



# MHS Class of 1958 Newsletter October 2012

website: [www.mhs1958.org](http://www.mhs1958.org)



## **Fall Frolic**

**by Judy Martin Leach**

Another get together luncheon was held by the class at Hey Andys recently. The fun started at 2 p.m. and lasted till around 6 p.m. Attending were: Don Pender, Priscilla Davis Webb, Barbara Williams Jackson, Dorine Panseri, Mary Dawson Nasim, Norma Mountain Haywood, Gaynell Sheperd, Mary Etta Petras Mayak, John and Joy Bellicini, Judy Martin Leach, Bob Hunter, Beatrice Christina Bradford, Dennis Yerkey, Connie Mamie Vlah, Coleen Gavaghan Christy, JoAnn Drechsler Badzik, Don and Bernice Pelligrini, Wilson Walters, Marcia Papak Brown, and Shirley Jurofcik Amon, and eight guests.

We all enjoyed a half-hour open bar and hors d'oeuvres, prepared by Marge Hunter and Beatrice Christina Bradford, while catching up with one another. A hot buffet was served, followed by a cake with pineapple-walnut filling. (Bob Roule always requests we have this as it was his personal favorite while living in town.) We didn't have to contend with a Steeler game so that made the conversation and mingling the high-light of the day.

We sold chances for half-the-take, won by Shirley (Jurofcik), which she graciously donated to the class.

We also talked about the upcoming reunion in 2013 to be held on October 5th, 6th and 7th at the Crowne Plaza. The reunion will be scaled back some...the main banquet being the only planned event on the schedule. This gives more time for just having a good time reconnecting with those we have not seen for some time.

We're hoping for entertainment at the reunion to be performed by the classmates: sing, dance, tell jokes, or whatever your specialty is. Dennis Yerkey and Connie Mamie performed a jitterbug demonstration warm-up at the luncheon, which brought a round of applause from all.

It's always nice to see classmates, as high school was a great experience for most of us.

Hope to see you at the 2013 event. More info will be forthcoming as things move along.

## **Congratulations John Allen**

I just received an email from John Allen. He and his wife, Patty, are looking forward to attending the 55th reunion next year.

John is being inducted into the Ringgold Hall of Fame on Nov. 3, 2012.

Hear Hear. Proud of you. Pat Hillman Peters

Congratulations and best wishes on being inducted into the Ringgold Hall of Fame on Nov. 3rd! Your classmates are very proud of you!  
Rosemary Bindi Sanderson

How nice for John. I worked with his father at Mitchell Power Station for 5 years. How proud his dad would have been!!!  
Mary Lou Baxter Russell

I think this deserves a big round of applause from his classmates.

John Allen

1225 Plantation Lake Circle

Chesapeake, VA 23320

His email address is

[froose8@cox.net](mailto:froose8@cox.net)

## **Thank You From John**

Please let me thank all of the class of 58 that sent me emails of congratulations. I have gotten so many and have been so busy traveling that I have not had the opportunity to thank each person individually.

This is a great honor and very humbling, especially considering those that have already been inducted.

The ceremony will be held at the Ringgold High cafeteria starting a 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM on November 3, 2012. Tickets can be obtained at DeVore's Hardware in Mon City.

Again, thanks to all my terrific classmates that have been so supportive. Patty and I are very appreciative and proud to be MHS graduates.

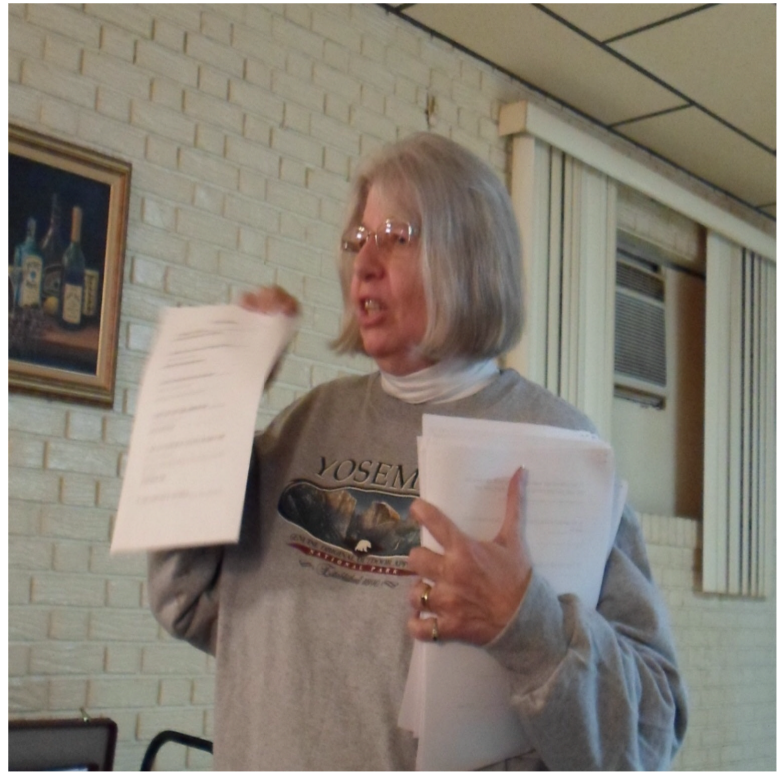
John Allen

**Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.**

PHOTOS FROM THE FALL FROLIC SEPT 30, 2012



Bob Hunter



Norma Haywood Mountain



Connie Mamie Vlah and Dennis Yerkey dance.  
Priscilla Davis Webb looks on.



Marge and Bea present 50/50 winnings to Shirley Jurofcik Afton. Shirley donated the money back to the class.



Joy Gandley Bellicini, Ray and Coleen Gavaghan Christy.

*I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour.. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.*





Don and Bernice Schuster Pelligrini, John Bellicini. Mary Etta Petras Mayak in background.



Don Pender talking to Judy Martin Leach. Eugene Haywood in the background.



Wilson Walters and wife, Joan.



Mary Dawson Nasim (on the right) and friend., Liz Reisinger

### **Men are not equipped for these kinds of contests.**

"Cash, check or charge?" I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase. As she fumbled for her wallet, I noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse. 'So, do you always carry your TV remote?' I asked. 'No,' she replied, 'but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally.'

I'll never understand how a woman can take boiling hot wax, pour it onto her upper thigh, rip the hair out by the root, and still be afraid of a spider.

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, 'Relatives of yours?' 'Yep,' the wife replied, 'in-laws.'

A man said to his wife one day, 'I don't know how you can be so stupid and so beautiful all at the same time. The wife responded, 'Allow me to explain. God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me. God made me stupid so I would be attracted to you!'

God may have created man before woman, but there is always a rough draft before the masterpiece .

# LETTERS

from **BILL BARKEY** August 17, 2012

Dear Norma,

I have now received two newsletters that Judy M. Leach sent me. So I guess old Bill Barkey better write and let everyone know what I've been doing for the past 54 years.

I entered the U.S. Air Force Aug 15, 1958 and served for 22 years and 16 days and retired as a Master Sergeant. I had stateside assignments in Texas, Arkansas, Montana, Indiana and South Carolina. I also had two tours in Spain and one to Thailand. On my first tour to Spain I met my wife, Teresa, and a year later we were married. We celebrated our 51st anniversary June 17, 2012. We have two sons, Bill, also retired USAF and Alex, who has been in the USAF for 15 1/2 years. He is a crew chief on C-130 Cargo Planes at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. A third son passed away when we were in Montana. We have two grandsons and one great grandson. Eric is married and lives and works in Alabama. Spencer is married and is in the Air Force and is stationed in Florida. They have one son, Skyler, 4 years old.

Spencer will soon be going to Afghanistan. This is my family.

After I retired from the USAF I worked for 7 years as a produce manager in a local supermarket. I then moved on to the South Carolina Dept of Transportation Lower State Sign Shop. After a year I was promoted to supervisor of the silk screen operation and assistant shop foreman. I retired from there in 2004 after 17 years.

In 1972 my wife, Teresa, became a U.S. citizen.

I hope to write again and let you all know about my travels while in the Air Force and famous people I've met.

I'm sorry to hear that some of our classmates are passing away.

If anyone would like to write or call me, my phone and address are:

Bill J. Barkey

5315 Eva St

Charleston, S.C. 29418

1-843-552-9075

from **Bill Barkey** Sept 19, 2012 (note - I sent Bill all of the past newsletters)

Hi Norma,

Thank you for the update newsletters. I've read them several times and learn more each time. And like before, I'm sorry to hear even more of our classmates have passed away.

I guess I'm lucky. I have survived a head on car wreck, cancer and in 2005 a diabetic coma of 21 days. I was given 3 hours to live, but here I am, still kicking, but not like before.

This past June and July I had cataract surgery on both my eyes and now can see 100% better.

My youngest grandson called last night and said he is leaving for Afghanistan tomorrow, Sept 20, 2012, We can only hope all goes well for him.

I don't have an email address.

I would like to receive more newsletters in the future. I'll be writing more later on.

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from **Ron Fedorchak**

You have my correct email but you may not have my current address. I enjoy following the news from Monongahela and MHS.

Current address:

Ronald Fedorchak 7308 Moon Rock Road Austin, TX 78739 email [ronfe01@yahoo.com](mailto:ronfe01@yahoo.com)

One (1) year today (September 1) we arrived in Austin, TX to be with both our kids and our first grand child, what a joy she is for us. Since I have only attended one planned class function many years ago, I thought it would be nice if I submitted a re-acquaintance email stating that I am alive and very well and cover what I have been doing all those past years.

Sincerely,

Ron

From Linda Gayhart Heimbuecher

Here is something for your next newsletter. My daughter-in-law and I were at Sam's Club on a Saturday when they have people handing out samples of different items. We knew one of the women so stopped to talk to her. As we were walking away, my daughter-in-law and granddaughter were ahead of me, I said "i should get a job doing that." My daughter-in-law turned around and said "You have to be friendly to do it." I was stunned. I said to her that I was friendly. We got to laughing as she thought I meant my autistic granddaughter who doesn't talk. I went to lunch with 3 women I use to work with. I was telling them and before I got to tell them that Cathy meant Diane, one woman said I was one of the friendliest people she knew and another said I was the Pearl Mesta of our company, having fun and keeping everyone happy. Then I told them that Cathy meant Di. We had a good laugh. One of the woman knows my daughter-in-law and when I told them, she said she couldn't imagine Cathy saying something like that. I have told this story many times and always get a laugh.

**Priscilla Bartko Interviewed by Dee Galiffa**  
by Robert Roule

Priscilla Bartko Parker was interviewed on a California radio show last August.  
Priscilla, president of the We Remember Elvis fan club, talked with the host of the Horace Winkk Dusty Disc Show during radio station KCAA's Elvis Celebration Week. The station has studios at San Bernardino.  
And giving that evening's show an all-Monongahela flavor, Horace Winkk is the alter ego of Dee Galiffa. Galiffa was graduated from Monongahela High in 1957. He played baseball and basketball while in high school and later spun records at various dances in the Mid-Monongahela Valley and on WESA in Charleroi. His California radio show is broadcast each Sunday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. (PST) on KCAA and can be heard over the internet.  
Priscilla makes her home in Pittsburgh and along with being president of We Remember Elvis produces a bimonthly newsletter for the club.

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I did know about Pat's involvement (extensive) with the Kings Fan Club. She and I have managed to keep in touch through the years. This was fun to listen into. She and hubby Don are a great couple. Long Live The KING!!! Mary Lou Baxter Russell

*I've sure gotten old!*

*I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore.*

*Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92.*

*Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.*

**Another Kennywood Memory**

My first memories were of taking the train with Mom, Gram and Grandpap, and some of my aunts. My dad and uncles would come after they got off from work; this way we all had a ride home from the park. Walking up that hill was a lark at our age. We, too, took a change of clothes for nighttime. But you had to wash up first in one of the bathrooms, as there was so much soot from the mills. We rode everything and played the games. One time I went with an aunt and uncle...I remember meeting Guy Williams. He played Zorro on an old television program. He gave me a hug and kiss. That made my 13 year old heart flutter. As I grew older, Bill and I would go together. We usually bought the same shirt so no one would mistake that we were a couple. Later, we took our kids and had just as much fun. Kennywood changed over the years, but it was always for the better. I have only been there once since Bill passed; it just isn't as much fun without him; but the memories live on.

Judy Martin Leach

**Some of the artists of the 60's are revising their hits** with new lyrics to accommodate aging baby boomers who can remember doing the "Limbo" as if it were yesterday.

They include:

Bobby Darin --- Splish Splash this is my bath  
Herman's Hermits --- Mrs. Brown, You've Got a  
Lovely Walker

The Bee Gees --- How Can You Mend A Broken  
Hip?

Roberta Flack--- The First Time Ever I Forgot  
Your Face

Johnny Nash --- I Can't See Clearly Now

Paul Simon--- Fifty Ways To Lose Your Liver

Leo Sayer ---

You Make Me Feel Like Napping

Abba--- Denture Queen

## **WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT STEELER FOOTBALL?**

We hear the sportscasters say that the Steeler fans will travel anywhere. While some do travel, perhaps the fact is that many fans are already there.

Being a Steeler fan means so much more than football. It means being from a corner of the world unlike any other. It means being from a place where the people are so tough-minded that they have survived the Homestead strikes, the Johnstown flood and most recently the Etna Floods.

These people have the DNA of hard work, in mills and mines, without the necessity of complaint. They live simply, with no frills. They don't have movie stars or fancy cars. Instead, they have simple traditions like kielbasa, Kennywood, and celebrations. They live in distinctive neighborhoods like Polish Hill and the Hill District and all of the surrounding counties. These people are genuine. They don't have chic internet cafes and cappuccinos, but they have The Original Hot Dog joint, Primanti's, Eat n' Park and Iron City Beer.

People from Pittsburgh don't have sunny beaches or fancy boats, but the rivers roll gently, connecting the small towns of people whose histories have been built on strength and humility. People from Pittsburgh don't have the biggest shopping malls or the best nightclubs, but they'll take Friday night high school football and Steeler Sunday over anything.

Steeler football means so much more than you think. It symbolizes a Diaspora of generations who had the best childhood they could imagine. They ran free without a care or concern in the valleys of those Allegheny Mountains. Their blue-collar world was easy ... there was no one to tell them that they lacked material things. There was no one to tell them that they needed more.

As the steel mills closed and the jobs disappeared, some of these people had to leave. While the world benefits because they spread their Pittsburgh values, they long for their home where things were simpler and more pure.

They teach their kids about Jack Lambert, Lynn Swann, Terry Bradshaw, Franco Harris, Jack Ham, L.C. Greenwood, Joe Greene, and Myron Cope in hopes of imparting not just the knowledge, but the feeling that they represented.

They are everywhere, those Terrible Towels. They wave, not just for the team, but for the hearts they left behind.

They wave in living rooms in Nashville, Fort Lauderdale and in the bars of Washington, D.C. They wave all the way to the Seattle Superdome! They wave for the Rooney family, whose values mirror our own - loyalty, grit, and humility.

They wave for football players like Jerome Bettis and Hines Ward, whose unselfishness and toughness have allowed sports to be about the game and the team.

Even if you no longer live in the area, you have South Western Pennsylvania in your blood no matter where you go.

And deep down in your heart of hearts, you can still hear the Super Bowls of times past, the excitement in everyone's voices especially our fathers, cousins, and anyone else who gathered around the TV on Football Sundays!

Make no mistake, it's just as exciting right now! It's not just about rivalries and who is better than the other, it's about family, tradition and roots! It's more than football, but its football at its finest! If you now live in Arizona, Colorado, Ohio, Indiana, California, Florida, Nevada or Tennessee, be proud of where you were born and who your FIRST favorite football team was!



## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FROM

PRISCILLA DAVIS WEBB

The 55th reunion is next year and a surprise is planned using pictures, but if no pictures are submitted, no surprise!!!! If you have a picture of yourself you would like added please send it to me at the address below. I will return your pictures if you want them back, either at the reunion or by mail. Suggestions are pictures from college graduation, military, wedding, anniversary, special event, etc. No high school senior or reunion photos please).

Priscilla Webb

2250 Lancelot Dr.

North Huntingdon, Pa 15642

b1d2grammy@aol.com

### On the Road to Recovery

You will be happy to hear that Rose Marie Ambrose Donovan's back surgery on Sept 19, 2012, went well. Rose asked me to thank those of you who sent her cards and prayers.

Rose Donovan

370 Courtney Hill Rd

New Eagle Pa 15067

jandrdonovan@verizon.net

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I am home and recovering well. I have pain but not enough to take the pain pills. I do want to thank everyone for their e-mails. The kind words and prayers meant so much to me. I appreciated hearing from my classmates as they are a special group.

Linda Gayhart Heimbuecher

### Sympathy

Our most sincere condolences to:

Janice Briscoe on the loss of her daughter,  
Deneen Anne on August 10, 2012.

Rosemary Bindi Sanderson on the death of  
her husband, Allan on Sept 10, 2012.

Ronald Milton on the loss of his wife,  
Bonne, on Sept 18, 2012.

### In memory of George "Pat" Young.

Judy Martin Leach recently donated a book to the Monongahela Library on behalf of the MHS Class of 1958.

### Burned Biscuits (submitted by Paige Reilly)

When I was a kid, my Mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work.. On that evening so long ago, my Mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed!

Yet all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my Mom and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit. He ate every bite of that thing... never made a face nor uttered a word about it!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my Mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burned biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times. Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm one and not the best at hardly anything. I speak out opinions when I shouldn't, miss a chance to say a kind word when I should, forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else and a bunch of other stuff, too. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults and choosing to celebrate each other's differences - is one of the most important keys to creating a growing, healthy, loving, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today... that you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

"Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket - keep it in your own."

So, please pass me a biscuit, and yes, the burned one will do just fine.

(author unknown)

### **Change That Date!**

.....That you had saved for our 55<sup>th</sup> high school reunion.

I'm so sorry. The hotel called Judy and told her they had made a mistake on the availability of the date we had previously selected in October 2013.

### **SAVE THIS DATE INSTEAD!**

**October 5, 6, 7 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday)**

**CROWN PLAZA PITTSBURGH-SOUTH**

**164 FORT COUCH ROAD**

**PITTSBURGH, PA 15421**

The hotel is centrally located across from South Hills Village Mall. You will be near to shopping, movieplex, restaurants, casino and the T-light mass transit rail system. Senior citizens ride the T free, by showing their Medicare card, to downtown, Station Square, Rivers Casino and Heinz Field. A hotel shuttle is also available.

The hotel was recently remodeled with outdoor pool and free Wi-Fi access. It is 17 miles from Monongahela and 19 miles from Pittsburgh International Airport.

You may check in Friday (if necessary) or Saturday after 3 p.m. – hospitality room Saturday evening – snacks and drinks.

Banquet Sunday afternoon - hors d'oeuvres along with a cash bar at 5 p.m.

Buffett dinner at 6 p.m. Hospitality room Sunday evening.

Open-night-mike entertainment. Any classmate may participate. For instance, one of our members is going to give a brief history and demonstration of the jitterbug. A couple of ladies are going to do a skit involving two old women talking about growing older. Think about what you would like to do to contribute to the evening!

You are on your own for all meals except the banquet. The hotel has a nice restaurant and there are many restaurants nearby.

Casual dress for all activities.

Anyone reserving a room needs to mention Monongahela Class of 1958 to get the rate of \$119. Rooms are available with one king size or two queen-size beds. Cut off date for the special price is Sept. 5, 2013. After that, it's the going rate. It is better to book a room and cancel later than to wait and not be able to get a room at the special rate.

It is also a possibility that the hotel may be hosting a special event that we can attend either Friday or Saturday evening. It is too early for them to give us a definite on this.

More information on costs later.

As usual, any donations are graciously accepted.

Chairperson – Judy Leach 504 Jackson St Monongahela, Pa 15063 [bandj11@comcast.net](mailto:bandj11@comcast.net)

Website – [www.mhs1958.org](http://www.mhs1958.org) Dennis Yerkey – [d.yerkey@comcast.net](mailto:d.yerkey@comcast.net)

Email and post office address additions and/or changes – Priscilla Davis Webb [b1d2grammy@aol.com](mailto:b1d2grammy@aol.com).

Hope to see you in 2013!

Norma normajh88@gmail.com

### **Open Mic Night**

As mentioned in Judy's article on the front page, and above, we are planning an open mic night at the 55th reunion next year. If you want to sing, play a musical instrument, dance, tell jokes, share funny stories, read a poem you have written, now is your chance! We all know that our class was a very talented one. Let's prove it! Shine your dancing shoes, read up on the joke book you keep in the bathroom, practice your singing voice. Let's hear it from the class of 1958!