

Knowledge is good -. Emiel Faber



Bull Sheet



The official publication of the West Allis Central Class of 1962 **November 2003**

Upstart Newsletter Starts Up!

We are pleased to launch the first edition of Bull Sheet - the official publication of the West Allis Central "Class of 62".

The focus of this issue is to reflect on the wonderful "reunion weekend" and the many memories it afforded.

Future issues will deal with the lives and lore of the "Class of 62"

West Allis Central, Class of 1962 - 41st Year Reunion

My Thoughts... By Bob Fazen

The reunion experience is difficult to put into words. I do not know if you all have experienced the same things, but here in New Jersey, just about everyone I know got sick of hearing about "The Reunion." They knew that I flew to Wisconsin every three months in preparation for the event. Most (including my wife) thought I was exaggerating the magnitude of our planning and the scope of the reunion itself.

Now, friends ask me how was "The Reunion" (AKA "The Weekend")? I think about a response and visions of "The Weekend" swirl in my head. I usually respond with something like, it was "outstanding," or "unbelievable," or some word like that, but I cannot go on from that point. I cannot possibly summarize a weekend like that!

However, you have asked me to sum up my thoughts and I will do so:

I remember setting up the Hospitality Suite on Thursday...

The grand plan was initiated!

Food, drink, decorations, door prizes, friends - there was a steady flow of activity to get things ready for "The Weekend"

Everyone helped and classmates visited the room after they checked in. It was great!

I remember The Friday Fish Fry...

A low key event that set the tone of the weekend perfectly

94 people attended!

An event filled with joy and happiness - "The Weekend" events began with humor and wonderful gifts of gratitude from grateful classmates

Sounds a little trendy, but "The Weekend" began with a lot of love!

I remember the Saturday Golf Tournament...

I really wanted my team to win the tournament!

Carol (Dunkovich) Mertins took great pictures at the first tee. The photos capture the fun and a little of the nervousness of the competitors. It was great to see old friends and joke about the golf match, trying to make believe it did not matter who won! (There was a lot of nervous laughter on the tee.)

Ginny had the event organized perfectly and after the golf, we enjoyed each others company drinking beer and talking about our High School days.

It was a great way to get ready for "The Night."

I remember the Saturday Reunion Dinner-Dance...

The only word that describes it is "Spectacular."

144 people attended

84 Door Prizes were awarded! Every classmate received a prize.

Everyone danced, drank and talked the night away



Clockwise - Dick Schmitt, Ms. Balistreri, Dawn (Schattschneider) Zinmer , Betty Lou Pyka, Carol (Mencfeldowski) O'Neill

My Big Fat High School Reunion

By Tom Miller

If you grew up on the South Side of Milwaukee (or had friends or relatives who did), you surely will remember those non-stop three-day eating, drinking, and dancing Polish Weddings. One thing is for sure. The 41st Central High Reunion proved that you can go home again. For me, it was a three day "high". The Friday Night Fish Fry, the Friday Night Hospitality Suite, the Golf Outing, the Saturday Afternoon Hospitality Suite, the Saturday Night Dinner/Dance, the Saturday Night Hospitality Suite, the Sunday Brunch and the Sunday Hospitality Suite. And, of course, the free ride to the nearest detox center. The only concern that the Reunion Planning Committee "feared" might happen, never occurred. The Planning Committee had decided to mingle to make sure that all alums were made to feel welcome and comfortable. But, it just was

not necessary. We got to play along with everyone. What will I remember from the reunion? The fun that was the Planning Committee - the cocktail parties and dinner meetings. Recognizing the hard work of Bob Fazen, Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen, Kaye (Jelinek) Eckert and Pat Boyle at the Friday Fish Fry. Golfing with Jack Farrar, Cheryl Arkin and Penny Throgmorton on a beautiful Saturday. Enjoying the broad, infectious smile of Chuck "Pepper" Moker. Juris Gaigals 60th birthday on Saturday night. Finally getting to kiss my Junior Prom date, Jeri Shepard. Mr. Wulz promising to join us for our 50th Reunion (or in our case - the 51st). But it is not just memories; it is the promise to stay connected with our "new" old friends through the monthly 5:01 gatherings, or picking grapes with Al and Sally (Stiles) Mersschdorf in anticipation of making a fine vintage wine. I look forward to our next Big Fat High School Reunion and all the mini-reunions in between.

I saw and spoke with many new, old friends and spent time with my old girlfriend "Betty" Balcer. It was wonderful!
That night should have lasted forever...

I remember the Sunday Memorial Brunch...

The event started with the correct tone of respect and recognition for our classmates who have passed away

I cried

93 people attended

- We then enjoyed the teachers who joined us at the brunch. Each had an opportunity to speak and each was outstanding.

No wonder we all turned out pretty good!

I remember closing up the Hospitality Suite on Sunday and watching as we all worked toward Phase 2 of "The Reunion"...

Everyone helped clean up and take things to the car

The committee reviewed all the photos for inclusion in the Memory Book

There were farewells and laughter, but I don't believe anyone understood the magnitude of what just happened!

It was over, but in my mind, it will never be over!

The WAC Class of '62 - What a group!

A Friend By Kaye (Jelinek) Eckert

She was a friend in high school at a time when I was still learning about friends.

She was funny and made me laugh.

She was interested and listened.

She was honest and scolding.

She was smart and made me think.

She shared things generously - very, very generously.

Secrets.

Spending money.

Candy.

Hopes and dreams.

Her love.

She was one of those people who brought life to a quiet room.

She laughed easily.

She actually encouraged humor and silliness.

She saw the glass as much more than half full,

And could help others see it that way, too.

She cried at sad movies

But even more at a sad story of a friend.

She felt things deeply,

Pleasant Memories ... By Carol (LeMense) Hushek

My memories of the reunion were warm and healing for me. I was amazed at how many people remembered me and how many I remembered, too. (The name tags helped) Since I was a pretty messed up teen-ager, I had no clue as to how others perceived me in school and I just assumed that no one even knew I was there! So the healing came when I heard stories from more than one classmate about their perception of how well I was liked. (I still feel awkward saying that!). I was surprised and pleased to hear that and it gave me a better perspective of myself and my relationships. Thanks to all of you who shared with me!

My second warm memory was of how the class welcomed the spouses so generously. I felt a great sense of inclusion for my husband and the other spouses who braved the "class reunion" syndrome. I have heard horror stories about spouses being left out but that was not the case for our class. I went to my husband's class reunion from Marquette High School the following week-end and was pretty much ignored completely except for the 2 people I already knew from Phoenix! So pat yourselves on the back for being so kind and considerate.

My third and last warm memory was the Sunday Brunch memorial. As some of you know, Mardi Bender's children came and were extremely touched by the stories you were willing to tell them about their Mom; it meant a lot to them to hear about things that happened to her in her school years. So thanks to those who approached them and shared ... you made their day!

That's it from Phoenix ... it was a wonderful experience and I wish I lived close enough to join you in the 5:01 club ...

Sometimes much more deeply than she showed.
Her heart was kind.

She was an honest person.
She understood fairness and the value of truth.
Her actions spoke her beliefs.
She held high standards for herself
And for her friends.

At such a young age, she was surprisingly strong in her beliefs,
But accepted differences in others' beliefs without seeming challenged.
Even when doubtful, her mind held a clarity
That allowed her to think things through.
She seemed wise.

Back then, when we stepped out into our lives
And allowed some distance, time, and other people to move in between us and a friend,
I did not fully appreciate
The true friend left behind -
The friend who should never have been left behind.

Being reunited after all these years is like having a second chance -
A chance to look at my friend through older vision
And not only realize that we are able to pick right up where we left off,
But learn that she is all and more of the friend I remember.
Helen (Gronowski) Tickanan, I will not lose you again,
my friend.

Editors Comments

By Bill Lauritch

On the weekend of July 18, the West Allis Central Class of 62 held its 41st reunion. It was a great three days of re-connecting with our "new/old friends", classmates and teachers: lots of memories, conversation, laughter and fun. - And it felt good.

So why did it feel good, and why does it continue to feel good several months later? It's not like we've been having reunions at regular intervals. This was the third one, and it came 27 years after the second one.

In a nutshell, it felt good because of the things we carry with us from our school days in West Allis: our foundations for life. These were formed with help from our parents, our teachers, our role models and each other as we grew into our personalities. We spent our formative years together in a safe environment and we were given the tools to make choices. We are a diverse and successful group of people. We were friends as children. We shared learning environments and leisure time. We studied, played and worked together and we made memories. - And it felt good.

Here we are over forty years later, re-connected and picking up where we left off.

So even if you didn't attend the reunion, join us at a 5:01, a picnic or a future reunion or just stay in touch by reading our newsletters and dropping us an occasional email or letter to let us know how you are doing. It will feel good - I guarantee it.

5:01 Corner...By Helen (Gronowski) Tickanan

It's 5:01 on the first Friday of the month and you're sitting there thinking, "I'd like to meet some friends for a couple of drinks, something to eat and great conversation". Then it dawns on you, hey, **what about my "new, old friends from WAC?"**

Hosts for the upcoming months are: December 5th, Sue (Taylor Kellogg) will be our host. Call Sue at 414-771-4965. Starting the New Year, is Judy (Omahne) Nycz Call Judy at 262-338-3180; or email her at jnycz@west-bend.k12.wi.us , Her gig will take place on Saturday January 17th at 1:00 P.M.. Bill Lauritch will host the February 5:01. It will take place on Feb 6th. Call Bill at 262-781-0120, or send an email at: wlauritch@wi.rr.com

Please call the hosts and let them know you're coming. Also ask for directions, as there is not enough room to put them in our newsletter. Then call a friend, let them know you're going and hope they will be coming too. There is no cost, bring a bottle, food is provided. It's such an intimate setting, lots of laughter and stories to share. See you there!

Memory Book (and more) Coming Soon! By Tom Miller

The Memory Book Assembly Committee (Bob Fazen, Gerry Loebel, Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen, Bob & Kaye (Jelinek) Eckert, Carol (Frederick) Schmidt, Pat & Nora Boyle and Tom Miller spent the weekend of Nov 15 & 16 at Pat and Nora Boyle's home in North Carolina assembling the Reunion Memory Book. They also spent an appropriate amount of time sipping wine and enjoying each other's company. The more they sipped, the more they enjoyed. So when you receive your Memory Book, if some of the pages are out of order or are wine-stained, it's all Helen's fault.

All Central Alums (whether they attended the reunion or not) will receive the Memory Book by the end of November. The Books will be shipped via UPS only to addresses, not PO Boxes. The expense to produce the Memory Book and accompanying CD is covered by the magnificent generosity of Pat Boyle who has donated all the print and assembly cost. However, we would appreciate donations to cover the shipping cost expected to be \$6.00/Book. So, when you receive your Book, please send a check for at least \$6.00 - why not make it \$10.00 or \$15.00 payable to Bob Fazen Class of '62 and send to: Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen at 2850 South 68 Street, Milwaukee, WI 53219

In addition to the spiral bound Memory Book, all Alums will also get a CD with the Memory Book files on them. You will also receive instructions on how to access files on the CD. The CD is made specifically for PC's. It is self starting, but you will need either Microsoft Windows XP, Windows 2000 PRO, or Windows NT 4.0 to be able to play the music which is embedded in the files. The Memory Book uses Adobe Acrobat 6.0 Reader which is included on the CD. If you have other than the above PC Operating Systems, you will need to use Adobe Acrobat 5.0, which can be downloaded free from Adobe. The embedded music however will not play with this version of Acrobat.

Let us know what you think of the Book once you have reviewed it. I would prefer to receive your comments via email: thomasconsulting@hotmail.com, but also feel free to mail your comments to my home address: 7201 Harvest Hill Road, Madison, WI 53717.

"Out of sight" Website Cites Memories and Mirth!... By Bill Lauritch

Did you know that the West Allis Central "Class of 62" has a web site? Check it out at: www.wac62.org

The site includes a look back at our high school days and even our childhood. It's complete with pictures (of us), and music from that wonderful era. It also has pictures of recent events from 5:01's to the Reunion.

You can visit an onsite chat room to talk to classmates who are also visiting, and you can post questions or comments in the forum or in the guest book. Try it and add it to your favorite list.

Cheer Those Bulldogs...Bulldogs 7 - Hale 6 By Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen

October 22nd was the final conference game for West Allis Central. It was a close game with all points earned in the fourth quarter. With less than 2 minutes to go, Hale scored a touchdown and went for the 2-point conversion. It was blocked and Central was victorious!

The stands were packed with alumni from back to the 50's. Representing the Class of '62 were the following: Jerry Schmitz, Jerry Strasser, Gerry Loebel, Tom Schumacher, Sandi (Aschenbrenner) Bardele, Carol (Fredrick) Schmidt, Mona (Budzinski) Trawicki & Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen. Keeping the barstool warm at the Rookies Bar on 68th and National was Jim Sengstock! It was a fun night and many of the alumni made their presence know at the neutral bar afterwards! Midnight never came so soon and it was time to bid farewell.

It was great "going back in time" and watching those boys play ball. Our only disappointment was that there were no cheerleaders. The band played and they were terrific and the Pom Pom Squad did their routine at half time. A fun night was had by all.

We'll have to make a game or two next year as an annual event.

Editors Note: *West Allis Central did advance to the third round of the state tournament. They lost to Oak Creek 21 to 17.*

Birthdays

November

- 2 Sandi (Aschenbrenner) Bardele
- 5 Pat (Krahn) Laatsch
Jerry Throgmorton
- 11 Ken Dressler
- 12 Jane (Schneider) Neumann
- 17 Tom Turck
- 18 Dick Schmitt
- 24 Carol (Doll) Lusic
Jim Tesnow
- 28 Judy (Beierle) Senske
Jon Wentzel
- 30 Benny (Vahl) Stafford

December

- 1 John "Doug" Sinclair
- 2 Sue (GeMoll) Yuzna
Ron Guendert
- 13 Donna (Habiger) Cooper
19 Dennis Arkin
- 21 Glenn Hickman
- 26 John Wisniewski
- 31 Larry Ciganek

January

Trivia Time - How many of these do you remember?

- Candy cigarettes
- Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water inside
- Soda pop machines that dispensed glass bottles
- Coffee shops with tableside jukeboxes
- Blackjack, Clove and Teaberry chewing gum
- Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers
- Newsreels before the movie
- P.F. Fliers

- 1 Carol (Fredrick) Schmidt
- 6 Joyce (Wirsbinski) Servi
- 9 Jon Ullserger
- 16 Madeline (Fagan) Rini
- 17 Larry Kelly
- 23 Kathy (St. Aubin) Renner
- 24 Dennis Beres
- 25 Ernie Dorow, DDS
- 27 Tom Lucas
- 29 Carol (Lemense) Hushek
- 30 Dave Wold
- 31 Bill Lauritch

We reminisced... We danced... We had fun... We made memories!



What a weekend!

What a class!





Proposed Itinerary:

March 19,20 and 21, 2004

Preferred Arrival Time (4:25PM Friday - Midwest Express)
Departures on Sunday or Monday

Friday:

Arrive at Newark Airport
Travel from Newark Airport to Fazens' House in Bound Brook, NJ
Stay at Hilton (approx \$99 per night) or Fazens'
Happy Hour (or two or three) in New Jersey

Saturday:

10:00 AM - Light Breakfast (Coffee, Bagels & Doughnuts) at Fazens
11:00 AM - Travel to New York City (Train or Chartered Bus/Vans)
12:30 PM - Drinks & Snacks at the famous Sardi's Restaurant
2:00 PM - Theatre ("Mama Mia" or "Hairspray")
5:30 PM - After Theatre Cocktails at Rockefeller Center (or?)
8:00 PM - Dinner at Location To Be Announced

Sunday:

10:00 AM - Brunch at the Fazens'
Optional Sightseeing Trips:
Site of World Trade Center
Empire State Building
Statue of Liberty
Ellis Island
Atlantic City (Sunday is a cheap night to stay in a hotel if you want to depart on Mon.)
Philadelphia

Flights Depart from Newark as shown

Trip to the "Big Apple".

Bob and Lynn Fazen will again be hosting a weekend in New York. March 19, 20 & 21, 2004. Details are posted to the left of this paragraph.

Travel, lodging, meals and entertainment will be for the expense of each individual.

Contact Bob Fazen or Helen (Gronowski) Tickanen for further details.

It happened in 1962... Johnny Carson takes over hosting duties of The Tonight Show.

Bull Sheet is a publication of and for the members of West Allis Central High School "Class of 1962".

Any resemblances to legitimate publications from the past, present or future are coincidental.

We invite you to submit articles, concerns or critiques to the **Bull Sheet** staff.

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