

A Classmate Reunion ?
by Dennis Yerkey
RAYMOND RACUNAS

"Monongahela High School Class of '58" were the words spoken by the president of the Washington Camera Club to a rather surprised Dennis Yerkey as Dennis entered Room 104 in the Washington County Courthouse Square Office Building this past September.

Dennis had been invited to attend a Washington Camera Club meeting by Lou Farkos, a personal friend and a longtime member of the camera club. Another longtime member, and serving as the president of the club, Ray Racunas, had a definite advantage over Dennis because within the previous weeks, Ray viewed the 50th Reunion video and recognized Dennis as soon as he walked into the room. This was the beginning of the personal reunion of the two classmates after a fifty-year period.

Ray was not able to attend the class reunion due to a commitment to a previously planned vacation, but he did send a monetary contribution to the committee during its planning phase. Ray said, "I was really surprised and pleased when the unexpected DVD arrived. It was the next best thing to being there.

"The quality is excellent, and the entire production was very well done. I do a little DVD making myself with some of my travel photos, so I'm very aware of all of the time and effort it takes to put something like this together."

Dennis joined the camera club and became an active member. Ray and Dennis now get to see each other twice a month at the meetings.

Ray says the only downside so far was when Dennis brought in two 8 x10 enlargements of their high school senior pictures that Dennis extracted from the Flame and showed them at the camera club's Christmas party.

To bring you up to date on Ray Racunas' activities during the past 50 years, Ray went to California State College and the University of Pittsburgh. He taught school in the Trinity Area School District for 35 years. He retired from teaching in 1998. During that time, Ray was active in the teachers' union and was president of that organization for five years. Ray was the union president when Trinity went through a 42-day strike in 1976.

Ray met his wife, Nancy, also a former Trinity teacher, while teaching at Trinity. They have been married for 38 years and reside in South Franklin Township.

In addition to photography, Ray's interests center around family activities, attempting to master the game of golf, traveling, gardening and just plain enjoying retirement. He also serves on the Zoning Hearing Board of South Franklin Township.

Ray sends his best wishes to all of the Class of 1958.

PRISCILLA DAVIS WEBB

by Robert Roule

Max and Priscilla Davis Webb began a 48 year journey together when they eloped to Winchester, Va., on Aug. 22, 1960.

Priscilla was recently graduated as a medical secretary from Business Training College (now Point Park University at Pittsburgh).

The Webbs had a baby boy on Nov. 11, 1962, who died the following day. Priscilla says the joy of their lives, Pamela, was born to them on July 19, 1964. Pamela married at age 20 and is now a widow. She has two sons, ages 13 and 19 and Priscilla says, "They are our greatest the delight." Pam is presently going to college, majoring in accounting and works part time in the computer lab there.

Priscilla worked a few months at Bobbie Brooks in Washington, Pa. in 1963. She then became a stay-at-home mom until Pam reached the age of 12. After that, she says, "Medical transcription was the name of the game for more than 18 years." She retired from Medical Records in 1965 "at my husband's request and I was tired of the office dodo to put it nicely."

Priscilla dabbles in all sorts of crafts, machine knitting and she's presently quilting. She also has dabbled in genealogy for almost 20 years. She says that any James; Jacobus; Devore; James and Nancy Martin; Joseph Lessig; Abraham Davis; John Morris, and John Waugh descendants out there wishing to compare notes, please contact her at b1d2grammy@aim.com or by snail mail at 2250 Lancelot Drive, North Huntingdon, Pa. 15642



MHS CLASS of 1958



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70th Birthday Bash Contest

We are having a "Senior Saying" contest at the Birthday Bash in September. We'd like each of you to submit your favorite sayings about us senior citizens, to be judged at the party. You don't have to attend to enter. The prize is \$25.00. People at the party will be the judges. If you plan to attend, send your submission to Judy with your check. If you cannot attend and wish to enter, just send your entry to Judy. Her address is on the enclosed flyer.

What's Happenin'

Anniversaries

Jane McNamee and John Lengyel - 50 years - Feb 2010

Rose Campbell and Edward Kukovich - 50 years - Sept 2009

Priscilla Davis and Max Webb - 50 years August, 2010

In Jan, 2010, Dennis Yerkey regained his FAA medical and pilot's license after bypass. A rare feat indeed. Rumor has it that he wore down the FAA chief medical examiner in Oklahoma with his persistence and tenacity. The pilot's license is a life long thing, but you need a physical every year. As you get older, the medical is the tough one. Not too many with bypass get it back.

Sondra Kennell Katnik and her daughter, Autumn, toured Spain last summer. They visited the Costa Del Sol, Madrid and Barcelona.

Jane and John Lengyel plan a boat cruise in Europe this summer.

Maybe we can get Jane and Sondra to write articles about these fabulous vacations.

From Ellen Brice Robinson

Hi Norma,
It was good to hear from you....I keep saying I am going to give you an update (smiles) I have been fine....just enjoying my G-kids.

MHS Reunion in Florida

by Sarah Jane Reinhardt
class of 59

Three members of the Monongahela High School Class of 1958 joined 47 others at the Mon Valley Day Reunion at Largo, Fla.

Pete Donina, Coleen Gavaghan Christy and Christine Skinkis McNees took part at the reunion at Stacey's Buffet on Feb. 27.

Sarah Jane Reinhardt Christopher, Class of 1959, who has attended the past five Florida reunions, said she understood that the Mon Valley group has been meeting on the last Saturday in February for almost 30 years at Stacey's Buffet. Lou Sepe was the master of ceremonies and he entertained the gathering with a song.

Donina, in Henny Youngman fashion, enlightened the group with the observation that "The best thing about the Cash for Clunkers program is that it got all of the Obama stickers off the road."

Sarah Jane reported that the day before the reunion, 14 of her classmates were part of 33 people who gathered at the Christopher home for a classmates' party.

Request From Priscilla

Priscilla would like you to send your birthdates and anniversaries to her so any of our classmates who wish to share the event with you can send a card or email. Her email address is B1d2grammy@aim.com. Her mailing address is Priscilla Davis Webb 2250 Lancelot Dr. North Huntingdon, Pa 15642

Condolences

Our most sincere sympathy to Gaynell Sheperd on the death of her mother, Roberta G. Sheperd Feb 9, 2010.