



**East High "Class of 56"  
NewsLink  
-December 2004**



### FALL DINNER GET-TOGETHER

The fall informal dinner get-together was held at Pagliai's Pizza on Merle Hay Rd. We had 36 in attendance, including some new faces, which we are always delighted about. Lots of good conversation.

Kay (Edwards) Alcantar who is "Grants" manager for Prairie Meadows announced that they had received a request from East High School for assistance in their "Invest in the Future Campaign". This is the remodeling project. With Kay's effort, \$250,000 towards the East High School remodeling project was donated in September of 2004, with a pledge to donate another \$250,000 in 2005, plus an additional \$250,000 in 2006. That's a total of **Three Quarters of a Million dollars.** (*Way to go Kay*) That's having friends in the right places.

Those in attendance were: *Bob & Connie Trotter - Shirley (Grant) & Bud Robinette - Glenn & Janet (Bales) Douglas - Linda (White) Towers - Sonny & Yvonne (Miller) Nauman - Don Spaw - LaVae (Konz) Willspm - Harold & Carol Olsen - Bill & Norma (Treasor) Burke - Dale & Marlene (Roberts) Wheeler - Larry & Jackie Soloman - Jerry & Ruth (Cook) Haag - Jerry & Becky Smith - Kay (Edwards) & Chico Alcantar - Janeene (Miller) Carlisle - Phil & Barbara (Lowe) Penn - John & Shirley Johnson - Tom & Sharon Norris - Larry & Margaret Fogelson.*

The next semi-annual dinner get-together will be:  
**The Okoboji Grill - 1225 Copper Creek Dr. in Pleasant Hill on Monday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 6:30 PM**

Mark your calendar now. The call committee will contact you about 10 days ahead of time so we can get a head count to give Okoboji's.

### KUDOS TO THE CALL COMMITTEE

They are what keeps these dinners going. Please respond in a pleasant manner when they call. Say that you will or won't be there. That is the

headcount we give to the restaurant so they can properly prepare for us.

The call committee consists of:

**Jerry Smith:** A-B and Kaiser thru Kruzich

**LaVae Willson:** C -F

**Ruth Haag:** Girton - James L. Johnson and P's thru Smith.

**Norma Burke:** L - O

**Don (Arlene) Spaw:** - Stroth thru Yeager

### LOST CLASSMATE FOUND BY DAUGHTER

Hi Larry, I am no longer among the missing...Weird story. My daughter was living in Alexandria, VA, and spent several evenings playing tennis at a club. Her partner was Bob Ballagh who one evening said that he was going to Des Moines to be with family. Diane said that her mom was from Des Moines and had graduated from East High School. Bob looked me up in the Quill, and brought her a copy of the NewsLink for me...so here I am.

I am living in Bemidji, Mn.

It will be fun to connect with all of you once again, and am interested in the BIG reunion coming up in 2006. Winter is here, and it is beautiful, with the snow on the trees, and the lakes freezing over. Hope to hear from you, take care.

**Sandra Parsons**

*(Good to hear from you Sandra. You are now on the mailing list. Hope to see you at the big 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.)*

### DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

Larry, I am writing today to let you know of **Gary Blair's** passing on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

For 17 years Gary was the Black Hawk County Emergency Management Coordinator. Gary retired at the end of 2000 because of failing health. The kids and I were very proud of the changes and advancements Gary carried out during those years in office.

As for myself, I retired on May 31<sup>st</sup>, of this year after 42 years as a retail Pharmacist. I find myself as busy as ever. We have 4 children, and 6 grandchildren. So, there are plenty of things to see and do.

I have a couple of bulldogs that keep me occupied here at home.

Thanks for all your time and effort with the NewsLink, and to **Tom Lettington** for all his work with the Website.

I, too have several Scrolls if you are in need of them.

Please accept the enclosed check in Gary's memory.

**Kay (Harvey) Blair**

*(Kay, thank you so much for the donation. Shirley Robinette, (our treasurer) has your check. It will be used for something special at some time in the near future in Gary's name)*

**ANOTHER CLASSMATE FOUND**

Dear Shirley, I have kept in touch with **Delores (Carson) Guyer**. She is living in Santee, CA. and mentioned that she does not receive the NewsLink.

Enclosed is a donation for the many NewsLinks I have received. I read & save them all. I especially enjoyed the note from Nancy Bishop. I hope she will attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. I have not attended any so far, so I plan on attending the 50<sup>th</sup>.

My husband is in farming, corn & beans. We use to raise hogs, but no longer. I work part time at our local elementary school in the lunchroom, and also part time at Hilton Auditorium during Basketball season, and the scheduled concerts at Hilton. They are fun jobs.

Our two daughters are married, one lives nearby in Luther. She is a stay at home mom with two boys, ages 4 and 2. Our other daughter lives in New York in Manhattan. She was married in August of 2001, about a month before 9-11. Her stories of what she saw on that fateful morning going to work impacted all of the family. Forgive me, I am rambling. I do hope that in 2006, more of my Jan of 56 classmates will attend the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.

**Lois (Bengston) Thompson**

*(Lois, thank you for Delores address. The reason she had not been receiving the NewsLink is that the last known name and*

*address we had on her was Devenere living in San Diego. She will be added to our mailing list again. Thank You)*

**ANY CLASS OF "51" INFORMATION?**

Dear Larry, I am writing to let you know that my sister & I moved back to Des Moines from Ankeny. We are across from the Lincoln High Stadium.

My sister wants to know if any of our classmates knows anything about the Class of "51"? Any activities, events, contact person, etc? That is the year she graduated. Her name is Donna Penenger. Please contact her at 1200 River Vista Drive Apt. B – Des Moines, IA 50315.

**Etha (Penneger)Whitten**

**ENJOYED SCUBA DIVING DAN ARTICLE**

Dear Shirley, enclosed is a donation to support the NewsLink. Larry and staff make it interesting and informative. I especially enjoyed **Dan Strosnider's** article on "Swimming with the Dolphins."It was really interesting.

I also enjoyed the last page featuring pictures from past Scrolls. It was a fun addition.

Hope everyone had a good and fun summer.

**Sharon (Burriss) Howz**

*(Thank you Sharon. I hope that your enjoyment about Dan's personal experiences will encourage others to write me with some of their personal experiences.)*

**STILL PEDALING AROUND**

Shirley, thanks so much to all who make the NewsLink happen. I do enjoy reading the names even though faces escape me at times.

Maybe we can make another dinner get-together.

We do a lot of traveling. We are still bicycling a lot also when we find the time.

Thanks again to all who faithfully carry the load.

**Loretta (Woods) Ware**

**USES NEWSLINK AS A MEMORY JOGGER**

I was glad to receive the June NewsLink. It sure helps to jog my memory on a lot of things, including to send a donation.

Sure is fun to hear about our classmates, and it is even better when there are pictures. Must get out my video of the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion before the 50<sup>th</sup> comes,

and hope that I can be there to renew many friendships.

Keep up the great work on NewsLink and also on the Website.

**Nancy Bishop**

### **RETIREMENT NOT WHAT I EXPECTED**

Hi Larry and all. Thanks so much for the newsletter. I've been out of town the last two dinner get-togethers. Hope to catch one soon.

I retired after 41 years in middle school here in Des Moines. Hard to believe the years went by so quickly. Really looking forward to the 50<sup>th</sup>. Can we really be that....(I won't say it). You're only as young or as old as you feel.

I saw the photo on the back page of Miss Whitford. I tried to contact her, and then I heard that she had passed away. Does anyone know? She was a special teacher and gave me some encouragement when I was a struggling first year teacher.

Still managing to jog and keep in shape...enjoying travel with my bride of 10 years. Did a lot of bike touring in the summer in the 12 years between my first and second marriage. We plan to do some biking in France in the near future.

Thanks again for everything. Oh, by the way, retirement is not what it is cracked up to be. It is about 100 times better.

**Steve Larson**

### **TRAVEL RECRUITER**

Thanks to everyone for all their hard work. It is great to keep up on the happenings of old friends.

I'm still teaching at the University of the Virgin Islands, and so I've got a suggestion for our fiftieth reunion. How about making it something special and having it here in the Virgin Islands? Of course you would all travel, and I would get to stay home. Another idea might be a reunion cruise in the Caribbean, since one of the usual stops is in the Virgin Islands. I would be happy to show everyone around.

I have attached a photo to tempt you. Think about it, food, transportation, entertainment, in one spot.

**Dennis Parker**



Harbor at Sunset

*(Dennis, you are not the only one to think about a cruise. However it is not on the agenda for this reunion. Future, who knows, maybe the 55<sup>th</sup> or 60<sup>th</sup>. Anyone want to volunteer?)*

### **PARTY ANIMALS ON 47<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



**JoAnn (Brady) Wilson** and husband Walter celebrated their 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The above photo and article appeared in the newspaper courtesy of their children. The accompanying article stated: "Thanks for being the best parents and grandparents a family could ask for. Of course, the picture was Cindy's idea." *Jeff, Cindy, Katilin, Travers, Jeff, Karen, Logan, Emily*  
*(Congratulations to the both of you, you are to be commended)*

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

In response to your request for NewsLink articles, I thought I would share a few things with my classmates from the Class of "56".

I recently located a dear friend of mine from our class. **Susan (Beebe) Lupo** moved to California soon after graduation. We kept in touch for several years, even visiting each other a couple of times. As time went on we lost track of each other, and hadn't seen each other for the past 25 years. In January of 2003 my husband Dale and I were vacationing in Sedona, Az. Susan and her husband Joe joined us and we had a great visit; it was long overdue. We plan to get together again soon.

Another friend I had lost touch with is **Suzanne (Samo) Newton**. Suzanne contacted a mutual friend of ours, JoAnn (Brady) Wilson, a short time before the 45<sup>th</sup> class reunion. Suzanne and her husband Norman attended the reunion. Since the reunion Suzanne and I have kept in touch. November of 2003, the Newton's joined Dale and I for a week in Branson, Missouri. We had a great time and plan to go again sometime.

The month of March 2004 my husband Dale and I celebrated our 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by going on a tour of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. It was a wonderful trip, beautiful scenery, exotic animals, and we met lots of nice people.

**Marlene (Roberts) Wheeler**

## FROM THE GRIDIRON TO TABLE TENNIS

Hi Larry, hope everything is going well for you, and appreciate your continued involvement putting together the NewsLink. Enclosed is my new address.

I participate in several sports during the Iowa Senior Olympics. One of them is Table Tennis, and one of my opponents was a former Firefighter and friend of yours from the East side; Ed Killin.

Hope to make the 2006 Class Reunion if the dates allow. Des Moines is trying to host the NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching tournament in 2006. It will run for two weeks from July into August at the Varied Industries Building at the State Fairgrounds. We are anticipating close to 2,000 participants from all over the world. It will mean a lot of work, but

looking forward to the challenge of putting this together. The host city will be selected during the World Tournament which will be held in Pocatello, Idaho this year.

**LeRoy Law**

*(Good news LeRoy, the reunion will be in May)*

## HURRICANES DEVASTATE FLORIDA

We all saw on the news about the 4 different Hurricanes that hit Florida this late summer and fall. I am sure that many of our Floridian classmates probably had some personal experiences with one or more of them.

**Larry and Karen Ramsey** who live in Vero Beach had the misfortune of having two of them hit their house a week apart. It did a lot of damage. They had to find rental quarters until their house can be repaired. They hope it will be done enough by the end of February when their current lease on the rental quarters runs out, and they can move back home..

## FOUR RED HOT – RED HAT GRAMMIES



*Janeene (Miller) Carlisle - Yvonne (Miller) Naumam - Janet (Bales) Douglas - LaVae (Konz) Willson*

These four "Notorious Red Hot Molls" were recently photographed in front of their get-a-way car, a 1939 Cadillac at Nilands Café in Colorado.

They are members of the local chapter of "The Red Hat" gang. Their objective sounds harmless enough, a bunch of grandma's out to have a good time by getting together with a bunch of other Grandma's. Harmless -Huh -Yeh - Sure.

## EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

**Tom Lettington**, who has set up, and operates the EHS Class of 56 webpage, has notified me that some of our classmates have not been to good on notifying him with email changes. He said he has had to drop several lately because their emails were no longer valid.

It is very important to keep these email address's current, and it is equally as important to notify me of any mailing address change.

With the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion coming up in 2006, email addresses, and the mailing address we have on record is what we will use to notify you of up coming events.

To update or register new emails-

**Tom Lettington:** [tom@tfl.net](mailto:tom@tfl.net)

Class Of "56" Website: [ehs56@ehs56.org](mailto:ehs56@ehs56.org)

Donations, articles, etc. to:

**Shirley (Grant) Robinette**

812 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Ct.

Des Moines, IA. 50317

Address changes, articles for NewsLink to:

**Larry Fogelson**

3121 – Twana Dr.

Des Moines, IA 50310

(515) 279-0013

[chieffog@mchsi.com](mailto:chieffog@mchsi.com)

## NEWSLINK DONATIONS

Thank you for the donations that keep the NewsLink going for all of our "56" classmates:

*Kay (Edwards) Alcantar – Nancy Bishop – Janet (Bales) Douglas – Janice (Holman) Green – Sharon (Burris) Howze – James Johnson – Steve Larson – LeRoy Law – Yvonne (Miller) Nauman – Shirley (Grant) Robinette – Don Spaw – Lois (Bengston) Thompson – Linda (White) Towers – Loretta (Woods) Ware*

## UPCOMING BIG FIVE-0 IN 06

The reunion committee has met several times in regards to our 50th Reunion in 2006. Progress is being made. Quite a few details yet to be worked out. However, it looks like the following dates will apply. May 11th, 12th, and 13th, of 2006. Start blocking this time period now. It will probably be a year before we have everything set. We have several new volunteers to the reunion committee. The committee consists of:

Janeene (Miller) Carlisle – Larry Fogelson – Ruth (Cook) Haag – Pat (Rounds) Hockersmith – Yvonne

(Miller) Nauman – Larry Soloman – Linda (White) Towers – Bob Trotter – LaVae (Konz) Willson - Shirley (Grant) Robinette

Mary (Crum) Moses was going to volunteer again, but it is said that husband Don made her go back to work. Bummer Mary. Bad Don.....

## CURRENT UPDATED LIST OF THE LOST

Sharon (Crawford) Allsteadt	Gene Lewis
Charles Baker	Frances (Tulley) Malloy
Karen (Anderson) Barton	Ralph Marshall
Edward James Brown Jr.	Bill McGriff
Shirley Brown	Barbara (Byerly) Monahan
George Buttler	Jeanne (Clark) Moore
Harold Cahow	Nancy Morrow
Sandra Carter	John Nelson
Carl Christiansen	Donald Patton
DeWayne F. Clark	Gail (Black) Polson
Helen Cooper	Charles Price
William Downey	Jeanne (Sacco) Randleman
Donald J. Dugan	Wilma Richards
Janice (Anderson) Fisher	Margaret (Chapman) Roe
William E. Fleming	Lucille (Belzer) Ryan
Robert L. Freeborn	Jack Slattery
Robert L. Graham	Betty Smith
John Hall	Max K. Smith
Jean K. Hamilton	Richard Tibbetts
Edward L. Harvey	Opal Tomlinson
Patricia (Martin) Hughes	Ruth Jeanine Turner
Marlyn Jackson	Lynn Van Sickle
James Jesser	Anita Ward
Joanne (Bosshardt) Jergens	Tom White
Jim Jordan	Frances (Knotts) Wright
Barbara (Batty) Kimley	Janet Wright
Georgia (Vergas) Larson	Lucille (Fortune) Wright
Gary Lewis	

## IN MEMORIAM

*Gary Blair 7-16-04*

## ON THE MEND

Kay (Johnson) Inman - Pneumonia

Deanna (Wheatley) Peterson - Broken Ankle

## THE VERY BEST OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON TO ONE AND ALL

Once again I would publicly like to thank my lovely wife **Margaret** for all her help, proof reading, stuffing, labeling, sealing, stamping, listening to my ideas, etc. She does pretty good for one of those "Academy" girls.

More pictures from old Scrolls donated by Lyle Simpson



Bill Orris shows hurdling form used to win at Drake Relays.



Marleen Lessman and Ken Viggers as Mary and Joseph in Nativity pageant.



Seniors Sally Burford-Denny Ross-Sharon Burris-LeRoy Law



New Utica Ad



Jim Thomas on way to Paris for a two month stay sponsored by the Y.M.C.A.



Mrs Blecker-Homemaking

Mr Stephens-Commercial Law