavor to it (she called it Jell-O) but it went nowhere and he sold the rights to his neighbor Frank Woodward for \$450. Woodward almost sold the entire business for \$35, but then his advertising campaign took off and by 1902 sales hit \$250,000. In 1925, Postum Cereal purchased and merged with Jell-O. That \$450 formula was now worth \$67 million as a business.

CHEERIOS:
Hula hoops for ants.

Paris starts with a "p" and ends with an "e." Is that true? Think about it...don't look at the answer yet...don't look...don't look. Okay,...Yes Paris starts with a "p" and "ends" starts with an "e."

J.K. Rowling was the first person ever to earn over \$1 billion in the U.S. writing books.

Having lunch with friend is really good for you, not to mention benefits of just being around people who remind you of what really matters in life

**HOPE TO SEE YOU
AT LUNCH!**

We should have a bottle of wine, whiskey, or scotch, coke, 7 up, at least something or other, stored in our class records to be drunk by the last person in our class still standing. Of course, that person probably would not remember where it even was located, and physically could not get to it in any event. But it would be appropriate for us to toast those that have gone before us in some way. Perhaps, instead, we should collectively do that now with those who are still here. Even if we are only toasting with a glass of water.

I think often of many who are no longer with us, such as Hazel Harmon. I also think of my closest friend, Jack Hartung, who was in the June class graduating in June a year prior to us. Jack was a straight A student at East, All City End on East's football team, sat on the bench a lot on East's basketball team, played tennis for East. Went to Iowa State and graduated with a 3.97 in physics. Got a job with NASA and was responsible for anything that had to do with the trajectory of the spaceship from the Earth to the Moon, and what the Astronauts did after they got there. He read in a book about a Monk in 1518 that saw a flash at the point of the new moon. Jack figured out where and when that occurred and dated a crater of a meteorite that hit the back side of the Moon, that Carl Sagan mentions in Cosmos. When the first space ship traveled around the Moon, there it was where Jack predicted. I put flowers on Jack's grave every year. His grave marker has a monk pointing to the Moon engraved on it.

When I was interviewed for the recording East now provides for students on two large tv screens located in the building hallways for them to access, and by pushing our button each of us on the screen individually talk directly to them. I contrasted Jack Hartung with Harold Olsen. We all come from the same root at East High. Jack reached for the stars and was a success as a scientist. Harold Olsen never left East High. He was a counselor that served more than 3,000 students in his career at East. I point out that Harold did more actual good for people in his endeavors than Jack did achieving his goal. East High has meant a lot for each of us, and it is good that we remember where we got our roots that have carried us forward in our endeavors ever since.

Best wishes to you. I really appreciate all that you and your committee do for our class.

Sincerely,

Lyle L. Simpson

