

SNIPPETS #10 NOVEMBER 2009

“Let’s hear it for the boy.” We all knew that boy in school who stood out from the rest. He wasn’t your boyfriend or prom date, but he was special. He was the one you could always call on to help you out. He drove you home on snowy days. He drove you to the movies. He drove you crazy. He helped you study. He was the class brain. He was the class clown. He had more detentions than anyone else. He never missed a class. You could cry on his shoulder. You could play hockey together at 3 am. The mention of his name today brings a smile, a cringe, a laugh, a faraway look. His face always ended up in the cake. He made the winning touchdown. He was a friend, a confidant, a mensch. We all had that boy in our lives. This issue is dedicated to that boy who helped make high school a wonderful memory. I wonder where he is today and if he knows what an impact he had on my life. “Let’s hear it for the boy.”

We have had a request to find Despi Gianopulos (64). Can anyone help out with some leads? It’s interesting where a name or city can lead. Put on your thinking caps.

It has been so much fun finding people and hearing their reconnecting stories. Bobbie Lerner Levan (65) was in her Jewish room online when she met a chatter who lived in Albany Park. While he didn’t go to Roosevelt he and his family were good friends with Leah (64) and Rochelle Hertz (63) and Harry Guterman (65) and their families. He lost touch with them around 1964 and asked Bobbie if she could help him find them. Bobbie sent me the leads and when I contacted Leah she was very excited to learn her old friend was looking for her. They have exchanged many emails and have had a great time reconnecting. Leah is married and owns her own design firm and lives in the northern Illinois suburbs. Welcome to Snippets Leah.

Bobbie wants everyone back in Chicago to know she finally quit smoking. She stopped about 4 months ago and is feeling great. She is very happy to be smoke free and her hubby is thrilled. Way to go Bobbie.....good for you!

Congratulations to Lee Mishkin(68) and his new band ***THE LIMITATIONS***. They made their debut at Strawberry Fest in Long Grove on June 27. Good for you Lee, be sure to keep us informed of your upcoming gigs so we can join in the fun.

Pam Lindenbaum Lewkovich (65) didn’t go to Roosevelt but she has lots of Roosevelt friends from her days at Bateman. She was very sad to hear of Harry Guterman’s passing and sends condolences to his family. She hopes to reconnect with Ruth Larkin Dunham(65).

Joel Weber (64) continues to enjoy his grandson Isaac. Being a grandparent is a special kind of high. Joel and his wife welcome their 25 year old daughter Mika back home for a bit.

Rich Bernard enjoyed reading the last issue of Snippets and recognized several names. If you want to reconnect with Rich let me know.

Michelle Villano Hernandez(66) wants to say hi to Mike Scafide. Seems Mike was her first unofficial boyfriend. Remember those basement parties we used to have? Michelle was at one of those at Mike's house the night Buddy Holly and Richie Valens were killed. All the girls cried and everyone slow danced to **OH DONNA**. Mike was a real sweetie.....he would help Michelle do her chores so she could come out and play. What a guy! Michelle remembers her good friend Barbara Salisbury(66). They both liked George Pope and Michelle gave him up for Barbara. Barbara died just before prom but she remains in our thoughts and prayers.

Gayle Mitchell(66) has been living happily in California for the last 10 years. She recently came back to Chicago and had a great visit with Michelle and Karin and Kathy Wiedeman (66). They all said Chicago didn't look half bad. They had fun doing the tourist thingy downtown. Girls just want to have fun and so they did. Share with us ladies.

Hi to Diane Prost Westergaard(66) who is now living on the lake in Antioch. What's floating your boat these days?

Celeste Smith enjoys reading Snippets.....so how about sharing some of your news with old friends?

Holly Holmquist Lundquist (65) would love to hear from old friends. She enjoys going back to such a special time in her life.

Marilyn Alongi Nelson (66) keeps in touch with Marc and Anne Klowden(66) and loves the pictures they post on Facebook of their new bundle of joy....Shea. What a treat. Marilyn remembers her house being a hangout for the neighborhood kids. Everyone was always welcome. We are sorry to hear of her mother's passing this past May at 91. How fortunate you were to have her with you for such a long time. Marilyn got to drive by Roosevelt and was impressed with how good it looks. Wait until you see the inside next October at our all year reunion.

Speaking of reunions.....dust off your club jackets and letter sweaters and join us October 9, 2010 at Roosevelt High School. The Roosevelt High School Athletic Association is sponsoring another all year reunion. All profits will be donated back to Roosevelt. Each class will have its own hospitality suite and be invited to tour the school. Remember 249 everyone! Later we will meet in the cafeteria for a buffet dinner and more interacting. Bring old pictures, old notes, old girlfriends and old boyfriends. A fun time will surely be had by all. I will forward a copy of the sign up letter as soon as it is available. You can contact Arnie Kamen at (847) 432-2773 for more information.

Mary Eiden House(65) shared a beautiful photo of her last baby's Prom picture. What a charming young lady. Mary and Dennis celebrated their last high school graduation in June. Then they celebrated the arrival of their first grand child.....Annabelle Scarlett....cute name. Congratulations to you all on jobs well done.

Anne Weitzman Klowden(66) has acquired the famous butter cookie recipe featured in the lunchroom at Roosevelt High School. She remembers borrowing 5 cents everyday from Marc for a cookie and a penny for a pretzel. Maybe if Marc is on his best behavior she will share her cookies with him. She is planning to make them for her growing family this Thanksgiving. I am anxious to hear how that goes.

Suzanne Cahill (65) wants to know if anyone is interested in a Hibbard reunion. She would be happy to help with the planning. She is really enjoying being a grandparent. She says if she had known how great grandbabies were she would have skipped parenting and gone right to grandparenting. Grandkids are the reason for the twinkle in your eye. Enjoy!

Howard Bengelsdorf (67) has enjoyed working on his class' 30th and 40th reunions. He is really looking forward to our all year reunion next October. Both Howard and his wife Eileen reached milestones this year. Howard turned 60 in August and Eileen turned 55 in July. Happy belated birthday to you both. They have been married for 32 years and have 2 beautiful daughters. Dara is an elementary school music teacher in Arlington Heights. This past August she had the honor of singing the National Anthem at Wrigley Field. Alyssa is a financial analyst. 2010 will add 2 more to their lovely family when each of their daughters walks down the aisle. Talent, beauty and brains what a knockout combination. Our best to you Howard, and to your family.

Art and Martha Hoffman(64) acquired Chenji last year and have been having a blast with him. He is featured at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyB5m1EKTra&feature=channel>. You can view him outdoors and also view other videos on this site by clicking on "More from Arthur Hoffman". Art has been filling his time with his new video hobby. He would love to hear from old friends. Keep smiling Art.

Snippets welcomes Linda Rutherford Kostera (66). Linda met up with Jill Blodgett in her Jazzercise class and Jill shared Snippets with her. Linda and Bob Kostera (RHS 59) have been married for 41 years. They make their home in the Schaumburg/Hoffman Estates area, and have 3 children. This September they welcomed their first grandchild. Congratulations to you all. Linda remembers when we used to meet and walk to school together. We would carry our gym suits and white polished gym shoes on a hanger to be ready for inspection. Weren't those suits the best? Could be the reason blue is NOT my favorite color. Linda says hi to everyone and is looking forward to hearing more news. Great to have you on board.

You'll be glad to know Dr. Neal Dickler(65) takes his phone messages very seriously. I called him at the hospital in the Oakland area where he works and left a message. Imagine my very pleasant surprise when Neal called me back several days later. We talked for a long time remembering good times and good friends from Roosevelt. Neal is an emergency room doctor. He and his wife have a 17 year old son. While he doesn't get back to Chicago often he does think about the great friendships he made in Albany Park. Neal says hi to Tony Mackin(65) and remembers the Physics class they took together. He would like to know if Billy Pollakov(65) still plays the piano. Neal is one classy guy and it was great to reconnect with him.

Donna Wagner Whalen(65) has been living in Peshastin, Washington with her husband James. Donna's a retired educator and loves the great outdoors. I remember many days hanging out at Donna's house with Judy Ackerman Stojanovic(65) and Bonnie O'Brien (65 North Park). We played spoons for hours. Donna says hi to Sandy Ourach and hopes she is doing well.

I also spoke to Donna's cousin Bob Vieau (65 Lane Tech). Bob lives in Texas. He lived upstairs of Donna and also enjoyed spoons with us. Bob and his wife Sandy spend lots of time with their daughter and their grandchildren. Hope to see you at our Bateman reunion next October.

The Bateman reunion for the classes of 59, 60 and 61 will take place Friday, October 8, 2010 at Bateman. We will have lunch at the school, a tour and a program put on by the current students. More information will follow. You can also contact John Wotring at JohnnyWo@aol.com.

I had a very nice phone visit with Diane Jancovic Kuta(65). Diane and Jeffrey still live in the city and enjoy spending time with their two grown sons. Diane is an artist with pottery as her specialty. She has her work featured in the Chicago area. She values her family and the wonderful memories she has of her Roosevelt friends. Tell us more Diane!

Marilyn Keer Shanok(65) and Larry make their home in Burlington, New Jersey. Marilyn has done some acting and now teaches acting classes. She sends her best to all her high school friends.

Sam Brilliant(64) writes that he and his family are in good health so these are pretty good times. Robyn and Sam have a son and a daughter. Their son got his BS degree from Wharton and is now a consultant with McKinsey in NYC. Their daughter is a senior at Grinnell College in Iowa Sam remains close with Rick and Nancy Eisenstaedt and occasionally runs into Roy and Linda Kuever. They have 2 grown sons and are still nice people. Sam would love to hear from more 64 graduates. Come on, I know you are out there!

Fred Abrams(67) remains a very busy man. You can catch him volunteering at the Regenstein Center Visitors services desk at the Chicago Botanic Garden on Friday afternoons. He was so taken with the "garden" that he went home and put in his "first garden ever". After lots of work he has many beautiful flowers. His garden is so impressive his neighbors thought he was moving! Next spring's project is a "shade garden" in the backyard. We'll be anxious to hear how that goes. Be sure to bring pictures to the reunion next year, along with your new founded green thumb.

Hello to everyone from Barbara Delin Patch(66). Barb and Jim live in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin just outside Madison. She recently retired after 33 years as a school counselor. Now that they are both retired they are getting to do a little traveling. They have seen London, Italy and Hawaii and hope to cruise the Mediterranean in the near future. They are the proud parents of one son who is a chef in a downtown Madison hotel restaurant. He loves to cook at work and come over and eat Mom's cooking.

Barb helped us reconnect with her brother Lewis Delin(65). Lewis and his wife Donna, have been married for 11 years and live in Lombard. They are looking forward to reconnecting with Carl Donis. Let us know how that goes for you guys. Lewis has a 25 year old son Philip from his first marriage. Sadly Philip's mother died 25 years ago. We are all very sorry for this loss. Lewis works for Navistor in Melrose Park, Il. and spends a lot of time on the computer. He'll have to turn his home computer on more often to get all the Roosevelt news. We are glad you found us Lewis.....welcome.

Christina Faraone Rainford(65) says hi to Diana Goldman Gillick (65). Christina has two beautiful grand-daughters and lives in the Fox Valley area. Her sister Rosemarie recently moved to Florida and lives near their youngest sister DeDe. Christina was saddened to share the news that James Richardson(66) recently passed away. He leaves behind his wife, also from the class of 66, three daughters and 3 grandchildren. Please send our prayers to Jim's family.

Dennis Schnell(65) recently retired and is starting to remodel his home. He and Kathy are also doing a bit of traveling. In 2010 they will head to Branson for another one of his ship's reunions. I sure hope they can squeeze in a visit to Roosevelt in October. Take care Dennis and Kathy and travel safe. Did you know Dennis' grandfather was a carpenter who built Aladdin's Castle and the Parachute at Riverview?

Barbara Nicker Bernstein(65) spent July visiting her son, daughter-in-law and grandson in Seattle. That is a beautiful city and probably not as wet as my town has been this summer. Barb remembers Riverview and the ROTOR vividly. After graduation from Volta she went with Bruce Nelson(65) and a group of kids to Riverview for the day. She remembers going on every roller coaster twice. These days she closes her eyes when she passes Six Flags so she won't throw up. Ah....the strong stomachs of youth! Hang in there Barb.

Ellen Passman(65) also has special memories of Riverview. She remembers going "no hands" on the Bobs. She also remembers driving one handed on the late great "S curve" at LSD and Randolph. Ellen and I got to experience submarine races at Lake Michigan with our dates after Turnabout. Do Chicago teens still watch the races? Ellen's retirement consists of being a regular substitute teacher in the Middle School in Milton, Delaware. The children there LOVE and FEAR the strange Jewish woman from Chicago. She also performs at Delaware resort beach venues with an improvisation group: THE DELAWARE COMEDY THEATRE. She feels she is the senior member of the group. While it's harder to be "hip" over 60, it's not impossible. Ellen would love to have people visit her small rural community when they are in the area. She sends her regards to the class of June 1965 and a special hello to Mike Hankin(65) and Krista Olsen Benisek (65).

Mary Armello Kellenberger(65) writes to us from her new home in Marietta, Georgia. It gets hot there; no Florida beaches, or cool ocean breezes. Also no hurricane season, that's the upside. Mary is currently retired and learning how to keep busy. She and her friend Ray are planning a trip to Illinois. They traveled to the Florida Keys this year and had an amazing time. Mary remembers Donna Wagner as a great gal and sends Donna her greetings. She keeps in touch with Kathy Hickey(65) and Linda Matthes (65). Welcome to Snippets ladies, it's great to have you with us.

I recently reconnected with Saul Fuchs (65) who coincidentally lives in Marietta, Georgia. This time someone found me!. He really enjoyed catching up with old friends through Snippets and would enjoy hearing from anyone from Roosevelt and Haugan. Saul and Miriam have been married for 37 years and have 4 adult children and 3 grandchildren. Saul has been involved with marketing medical equipment to doctors, specifically for pain relief for home use. His wife teaches Hebrew and Judaics at a local Jewish school. One son is involved with mortgages; one is a financial analyst with a local telecom company; one is an assistant general manager with La Quinta hotels. Their daughter is a key account manager with Intercontinental Hotels. What a busy and productive family, good job Saul.

Hi to all from Nancy Malloy(65) who has recently relocated to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Nancy is an Episcopal Priest who has a wonderful parish. Nancy says Lake Geneva is so beautiful and life is good. It's great to hear from you Nancy.

The Chicago 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame had the unveiling of the outdoor Inductee Park in Forest Park this past July. It was announced by Illinois Senator Rickey Hendon that the State of Illinois will issue a grant of \$500,000.00 toward the completion of the Hall of Fame Museum. Wally Pecs, Bob Sirott(67) and Art Lurie(64) played in the game. Ron Norinsky and his video crew filmed the entire event. Roosevelt was well represented by Norm and Nancy Gassman, Steve and Evelyn Lurie, Barry and Gayle Rothstein and Jacky Wolf. We are all so proud of this accomplishment. Kudos to all! You can go the website for more information www.16inchsoftballhof.com.

The 3rd annual Roosevelt High School Sports Hall of Fame will be held on Friday, May 7, 2010 at the high school. 11 former RHS sports stars and 2 coaches will be inducted. We hope you will join us for dinner to honor the following people:

- Sidney Bernstein (June 1927 Basketball)
- Arnold Swerdlow (Jan 1947 Basketball)
- Verne Rosene (June 1952 Football)
- Mort Gellman (Jan 1953 All Around Athlete)
- Ed Rothenberg (Jan 1953 Basketball)
- Syd Lieberman (June 1962 Football)
- Arnold Briskman (June 1965 Basketball)
- Milan Mitrovic (1968 Swimming)
- Richard Bashov (1979 Soccer)
- Steve Stinson(1982 All Around Athlete)
- Betty Douglas (30 years Volleyball Coach)
- Van Walters (25 years Baseball Coach)

We would like to extend congratulations to Milan Mitrovic (68) for winning the Chicago Public Schools photo contest this year. He won a digital camera for himself and 10 cameras for the school of his choice.....wonder which one he picked.

We all wish Len Olbinsky(68) a speedy recovery and hope he will continue to get stronger. Len hopes to be seeing everyone at our next reunion. You are in our prayers and we hope to see you too.

Mike Wolstein (67) reminds us of the Jewish Arts Festival which will take place in mid June, 2010. It is held at the forest preserve in Niles on Oakton Street. Expected attendance is 20,000. You will be sure to run into many Rough Riders and many Albany Parkers. Wear your Roosevelt t-shirts so we can find each other. Mike Passman is on the staff so we know it will be a great event.

Hi to everyone from Nancy Soderberg Faust Jenkins(65). Nancy stays in touch with Carol Goldsmith Sender(65), Monica May(65) and Rosemary Streng. She sends her regards to Eric Wisette. She has had fun accessing Art Hoffman's utube piece and wants to let us know her pride is also on You Tube. You can just type in "Nancy" and "Donkey" to see their latest trick. When she's not working with her animals in Unincorporated Lake County, Nancy can be found playing the organ for the Chicago White Sox. Quite an interesting way to have spent the last 40 years. Nancy and Joe have one son Eric who is a bridge engineer in Chicago by day and a White Sox scoreboard employee on the weekends. Her sister Judy (Bateman 58) married their neighbor the late Dave Carlson. Dave's former home on Richmond and Sunnyside was sold to the Governor of Illinois. Judy and her new husband now live in a Del Webb community in Mundelein. There are quite a few Rough Riders living there so they formed a club. Thanks for sharing your news Nancy. We are glad to be in touch with you.

Susie Rubin Frishman, Si Gammas (66) shared her good news. Her daughter got married last year to a really sweet guy. He is great with the kids and everyone loves him. Congrats Susie that is good news.

Barry Bishop went to Patrick Henry and graduated from Roosevelt in 1962. He was great friends with Angel Sekerka Whalen (65) but lost touch several years ago. They reconnected and discovered they only live 25 miles away from each other. They haven't seen each other for about 50 years but got right back in the groove. Great news guys we are glad you found each other.

Kudos to Janet Batson- Barney (66). She recently participated in the Purple Stride Iowa, sponsored by the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. This was a pet friendly 5K along the Racoon River in West Des Moines. Janet raised over \$800 in memory of her late husband Bob. Janet sends her best to all her Roosevelt friends. Great job Janet, we all support your efforts.

Norm Gassman (65) coach for Max and Benny's (Maury's) softball team says he would go to battle with any of his team anytime. Some of them have been playing together for close to 50 years. They had a fun season and they are looking forward to doing it again next year. Norm do you remember when you were my boyfriend in college at Northeastern? It was fun saving a seat for you in class. Those were the days!

Judy Sommers Clark (65) thinks it would be interesting to see Roosevelt after all these years. We think it would be interesting to see you. Judy and Tom have been married for 28 years and have 3 children, Jaime and twin sons Brian and Jason. Jaime has a 4 year old and continued the family tradition with her own set of twins who are 1. Brian is single and Jason has a 5 year old son. Judy and Tom are both retired. Judy loves reading, gardening and has become.....wait for it.....a gamer! She plays a MMORPG online called Lineage 11. It's a whole world unto itself and keeps her very busy. Tom is very interested in sports so they have created a nice balance. Thanks for joining us Judy, we look forward to hearing more of your exciting news.

Laurajean Zamier (66) of Des Plaines makes bird houses for decorative purposes out of books! She calls them her "storybook bird houses" and was recently featured in "Look Again Interior Redesigns" an online decorating newsletter. You can read about Laura by contacting info@lookagainredesigns.com. Laura has done several shows in the Wheaton area. Cute designs Laura.

It was nice to hear from with Dorothy Hoffman Pedroza(65) She found us through Judy Sommers Clark. Dorothy lives in Schaumburg, Il and has been widowed since 2007. She and her husband Paul, of 38 years, have a son, a daughter and 2 grandsons. She enjoyed seeing the names of old friends from Patrick Henry and Roosevelt and was reminded of many happy times. Dorothy would love to hear from anyone who remembers her. She's just as sweet as she always was.....welcome Dorothy.

Renee Brody Brown (65) is wondering who will come to our all year reunion at Roosevelt next October. I have it on good authority that the class of 1965 will have a good turnout. I am really looking forward to meeting the people who are part of Snippets. Renee keeps in touch with Dottie (65), Renee Landsman, Elyse (65), Ricki Mitnick (65) and Marlene Meyers(65). Her life is very busy with her 4 grand children, running around and working. Hope you can fit us in next October.

There are many ways to reconnect with old friends:

- Contact Coach Al Klein to receive the Alumni Newsletter: 3823 Greenleaf St, Skokie, Il 60076 or phone him at (847) 675-5174.
- Get on the Bulletin mailing list and receive important bits of information and first hand info on local get togethers. Contact JackyGWolf@aol.com
- Check out the Chicago Public Schools website and sign up for your grammar and high school. For Bateman alumni: http://www.bateman.cps.k12.il.us/alumni_page.htm.
- If you live in the Los Angeles area you can attend an alumni dinner on November 16. There are many people from Roosevelt and other Chicago schools. The dinner will be at QT Chicago Dog, 19417- ½ Victory Blvd, Reseda. Please contact Merle for reservations and more information (818-716-5267).

Thanks to everyone for sharing your news and taking my phone calls. Putting together Snippets is a labor of love and only meant to be fun. I hope you will overlook the typos and enjoy the walk down memory lane. Please be sure to share Snippets and my email address. I will look forward to hearing more news that's fit to print. Contact me at Flora47@aol.com. Take care and keep smiling.

