

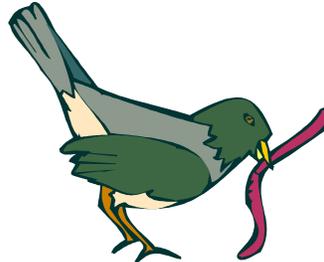
CLASS OF 1958

MHS KEEPING IN TOUCH

A Publication by and for the Alumni of **MHS** Class of 1958
Volume 2 March 2009 No. 1

Spring has sprung;
The Grass has ris.
I wonder where
The birdie is?

-- Ogden Nash



There he is
In the sky.
He dropped some
Whitewash in my eye.

-- Anonymous

Waverly School

The last page of this newsletter consists of two photos taken at Waverly School. These were contributed by Patricia Valiani Vesely. We've printed them together on one sheet so those who wish to can remove that page and add it to their Memory Book in the section devoted to old school photos. Can you help us identify these children? If so, send your answers to Norma.

If you'd like to see the other school photos in the Memory Book identified in the same way, let us know.

I tried to talk my wife into buying a case of Yuengling beer for \$21.95. Instead she bought a jar of cold cream for \$7.95. I told her the beer would make her look better at night than the cold cream. And then the fight started.

For extra copies of the newsletter, send \$1.00 per copy to:

Norma Haywood
7845 Brockway Sharon Rd
Burghill, Oh 44404

The DVD is amazing. It is a slide show of the candid shots taken at the reunion in Sept and also the comments made by various committee members throughout the evening of the banquet.

For a copy of the Memory Book send \$ to
Judy Martin Leach
504 Jackson St
Monongahela, Pa.

Events

Bill and Mary Ann Pohle Walters became grandparents again on Jan 30, 2009. Their son, Bill, and his wife, Doreen, had Sharley Rose-6lb, 3oz. This is Mary Ann and Bill's second grandchild. Their daughter, Kelly, presented them with Rachel Merlot on Feb 9, 2001.

James and Rose Marie Ambrose Donovan will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov 7, 2009.

The Wildcats Roar

In future newsletters we hope to have:

- ...Vacation trips.
- ...Excerpts from the 1958 Red & White Review
- ...Biographies of two more classmates.
- ...Letters to the editor.
- ...Recipes from the reunion committee potluck meetings.
- ...Jokes, sayings.
- ...Responses to the opinion poll in this newsletter.

Seniors Release Legacy (an excerpt from the Red and White Review, May, 1958)

Rose Marie Ambrose-her pleasant smile to Sara Reinhart; Judy Jeffers-her pleasing personality to Merrily Tomko;
Dorine Panseri-vacant-one diplomats chair on world conditions, apply 4th period P.O.D.; George Wassel-his quietness to Robert Weber; Arlene Bissel-her laugh to Mary Ellen Hough; Mike Leco-his chemistry knowledge to next years' chemists; Thelma Wilson-leaves her permission to come late to geography class to any worthy latecomer.



Dedicated to Elaine Freycenet Edie
Oct. 17, 1940 – Dec. 29, 2008



Friends Forever
by Lois E. Williams

Being a good friend and having a good friend can enrich your days and bring you lifelong satisfaction. But friendships don't just happen -- they have to be created and nurtured. Like any other skill, building friendships has to be practiced. Even though we lived far apart, the silence and distance was woven into the texture of our true friendship.

Elaine and I first met at the age of 5 at vacation Bible school. We instantly took to one another and became as close as sisters. Throughout the years, we shared every joy, heartache and pain in our lives.

The last few years were especially difficult for her as she had several illnesses. In fact, she was very ill on the airplane and at the reunion. She mentioned to me that her greatest desire for 2008 was to attend the class reunion to see her friends and classmates. She also said that this might be her last trip to Pennsylvania.

Elaine was a successful business woman who owned and operated a day care center in New York and then later three floral shops in the Dallas area. Her Dallas shop was one of the larger and more popular shops in the area.

My true friend of 63 years will be missed, but I am so glad that her last desires were fulfilled. She wanted to see her friends one last time, and she wanted to be home with Jesus, free of the pain and suffering of our world.

She is survived by 5 Sons and 15 grandchildren



Classmates' Daughter is Author of a Best Seller

Michelle R. Donovan, daughter of James and Rose Marie Ambrose Donovan of Courtney, is a new bestselling author. Donovan and Ivan R. Misner announced that their new book, "The 29% Solution: 52 Weekly Networking Success Strategies" (Greenleaf, September 2008), broke through the ranks of fall business books to hit The Wall Street Journal's bestseller list. In September, it placed No. 1 over-all on Amazon.com, and Soundview Executive Book Summaries has announced plans to dub it "one of the top 30 business books of the year."

Donovan is known as "The Referability Expert" in Pittsburgh. She owns and operates Referral Institute in western Pennsylvania, specializing in referral marketing programs and personalized referral coaching.

**Grandson of Classmates
accepts Baseball Scholarship**

Corey Young, grandson of Eugene Haywood and Verna Villers Haywood and step-grandson of Norma Mountain Haywood has committed to Lafayette College. Corey has received an offer from the Lafayette Leopards for the 2009-2010 school year. He has an outstanding record as a pitcher for the Ringgold Rams. Corey is a member of the National Honor Society, Gifted Program, Debate Team and Mock Trial Team and carried a 3.64 GPA.



Do You Remember The 1950 Big Snow? By: Dennis Yerkey

1950: A pleasant Thanksgiving was the prospect on Wednesday, November 23, as the weather prediction was for a mild day on Thursday. Toward evening a light rain fell and froze as the temperature dropped, making the roads icy and driving hazardous. Early Friday a light snow began to fall as the temperature dropped. By three o'clock in the afternoon some office workers were dismissed from work in order to get home early. Some of these people were still sitting in street cars at four o'clock the next morning or even later. Others walked many miles to their destination. The weather reports were of little interest, as it was now a battle to find a way to get safely home. The snow continued the rest of Friday and all night and when the city woke on Saturday morning it was gripped as in a vise as forty inches (40 in) of snow had fallen. This was more than the whole

Photos from the 1983 Class Reunion at Seven Springs, Pa. by Bernice Schuster Pelligrini



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Tracking the Wildcats

4



By Robert "Bob" Roule



Judy Solomon Russell is another classmate that wound up in the sunny clime of Florida. She began life in Connellsville in July 1940 and today finds herself a resident of Port St. Lucie, Fla. Along the way there were stops at Riverview, Monongahela, Washington, D.C., and southern Maryland. Judy says, "My father was a steamfitter and we moved around a lot. " The Solomons made their home on Lucetta Drive, which is off Fourth Street Extension in Monongahela.

Judy married Charles Dodge Russell in 1957. She also had her eldest son, Paul, that year.

Judy was among the first carhops hired when Eat 'n Park opened in Monongahela. Dodges sister, Sally, was the first. Judy worked at Eat'n Park until 1961, the year Dodge mustered out of the Air Force. They moved to the nation's capital where they lived for a year and a half. When son Shawn was born, the family moved to a larger apartment in southern Maryland.

Judy worked in the accounting office of 7/Eleven and then moved on to work accounting department of the grocery chain, Giant Food Inc.

Her son Paul died in 1979 and her husband in 1999. A year later, Judy, Shawn and family moved to Florida. Judy says she and her significant other are just growing older together and taking one day at a time. "We never know when it is our time to go home."

On a closing note, Judy says, "On the 16th of January, my oldest grandson, Shawn Jr. (23) and his wife took me to dinner and told me that I was going to be a great-grandma in September. Now of course September cannot come soon enough."

I have been waiting for this news for 11 months. There is nothing better in this world than being a grandma. I think that being a great-grandma will be the same.

Photos reproduced by Priscilla Davis Webb

Changes and Corrections to Classmates Addresses and Email Adresses.

Gloria Aulicino Wineland
50 Carroll Way Marrick Manor
Monongahela, Pa 15063

James Rongaus
113 Happy Trails
Diamond, Illinois 60416

Joann Adametz Heckman
santa7@suddenlink.net

Judy Solomon Russell
8175 13th Hole Drive
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Dik Plymire
#98 775 W Roger Rd
Tucson, Az 85705

Bouncing Emails
The following emails no
longer work.

fabins@earthlink.net
badsikj@usd.net
meparish@bellatlantic.net
joan509@charter.com

Patricia Isaac Furiga
1946 East First ave
Mesa, AZ 85204

Linda Barkby Oates
103 Sarah St
Monongahela, Pa 15063

If you have changed your
email address, please send
the new one to Norma.

Marjorie McCarty Demchek
142 Wisebecker Lane
Monongahela PA 15063

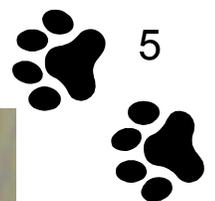
Marlene Caseber Heaps
719 Mantanzas Rd
Debary, Fl

Send additional changes to Priscilla Davis Webb





Tracking the Wildcats



Christine Skinkis McNeas



By Robert "Bob" Roule

Life is what you make of it, and for Christine Skinkis McNeas that means anything but being mediocre. Christine likes to live large and to meet challenges head-on.

Currently, she is the queen of The Red Hot Busch Babes, a Tampa chapter of the Red Hat Society. The Busch Babes selected their name because a number of the chapter members either work at Busch Gardens or live nearby. Christine says the group goes to the Gardens quite often.

Christine worked for a number of years in sewing factories at Brownsville, spending the last seven years at those factories as union president of local 999 Amalgamated Garment Workers of America. "I enjoyed the responsibility and hated to give that honor up, but, hey, all that Florida sunshine was just too much of a temptation."

She gave into temptation and moved to the Sunshine State 20 years ago, finding employment in the Tampa area at a boat canvas shop. Not content to work for someone else. Christine and two partners opened a boat canvas shop of their own -- All Marine Canvas Inc. Christine retired about four years ago and her former partners are still running the business.

Christine and husband, Craig, have been married for about nine years. She has two daughters, seven granddaughters, two great-granddaughters and three great-grandsons. "When I realize my daughter is a grandmother -- WOW! -- that makes me feel old."

Christine says, "I just enjoy life especially since I am a QUEEN. I just love saying that. How many people can say they have been president and Queen in their lifetime?"

On a more serious note, she says, "I have been very lucky in life. I have never been afraid to start over and face a new challenge, although I do hope it is smooth sailing from now on."

She has adopted the motto "As far as we know we only go through this life once. We should enjoy it and be as happy as we can without hurting others."

She could also paraphrase McDonald's slogan: "I'm having fun and lovin' it."

Photos reproduced by Priscilla Davis Webb

DON'T FORGET – YOU ARE THE NEWSLETTER!

Send your events, articles, biography to Norma NOW.

Opinion Poll

We'd like your input on these ideas.

- 1) In the interest of saving money on postage and printing, should we email newsletters to those folks with email addresses, rather than send via post office?
- 2) Should we ask classmates to notify Norma if they want to continue to receive the newsletter? Only those people interested will receive future newsletters.
- 3) Should we try for a get-together more often than every 5 years?

Q. How do you get a sweet little 80-year-old lady to say the "F" word?

A. Get another sweet little 80-year-old lady to yell, "BINGO".



By Judy Martin Leach

I don't know if you remember, but my mother, Rose Martin, was the first Crossing Guard at our old high school. She stood at the bottom of the ramp; therefore, heard all about anything I had done during the school day, usually several different versions. Oh, well, what can I say? I never told a lie, just admitted to whatever she had heard...nothing really that bad.

But this article, and those that may follow, are about her, not me. She was a unique person, a wonderful mother, but sometimes a little, what shall I call it, forgetful, inattentive; putting her own spin on it? She could drive us crazy. Consequently, some of the things she did were funny.

My first story concerns a time after I was married and had the 5 kids. She had moved to Fairless Hills in the mid-60s and moved back in the mid-70s after my father retired from U.S. Steel, Fairless Hills works.

She said she was bored and needed something to occupy her time and get her out of the house. She then offered to come to my house, a few blocks away, and clean and cook dinner for all of us, her and my father included. She picked Friday as her "day out," as she called it. (Not my idea of a day out.) She would come after we had all left the house for work or school. She changed 7 beds, (Bill and I had decided to get twin beds as he got up earlier than I did), dusted, vacuumed, cleaned the bathroom and kitchen, and started dinner. She was a dynamo!

Several months after she had been having her "day out," I was standing at my kitchen sink and noticed my cafe curtains seemed to be missing quite a bit of the ball fringe. I asked her if she knew what happened. Of course, she said no; only to tell me she washed the curtains every third week or so. SHE HAD WASHED THE BALLS OFF MY CURTAINS!!!

I bought new, plain ones and asked her to please not launder them so often. I know how ungrateful that sounds, but she was also wearing out my kitchen throw rugs, brooms, using more vacuum bags than I ever had, and running up my water bill. She was not only a "neat freak," she was a cleaning whirlwind and couldn't stand clutter. But, boy could she cook! My mom, the female Mr. Clean.



Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, wine in the other, totally worn out and yelling, "WOO HOO, what a ride!"



Reunion Committee Potluck Recipe from Priscilla Davis Webb

STUFFED CABBAGE CASSEROLE

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 1/2# ground beef | 1 clove garlic finely chopped or put through garlic press |
| 2 eggs well beaten | 1/2# mild sausage |
| 1 tsp salt | 1 large onion finely chopped |
| 1 cup rice (instant or regular) | 1/2 tsp pepper |

Mix above ingredients and make balls.

1/2 head of cabbage separated and spread in bottom of dutch oven, put balls on cabbage or spread the meat mixture over the cabbage and cover with another layer of cabbage. You will need more than half a head if you cover with cabbage.

1 cup beef broth

2 cups tomato juice

2 cans tomato soup

Mix together and pour over meat and cabbage. Cover and bake 2 hours at 325. You may need to salt and pepper to taste.

I make the same thing with peppers. You could also do this in a dutch oven on top of the stove but would need to use a low heat and cook longer. I sometimes just use ground beef 90% fat free and no sausage.

This freezes well and makes about 6 meals for us. With one of the frozen packages, I break up the meat and add a cup of beef broth and a can of tomato soup and make stuffed cabbage soup or stuffed pepper soup



Wildcat Rambles



Linda Gayhart Heimbuecher, on her trip to China

In October, 1992, Mary Louise Hoff McCahill and I took a trip to China with four other women. We first flew to San Francisco and stayed with my sister-in-law Vonna Heimbuecher, who invited us on this trip. The six of us then flew to Honolulu for two days, then off to China. While in Hawaii, Gary Wassel took Maru, Louise and I to dinner and bought us leis. It was great to see him again.

Our first stop was Beijing. We climbed the steep Great Wall, toured the Temple of Heaven, Ming Tomb, Pandas at the zoo, the Imperial Summer Palace and Tiananmen Square, where we were quite the celebrities.

A group of tourists from Thailand asked to have their pictures taken with us. Then a young Korean girl asked if we would have our pictures taken with her. She paid a professional photographer to do it.

We then flew to Xian where we saw the 6,000 life size Terra Cotta Warriors and the Huaqing Palace and enjoyed an evening of Tang-style song and dance.

Our next trip was to Guilin. We explored the magnificent Reed Flute Cave and spent the day on a boat ride down the Li River. The scenery along the river was breathtaking and it was interesting to see how the people lived.

We then flew to Guonghou, where we toured the city, went to Seven Rams Park and to a pagoda. We took a train to Hong Kong.

During our stay in China we had a national guide who was with us 24 hours a day. In each city, we had a local guide. We were on our own in Hong Kong. We took the tram to Victoria Peak for a panoramic view of Kowloon and Hong Kong.

Then we went on a sanpan ride across the harbor.

That evening we went to dinner at the famous "Jumbo" floating restaurant and our next two days were spent shopping. Most of us got the majority of our Christmas shopping done. Many people come from the United States yearly for the shopping alone.

We then flew to Seoul, Korea. We had a tour of the city, where we saw the Kyongbok Palace and the Folklore Museum. In the evening we saw a Korean folk dance and show.

We then flew to Honolulu for two days, San Francisco for two days and back to Pennsylvania. Home sweet home.

It was a fantastic trip.



Letters to the Editor
(Wildcat Litterbox)



See photos at
<http://mhsreunion.myphotoalbum.com>

8

My husband and I want to thank all of you who had a part in putting together our 50th class reunion. It was the best ever! My husband, Bob, loves our reunions!

We were so fortunate to have had so many wonderful people around us at such a special time in our lives. I feel very fortunate to have been a part of Monongahela's Class of "58". Thanks to you, Bob and Dennis for putting together a fantastic newsletter.

Connie Mamie Vlah

I just finished going through the reunion pictures on the website. Found Bernice and a few others I wondered about. Most still had some traits from the last time I had seen them. Fran Carden still resembles what I remembered, as well as Gaynell, Joy, and Phyllis.. Thank you Dennis for the work on the website.

Judy Solomon Russell

Seeing everyone, and spending time with some of my classmates that i have not seen in 50 years, was quite a treat. Most everyone looked to be in good health considering our 65 to 70 years on earth.

Looking forward to our next reunion in 3 to 5 years

Ron & Marie Guydan

I was glad to see Verna(Villers Haywood). She seemed to do well. Rosemarie (Ambrose Donovan) sure takes good care of her. And Rosemarie looked fantastic. One of the prettiest ones there, I thought. My son couldn't get over Mrs Tucker being our teacher. He commented she looked younger than some of my classmates.

Sondra Kennell Katnik

Don't forget, when you hear news about classmates or have some of your own you'd like to share, or anything you want to contribute, send it to Norma NOW. Don't wait! We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

I was disappointed I could not attend our 50th reunion; but after seeing the memory book, class photo and other pictures that were taken, it seemed like I was there! The Reunion Committee certainly outdid themselves planning and executing a highly successful event enjoyed by all! We have a unique class and I am proud to be a part of it. It is my sincere hope we will always remain in touch and continue to share our experiences.

Rosemary Bindi Sanderson

It was so nice receiving the newsletter. I'm really looking forward to the next one!

Thelma Wilson Lutes

So glad that I am going to get the DVD. I just had my son in law make the last videotape into a DVD so I would have a back up. Hopefully, these can be duplicated.

I am sure Dennis has put in hours and hours of work. He could probably not be thanked enough for doing it. Thank him anyhow. It is much appreciated work and I am glad to hear it is so well done.

Paige Lynne Reilly

In a Christmas card I received from the Gerbocs, John and Elaine thanked us for the wonderful job we did on the reunion.

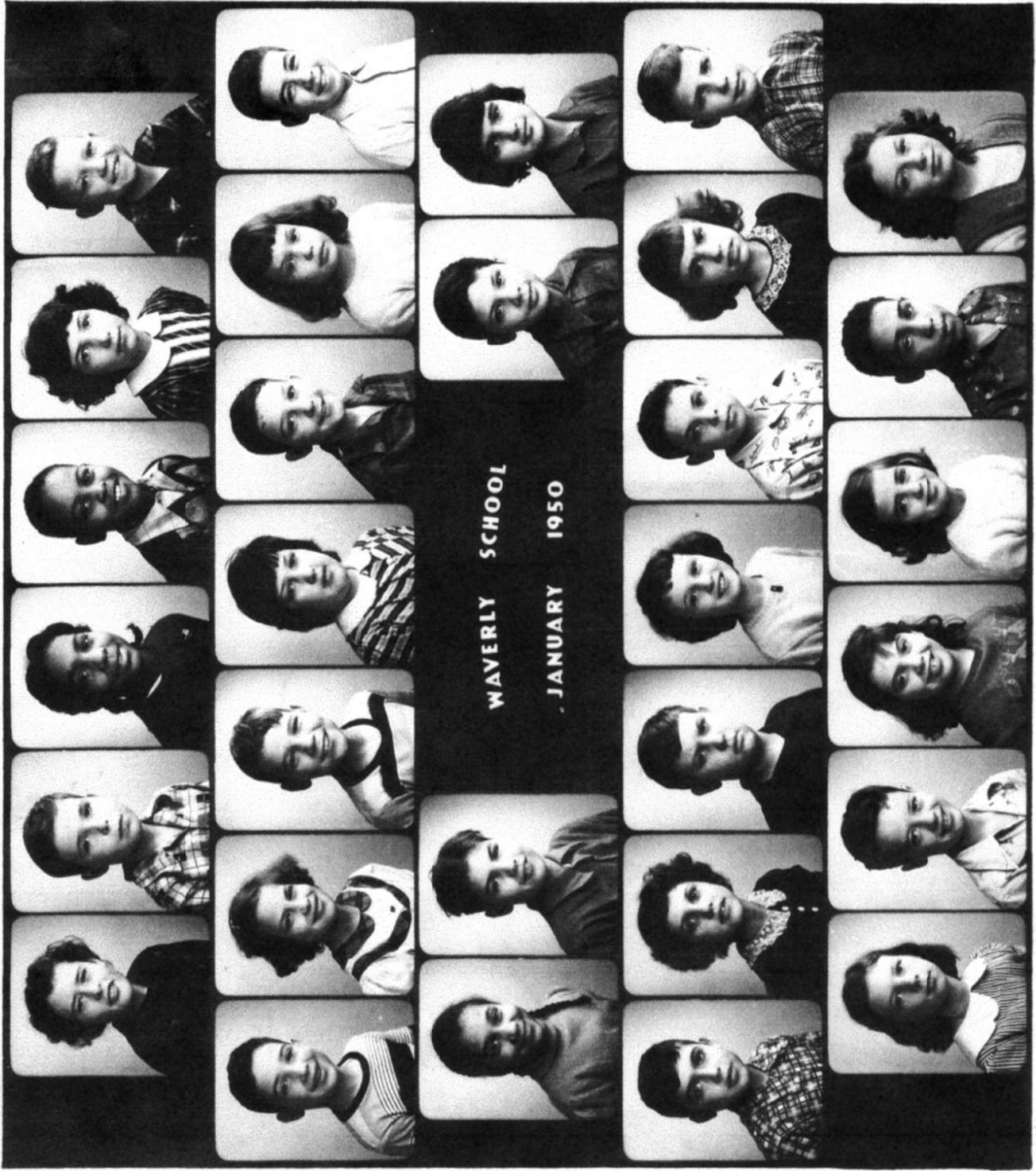
Bob Roule

Again, a great job was done by all. Dave Burya mentioned that his wife said she enjoyed this reunion more than any other. He also commented that Friday night was the best as everyone sat around and told stories. I always did think the hospitality room on Friday night and Saturday afternoon was the best time at the reunions. Everyone was so relaxed and friendly. It is more formal at the Saturday night affair with dancing, speeches, etc. I do hope we all get together again soon. I told Dennis I would see him next year and he gave me a funny look. I then said "how about two years then?"

Linda Gayhart Heimbuecher



809



WAVERLY SCHOOL
JANUARY 1950