

SNIPPETS #11 APRIL 2010

Look around....they are everywhere. They hold our hands and soothe our nerves. They smile when we are on the phone with people we haven't seen or heard from in years. They shake their heads when we talk about high school. Most of them didn't have the "Rough Rider" experience. They don't get the connection and wonder why we still care. There is awe in their eyes when we talk about Roosevelt. How is it possible that high school wasn't amazing for everyone? We drag them to reunions. We tell them stories about people they don't know and likely will never meet. After all these years they understand and appreciate the impact Roosevelt High School had on our lives. They understand the special friends we made. This issue is dedicated to them.....our families, our spouses, children and significant others the unsung heroes in our lives. Thanks for hanging in there and supporting our Roosevelt connection.

All Year Reunion alert: Don't forget to pencil in October 9, 2010 for the all year reunion at Roosevelt High School. The Roosevelt High School Athletic Association is sponsoring this event. You may arrive at 5pm and do a self guided tour of the school. Each class will have a room where you can get together with other members of your class. Dinner will be held in the cafeteria at 7pm followed by music in the gym. The cost of the event is \$60 per person with all profits donated back to the school. Bring old pictures and new cameras to capture the memories. Please contact Arnie Kamen with your reservations or questions: (847) 432-2773. You can also email me anytime.

Hi to everyone from Marlene Meyer Saltzman (65). It's very likely you satisfied your sweet tooth with a trip to Meyer's Pastry Shop on Lawrence Avenue which Marlene's parents owned. Marlene and Jerry Saltzman have been married for 40 years and have 2 grown sons. They have been living in Tucson, Arizona since 1977. Marlene keeps in touch with Renee Brown (65), Dotty Danca (65) and Ricki Mitnick (65). She has fond memories of Neal Dickler (65), who was in Miss Nunn's class with her at Haugan. She also wants us to know that Billy Pollakov (65) was the first boy she ever kissed. Anyone else want to jump on that bandwagon? Marlene spoke to Larry Schwab (64) recently when she was in Chicago. Please give him our regards. We would love to his news. Hope to see you at the reunion in October.

Anne and Marc Klowden (66) got the butter cookie recipe and planned to use it this past Thanksgiving at their family dinner. That didn't work out but she hasn't given up. Anne was really happy to hear the news about Linda Rutherford Kostera (66). They were very close friends in high school and she is looking forward to reconnecting with her. Anne's been retired from teaching since 2008. She is anxiously waiting for this summer when Marc will retire from The University of Idaho. They love to travel and spend time with their adorable grand-daughter Shea who just turned one. Sounds like a lot of fun will be had by all.

Elrene Penny Stickles Goldman (66) remembers Linda Rutherford from Ms. Golub's steno class. They had a good time in the class and she is looking forward to sharing memories with Linda. We also hear that Robin Levin (66) would like to reconnect with Linda.

Doris Nunne (66) has recently reconnected with Elsie Mills (66). Hope you girls are enjoying the memories. We'd love to hear Elsie's news.

Ellen Passman (65) has good memories of the submarine races. She did mention that she never saw her boat win. What's up with that? Ellen would love to reconnect with Barb Nicker (65) and Bobbie Dorf(65). Both Ellen and Barbara were in Sharon Ferst's (65) wedding. We have lost touch with Sharon and would like to find her and reconnect. Ellen remembers the pointy dyed-to-match high heels they wore. They still give her goose bumps and nightmares. My lipstick red 4 inch heels are still in a box in my closet.....those were the days. Ellen continues to be very busy and promises to supply "death defying" details of her life at a later date. This sounds very intriguing.

Hi to everyone from Marc Lamb (67). Marc has been enjoying Snippets and the RHS get-togethers in Deerfield. Share your news with us Marc.

Corlette Laino enjoys visiting with her two sons in San Francisco and her daughter in Chicago. She also enjoys riding along in the golf cart with her friend when she goes for visits to San Luis Obispo. She loves the California and would like to end up there someday. Colette enjoys Snippets and hearing about old friends.

Is anyone up for a visit to Boston? Krista Olson Benisek (65) and Paul like to go there to see their daughter Kate who makes Boston her home. Kate recently got her degree in Urban Planning....landscape design for the green. Krista, Candy and Norri are hoping to attend the reunion and revisit old memories. I spend a lot of time in Providence, Rhode Island so we may have to do a mini RHS reunion on the east coast. Do I have any takers?

Hi to all from Mary Armello Kellenberger(65) from a very wet Georgia. She continues to enjoy catching up with old friends. Apparently Mary and Saul Fuchs (66) both live in Marietta. I hope you are able to get together.

Congratulations to Bonnie Shauer Keen (67). Bonnie and Gary recently became grandparents to Owen. Welcome to the wonderful world of grand parenting. "If I would have known grandchildren were so much fun, I would have had them first."

Oops.....I mistakenly congratulated Milan Miltrovic(68) for winning 10 digital cameras from the Chicago Public School Alumni site. Milan actually won 3 cameras for Roosevelt and one for himself which he donated to RHS. Milan tells us that many changes have occurred at Roosevelt. The school newspaper, "The Rough Rider Review", has been renamed "The Rider's Eye." It isn't the newspaper we remember, but more like a Xeroxed newsletter. The yearbook is now called "The Outlook" and not many students get their photos taken. Dig deep and let us know.....were you a "Rough Rider" or a "Teddy"?

Some of you may remember Mr. McKee who began his teaching career in 1967. He is still there teaching art. Way to go!

Congratulations to Scott Berman (68) and family on the opening of their 2nd Superdawg restaurant. Stop by and see them in Wheeling, Illinois.

Fred Abrams (67) is quite a busy guy. He volunteers at 2 different nursing homes 4 afternoons a week. He plays the guitar and sings for the residents on Thursdays. He's learning lots of new/old songs and hopes to expand his efforts to Fridays. Now hailing from Alabama I have developed a country bone. Are there any good old boy songs in your repertoire? Fred is at the nursing home in Skokie and a facility in Long Grove. He has run into many people from Albany Park and some who went to RHS way back when. If you are at either of these places look for a singer in a RHS Bastille Day t-shirt.

Art Lurie (64) was pleased with the nice turn out for The 16 Inch Softball Hall of Fame and New Outdoor Inductee Park. They hope to have the Interactive Museum completed sometime in 2011. You can contact Art at playballart@aol.com for additional information about the Hall of Fame or just to say hi.

Jill Wagner Meyer (65) recently retired from the insurance industry. Jill and Doc are doing lots of traveling and enjoying their time together. Tell us more Jill.

Congratulations to Howard Bengelsdorf (67) and Eileen who will be celebrating their daughter's wedding October 10, 2010. We wish you well.

Art Hoffman (64) was born exactly 3 days before Nancy Soderberg Faust Jenkins (64). If she was born at Edgewater Hospital it's possible they shared the same maternity ward with their mothers. Art would love to reconnect with Nancy. Nancy and Art are both animal lovers and enjoy sharing their love on YouTube. If you would like to see a video of Art's dog Chenji, simply google Chenji the Obama Dog and enjoy! Art had a long career in public health and was very involved in the fight against BIG TOBACCO. He wrote a book – the first anti-smoking novel, based primarily in Chicago. Tell us more Art.

Dennis Schnell (65) has been sharing Snippets with his sister Marge (59), now living in Texas and his cousin Ron (64) who lives in Illinois. We would love to hear their news. Dennis has also had a great time emailing that nice lady Doris Nunne. Dennis was in ROTC on the Color Guard and Drill Team with James Richardson (66) and is saddened by his recent passing. Dennis would love to reconnect with Robert Bliss (65), Robert Rann (65) and Paul Hallick.

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. Please contact Arnie Kamen for more information (847) 432-2773. We hope you will join us for dinner to honor the following people:

Sidney Bernstein (June 1927 Basketball)
Arnold Swerdlow (January 1947 Basketball)
Verne Rosene (June 1952 Football)
Mort Gellman (January 1953 All Around Athlete)
Ed Rothenberg (January 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)

Several of us are wondering how Lee Mishkin's (68), group the Limitations is doing. Please update us.

Hi to everyone from Clarice Hollander Mittleman (65) and David (62). They have 3 children and live in the northern suburbs. Any news you would like to share?

Hi to everyone from Linda Andelin Strid. She graduated from Bateman in June of 54 and from RHS in June 58. Linda would enjoy hearing from old friends.

Sam Brilliant (64) enjoys the little get togethers his good friend Rick Eisenstaedt (65) organizes when he is in town. The usual suspects include Al Rosenfeld (65), Mike Fainman (65), Al Kodish (65), Ferne Abrams Pacillo (65), and Gail Leider Larsen (65). They have been joined in the past by Tony Mackin (65) and Chuck Zis (65). Sam is a parent to 2 children in their 20's. He is pretty sure they probably don't have the same memories of the submarine races as the rest of us. He would love to hear more news from the class of 64. You send it.....I'll share it.

Norm Kanter (65) remembers his friend Mike Hankin (65). They were very good friends in high school and when Mike lived in Champaign. I hope they are having a good time getting reacquainted. Let us hear your news guys.

One of the hardest parts of reconnecting with long ago friends is sharing sad news. On Monday November 2, 2009 Lewis Toppel passed away peacefully in Fitchburg, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by his wife Margaret Rasmussen and his brother Edward. Lewis taught school, served in the army and was once the owner of Bigsby and Kruthers. He became a real estate investor, a Chinese vinegar importer, a dairy cow exporter and a stock trader. His humor, wit and matchless personality will be missed by all. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family.

We are also saddened to hear of the passing of Chuck Stolberg (65), this past January. Chuck leaves behind his wife Carol, 3 children and 7 grandchildren. Chuck will be remembered as a really nice guy and will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family.

We just learned of the passing of Bronko Jovic. Bronko was a great basketball player and will be missed by all who knew him. Our condolences go out to his family.

Geri Siegel David (66) feels “bi-citied” as she travels between Chicago and her home in Las Vegas quite often. Her son Aaron is a singer, entertainer and DJ. He is the lead singer and creative force of his own band “Party Crashers/Wedding Crashers”. You can find his video on You Tube. Aaron is also “bi-citied” and travels between San Francisco and Chicago creating fun as a lead entertainer. If alums need entertainment he is THE MAN. Geri keeps in touch with some old friends and says “life is wonderful”. It’s always great to hear from you Geri.

I was sorry to miss Steve Schrenzel (66) who came to Pensacola for a meeting in December. I live about 40 miles west so maybe next time.

Welcome to Burt Gavzer (56) who graduated from Bateman in 1952. Glad to have you on board.....any news you would like to share?

Thanks to Barry Silver (63) for putting us in touch with Sharlene Rosen Stein (63). She is looking forward to reconnecting with old friends. So what have you been up to these last 40 years?

Dennis Shapiro (63) and Rhoda Schwartz Shapiro (67) have been married for 39 years and make their home in Buffalo Grove. Dennis still keeps in touch with some of his club brothers from The Top Hats. That sure triggers some memories. Rhoda teaches at the Duman JCC in Buffalo Grove. Glad to have you joining us.

Hi to everyone from Charlene Greenberg Marcus (63) and Bateman 59. She is looking forward to the Bateman reunion on October 8. Charlene volunteers with Nancy Curtis at the Lincoln Park Zoo. They worked together for about a year before they discovered they both went to RHS and Bateman. Small world.

The Bateman Elementary School reunion will be a luncheon at Bateman with entertainment from the students. This will be held Friday, October 8, 2010. If you graduated from Bateman in 59, 60 or 61 please contact John Wotring johnnywol@aol.com. The Bateman class of 63 can contact Gloria Laffey Swanson glswanson@aol.com. They will be joining the other classes for the tour and entertainment and then have their own lunch plans. If you graduated from any other class please contact Brittmariekalter@hotmail.com.

We are excited to share news of the recent honor given to Joe Fiorentino. He received the 2010 Illinois State Bar Association Law Enforcement Award. Joe is a Cook County Deputy Sheriff, Black Belt, and Certified Defensive Tactics Instructor. All I can say is WOW!

Our good friend Harry Gutterman (65) passed away in October of 2008. His wife, Lisa, writes that "Harry always enjoyed the Snippets. He was a wonderful father and husband and a great lifelong friend to those who knew him well. He especially enjoyed keeping up with and talking to high school friends more than anyone I know. It saddens me that he is no longer able to receive these emails that meant so much to him". Harry remains lovingly in our thoughts and prayers.

Linda Black (65) went to Volta with Sid Wolinsky (66) and wonders what he is doing now.

Welcome to Joanne Baur Edwards (67) who would love to reconnect with old friends. She remembers the days of hanging out with friends at Schurz Huddle. Seems she was there more than in class. She spent a lot of time with Joyce Tatum Schmidt (67), Les Seim, Fred Preusser, Jim Earl, and Rachel Wojkiewicz Seim (67). We are saddened to hear that Rachel passed away at age 45. She is still missed. Joanne and Mike Edwards, also a former RHS student, have been married for 35 years. They have two children and one almost 2 year old grandson. They make their home in McHenry. They are looking forward to retiring in 2011 when they will travel and enjoy life and their family. Joanne says hi to Michelle Villano Hernandez(66) and hopes to see her in October. Welcome aboard Joanne nice to have you with us.

Carol Oyen Pappas(66) is looking forward to the Bateman and Roosevelt reunions in October. Carol would love to see Carole Pooler Kroedel (65), Bonnie O'Brien, Bateman 61, Donna Johnson (65), Michelle Villano (66), Barbara Delin Patch(66) and Linda Rutherford (66). She also has wonderful memories of Bill Konrad (65) who passed away some time ago. Bill was a sweetheart with a very kind heart.

Hi from Candy Paschelke Coffey (66) who has recently reconnected with more friends from the class of 66. She is having a fun time with Mary Ann Lentine (66) and Cindie Shumway and is looking forward to meeting up with Patti DiChara (67) and Nancy Blevons. Keep us informed of your walk down memory lane.

Linda J. Rosenbush (73) has hopped on the bandwagon. She reminds me of the younger Rough Riders who would also like to reconnect with old friends. It would be awesome if someone would do a "Snippets" style newsletter for the classes of the 70's. Let me know if there's any interest and I'll help you get started.

Gail Schwartz (65) says hi to everyone. She loves reading about all her friends from Roosevelt. Send us your news Gail.

Gene and Liz Mitofsky (65) caught us up on their family activities. Their daughter Andy is teaching electrical engineering at Trine University in northeast Indiana. Their daughter Sandy is working in Raleigh and just returned from a trip to Machu Picchu. Liz and Gene recently celebrated their 40th anniversary in Hawaii. They both do 3D photography and Gene still does his woodworking. They are having fun reconnecting with people on Facebook. You can see photos on: <http://www.mitofsky.com/scrollsaw1.htm>.

Thank you to Jean Dooha (67) for letting Sam Fifer (67) know Fred Abrams (67) was looking for him. They have reconnected on Facebook and plan to get together the next time Sam is near Pomona. I'm sure they will have a great visit.

Karen Kouri Roth (67) has had fun reading Snippets and seeing what people have been up to. Now Karen what have you been up to? We all want an update.

Hi to everyone from Patricia Johns Christophersen (61). She would love to hear from old friends. Send us your news Patricia; we would love to hear about your "post" Roosevelt life.

Although Carol Brownstein graduated from Von in 1966 she has many Roosevelt friends and memories. She has been living in California since the 70's but plans to come to Chicago for our reunion in October. She was friends with Eddie Benn, Joe Kail and the guys in the Top Hats. Bobby Swedy (66) was her first boyfriend. Joe Kail was also a high school boyfriend. Carol went to the RHS Jr. Prom in 1965 with Mike Kelly (66) and has many wonderful memories of Deborah Boys Club and volley ball meets. Carol went to the University of Illinois in Champaign with Leon Goldenberg and Ed Benn. She recently made contact with Leon who now lives in Florida. Carol is divorced and has a daughter who lives in New York. Carol teaches high school World History in Anaheim. She is currently finishing up a degree in music. She is looking forward to the reunion and hopes people will remember her.

Ira Rosenbaum (65) has enjoyed reading about old friends. He promises to send us his news soon.

Murray Pastko (64) graduated with George Pfeifer, Stan Davidson, Jerry Orbach and Jerry Zabel. They recently got together at Max's in Highland Park and suggested Murray join Snippets. Glad to have you and I hope you enjoy catching up with old friends. Please send us your news to share.

Gino Fontana grew up in Albany Park and went to Haugan. He would have attended Roosevelt but his family moved out of the area in 1976. Gino moved to Northbrook and has become good friends with Stuart Spiegel. Most of his family went to Haugan and Roosevelt including dad Eugene Fontana Sr. Gino, then known as Eugene, would have graduated in 1982 from RHS. He would love to hear from old friends and do some catching up. Thanks for joining us Gino; we'll see what we can do.

Linda Brechman Oenning (65) says hi to all her Rough Rider classmates. She and Jerry are still living in Irvine. They do a lot of traveling down to San Diego to enjoy their 2 grandchildren. Linda began elementary school at Hibbard, attended RHS for 6th grade, Von for 7th and 8th grades, and returned to RHS for high school. Her older brother went to an 8th grade reunion at Hibbard and could not stop raving about it. They are looking forward to seeing old friends in October.

Congratulations to Judy Rullo Hall (65) who recently won The People's Choice Award for West Chicago's 2009 Banner contest. After teaching for 35 years Judy has found a second career in art. Although self-taught, Judy has taken classes at College of Dupage. She has done work in graphite, pastels, watercolors, oils and acrylics. She prefers working with oils and especially enjoys doing portraits. She hopes you will go to her new web site: <http://judyahall.com>. Here you will enjoy the brilliant colors she loves to spill across her canvases. Great work Judy and thanks for sharing.

Diane Nielsen Gross graduated from Bateman in 1961. She only attended RHS for 2 years and graduated from Jones Commercial. Diane and Joe retired to rural Flippin, Arkansas 17 years ago. They are about 1 ½ hours from Branson. They recently spent time with Angel Sekerka Whalen(65) and Scott while visiting their daughter in Arizona. Diane would like to be remembered to Linda Rutherford Kostera, Michelle Villano Hernandez, Mike Scafide and Barry Bishop. Welcome Diane and thanks Angel for putting us together.

Arlynn Gottlieb(65) continues to live in Urbana with husband Ron and 2 children. Arlynn and Ron are both therapists and would enjoy reconnecting with old friends. They are getting ready for a trip with their 16 year old daughter to Hattiesburg, MS to pick up their 22 year old son who goes to school there. Then they will all be vacationing in New Orleans. Have a fun trip and be sure to catch us up on all your adventures.

Beverly Bernstein Goldsmith(65) is one of the people Arlynn would like to reconnect with. Beverly and Barry are currently living in Chevy Chase, MD and are getting ready to move to the BIG APPLE. She is very involved with HADASSAH. We look forward to hearing about your move and your life since RHS.

Ann Dee Polakoff Baird(65) and Donald make their home in San Diego. She is teaching school and enjoying her life. We hope to hear more of your news. Arlynn would also like to reconnect with Ann Dee.....be sure to share your adventure with us all.

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 Party Bulletin mailing list and receive important bits of information and first hand in on local get-togethers. Contact JackyGWolf@aol.com.
- Check out the Chicago Public Schools website and sign up for your grammar school 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 usually the third Monday of the month. These dinners are attended by people from RHS and many other Chicago schools. Please contact Merle for more information (818)716-5267, Merle_T@msn.com.

I hope you enjoyed catching up with Snippets. Please feel free to share Snippets and my email address with anyone interested. I continue to have fun finding old friends and sharing the news. I look forward to hearing your news. Contact me at Flora47@aol.com. Take care and keep smiling.

