

FLASHLIGHT

Alumni Newsletter

25th Edition

January 2009



WELHISCO

Trojan Head designed by
Kermit Ruyle '47

Reunion 2009 Price List

special pricing
MOST BE RECEIVED by
February 1, 2009

Friday - Mixer
St. Charles Convention Center
3 – 8:30 pm
Light Appetizers
Cost: \$25.00

Saturday - Dinner/Dance
St. Charles Convention Center
6 – 7 pm
Cash Bar
7 – 11 pm
Dinner/Dance
Cost: \$60.00

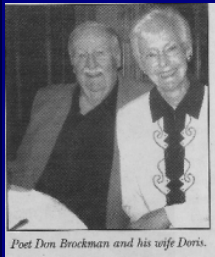
Sunday - Picnic
2500 Raymond Drive
11 – 4
Lunch
Cost: \$20.00

Multiple events:

Friday/Saturday \$ 75.00
Friday/Sunday \$ 40.00
Saturday/Sunday \$ 70.00
Fri/Sat/Sunday \$ 85.00

**Buzz book included with
Saturday nite dinner only**

10 Months until
REUNION 2009



Poet Don Brockman and his wife Doris.

Don Brockman '43

Poet

Appeared in the July, 2005 "The Senior Voice"



Don Brockman lives in Farmers Branch. (at the time this was written) he was a vibrant 78-year old, but not 'retired.' He reminded his faithful clients who have been with him for over a quarter of a century, there were only two days he wasn't available. Monday morning was "therapy," Wednesday afternoons "rehab" - which translated into Duplicate Bridge and Swiss Team Bridge at the Farmers Branch Senior Center, where Don is also a board member! This song and dance man/salesman/poet/avid golfer/husband/father/grandfather/and great-grandfather received a reward for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry presented by Poetry.com and the International Library of Poetry. Don and his wife (going on 60 years), Doris flew to Orlando, Fl where he was presented with his cup from the International Society of Poets at the 2005 Spring Convention and Symposium. In attendance were such notables as award winning Pulitzer Prize Winner W.D. Snogross and Dr. Herbert Woodward Martian. His poem, *I Must First Explain, This Poem Doesn't Entertain*, was published in a book of poetry, *Invoking the Muse*.

While at WHS high school, Don wrote a column for the Flashlight called "**What's Buzzin' Cousin?**" Read one of his columns ---> [More](#)

Tommy Anderson , Class 59

Good Cop – Great Guy

By David Cannady '51



The following is an abbreviated story of a good cop and great guy. A story about Tommy Anderson Class 1959.

Tom graduated from WHS in 1959. He was known by his classmates as a considerate, reliable and thoughtful person. A person of integrity, the type of guy you liked to hang out with. While in high school he developed a sense of right and wrong and that society had to be protected from the bad guys of the world. This attitude became the foundation and mantra of his life long career as a police officer. Tommy could play rough as a police officer but he passionately believed

in the rule of law.

Tom served in the US Army from 1960 – 1962; part of this time in Vietnam. In 1964 he joined the St. Louis Police Department and graduated from the Police Academy. He then served as a police officer in University City where he learned the basics skills of a police officer.

In 1970, Tom was hired by the Police Department in the City of O'Fallon, Mo. The city was rapidly expanding and the bad guys were also moving west to new frontiers along I-70. Within a year he was promoted to detective status and received certificates of achievements in homicide/death Investigation and criminal investigation techniques. In 1980 he was promoted to Lieutenant and Commander of the Bureau of Field Operations. Because of his homicide expertise, he served as a member of the St. Louis Major Case Squad from 1982-1986.

Tommy's particular interest was helping to create a Multi-Jurisdictional Enforcement Group helping to control illegal drug activity in four counties. He was very proud of this achievement. His career ended in 1988 after developing Parkinson's. He passed away Nov. 1999 and is buried along side of his high school buddy **Ronnie Ollermann '60**.

Tom was preceded in High School by his older brother, **Dave Cannady '51** (the author) and his (RIP) sister **Flore Bell Anderson '48**. His daughter, Christine still resides in O'Fallon.

(Coming soon: Flashlights' from '41 - 64 on CD'S for reading and/or printing!)

Vintage Photos From the Shoe Box!



*From the
Shoe Box*

We'll post them online.

How do you store your pictures? Framing, scrap-booking or sticking them in shoeboxes? With the advent of digital photography, there are several options sharing the photos you love, making them last a good, long time: You can either: [Email](#), scan or use US Postage (If photos are to be returned, please include return US Mail postage.)

Send in your shoebox photo's so they can be shared with everyone.



HILLBILLY BAND

8/9

K. Ruyle '84

This is a copy of a piece of art work by Kemit Ruyle '47 which was created in '84.

Kemit was an artist in school who also created the Trojan head appearing on the front page of this newsletter. He created it for the '49 year book which the parents and students produced. (not school sponsored)



Meet some of the 1947 girls

From the left: 1st row: **Marion Hansen, Winnie Pearson, Connie Rempie, Gerry Walker, Dolores Pewitt, Wanda Potts**
2nd row: **Dorothy Haltom, Mary Chott, Lorraine Roche, June Oswald, Jean Cox**
Top row: **Betty Milward, Lorna Kammeier, Dot Battles**

(Most of these ladies are still meeting for lunch!)



Rich Stopke '42 (left) and Art Bahr '42 can prove they've been friends for many years!



Rich Stopke Art Bahr

Oldham '38 - Althen '41 Celebrate 66th Anniversary



Gladys Althen '41 and Richard Oldham '38 celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary October 14th. They have lived in Virginia for 40 years and in Lynchburg for the past eight years.

They were married in 1942, after Richard joined the US Army Air Corps and finished flight training. During the difficulties and dangers of Richard's service career they placed their love and trust in each other.

Their five children and their spouses, and 14 grandchildren helped them celebrate their happy day.



Sterling Smith '60 and Harry Stephens '60



Virginia Gossett '60, Marie Smith '60 and Vera Gossett



Mr Blake Hieda, Mr. Lance Williams and Mr. ??



Sterling Smith



Harry Stephens



Virginia Gossett



Marie Smith

Guarantors overwhelmingly pass Bi-Laws



Reunion trustees held their monthly meeting December 3rd discussing which committees need to be formed so Reunion 2009 will run a little smoother than before.

The Guarantors voted and overwhelmingly approved the bi-laws for our newly formed WHS Alumni Club. Nominations are being taken for Reunion 2012 officers and trustees. Ballots will be sent out in late spring to all guarantors and

WHS club members. The new officers will be announced Saturday night, October 4, 2009.

All forms have been filed with the state of Missouri qualifying us for Non-profit. Forms are being filed with the IRS so we can acquire a non-profit postal number cutting our postage cost down substantially.

Board members shown above: L-R: **Jim Shaw '45, Joe Hunter '54, Donna Hagan '68, JoAnn Williams '60, Larry Turner '60, and Mary Kay Parker '56.**

ARE YOU IN THE "DON'T BUY GREEN BANANAS GENERATION?" (I AM!)

by Jim Shaw '45 Secretary/Treasurer

"The Reunion is ten months away....never can tell what might happen before October...better wait to commit." If *you* think this way, I can understand. I graduated in 1945 and I'm a "Green Bananas" guy. **But** this is a "no-risk" way to commit and save some money. If your plans happen to change, tell us within ten days before the reunion, a full refund will be issued.



Reservations paid by February 1st are at the lowest price. Those paid in February & March are increased \$5 per person and if paid in April, May & June the cost is \$15 more than the early-bird special - (\$30 if there is a couple) **Hey -this is some serious money!** Committing to buy some "Green Bananas" by February 1st makes sense for me; after all it's a no-risk deal!

Early Responders are a huge help to the Reunion Committee in several ways. Early commitments are a great indicator of interest. Have you ever tried to nail jelly to a wall? Reunion planning is just like that... anticipation and hope...having to make early commitments for facilities, catering, etc. not knowing how many will come.

Because of Reunion 2003 "Guarantors" generosity, we had enough money for deposits. Early money helps the Committee with working capital and knowledge of what can be ordered early to save money. We are committed for 350 alumni dinner's Saturday night. Hopefully, this reunion will surpass Reunion 2006 attendance of 460.



The following article was in the Notebook I received when I started massage school. I've passed it on to many people and felt it was worth passing on to you all..

As you read this article, you will see as I did, this basic advice can apply to any school, job or personal situation.

Happy New Year.....Mari Treadway '65

All I really need to know I learned in MASSAGE SCHOOL:

Be punctual, prepared and keep good notes. Wash your hands. When you are ready, the perfect teacher will arrive. Knowledge of Greek and Latin prefixes is beneficial. Don't panic, tests are for your own growth-if you falter you can, and will, repeat the lesson. Nurture your Self. Strength lies in balance. Receive massage. Eat your vegetables. Drink plenty of water. Be cheerful. Exercise daily. Wear comfortable shoes. Breathe deeply.

Create a peaceful environment. Nourish the senses; aromatic candles, meditative music and cotton flannel sheets. Every body is sacred. Be reverent. Warm your hands. Warm the room. Warm your heart. Talk less, listen more. Live open-minded. Beware of your prejudices. Refuse gossip. Value confidentiality. Be honest. Presence and intention are paramount.

Wholeheartedly attend the moment. The lightest touch can heal.

Transition with ease and grace. Spirit each move. Individual responses vary. Deep pressure. Gentle rocking. Embrace the difference. Stretch. Don't pretend to be an expert on that which you are not. Never force. Never rush. Care. Pain is subjective. Laughter is healing, so are tears. The body remembers. It's never too late to ice it. Forgive. Forgive yourself.

Practice, practice, practice. Challenge rules. Welcome possibilities. There is no routine. Let it flow. Create. Dance. Don't forget to breathe. Deeply. Relax. Shoulders down. Knees loose. Move from your center. Trust intuition. The mind thinks, the heart knows. Believe in others. Believe in yourself and your profession. Believe in a force greater than yourself.

Be gentle, be strong, be willing and the healing power of creation will flow through to benefit all you touch. From atom to universe we are whole and all are connected. Honor all. Judge no one. Offer freely to those in need. Continue to learn. Share your knowledge. Respect. Expect respect. Strive to grow, every day. Be open to prosperity. Be grateful. Follow up and follow through. Success walks a determined step. Clarify aspirations. The path will clear. Dream specifics. Doors will open. Dream big. Thoughts manifest. Never give up. Never lose hope. And above all else. . . LOVE, LOVE, LOVE. Written by : Jo Sodano

(Thomas) Roger Noon '62

**Former Sports Writer for the Flashlight:
ON VACATION**

His article will appear in the February Issue.



December Correction:

The story of Tony Rose (December's Flashlight) who awarded Ollie North with an award in Branson listed, **Bev Jackson '61** as his wife was incorrect. **Janice Clark '61** asked when her good friend, Bev Jackson divorced her husband.

Bev Wessel '63 sent an email saying her husband has assured her he was **NEVER** married to Bev Jackson!



Alumnae & Alumni News and Comments:



When I think of my classmates, I can see their faces as plain as day, just the way they looked in high school. When we attended the 1951-1953 reunion in 1997, I said to my husband, 'Jack, we're in the wrong place, these people are all old!' He whispered to me gently, "honey, we're in the right place, and we are old!" But you know, after spending a few minutes talking to my "Old" classmates, the glasses, the gray hair, and the extra pounds just seemed to disappear and the years melt away. I'm hoping the 2009 reunion will be the same happy experience, also that my classmates are wearing their name tags, at least until that magical "Melt away" moment happens. **Donna Evans '53**



Dave Esche '62 grew his first beard in 1983 while teaching high school in Washington State. The students asked him to shave it off. After Reunion 2003 he decided to grow another one. He's let it grow longer then cut it shorter over the past couple of years. YOUR opinion has been received and overwhelming decided Dave should keep on shaving. It really shows his blue eyes and makes him look younger~



I truly appreciate receiving the Flashlight. My class of '40 has only had two class reunions and that was soon after we graduated. (I was class secretary and helped to organize them). However, when I moved to Colorado many, many years ago, I lost contact with most of my classmates. I have attended reunions for the class of '41. I am still in contact with them and receive all their mailings. They have always had a very active group.



I still have some old Flashlights from 1940 and some athletic awards letters. Would the Alumni Club be interested in having them for your memorabilia files? Thanks again for keeping old memories alive for a great old school. We were the last class to graduate from the very first Welhisco High or I should say Wellston High. Keep up the great work! I know it requires a lot of time.

Dorothy (Dot) Broker '40

Editors note: Yes, we are very interested in any type of Flashlights and/or Memorabilia anyone may have to preserve and share with all alumni.



Correction for Roger Noon's column in the December, 2008 issue: **Dorothy Arrington, Elizabeth Davis and Joy Keen** were from the Class of '1959 not 1958. Also another sweet lady - **Harriett Carroll**.



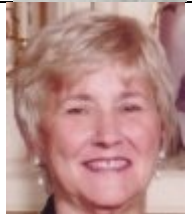
I've always enjoy the Newsletter, but it seems to be time for the next one before you know it. Time flies when you're having fun (and getting older!). **Barb Hill '59**



Lorna Kammeier '47 loves reading the WHS Flashlight online with her daughter, Linda sharing stories and memories of the past. "Such good memories living in a great era and a good town". You might remember Lorna dad's store, Kammeier Market on Martin and Ridge. Lorna was able to see some of her classmates this past October at a luncheon in St. Charles and is looking forward to seeing them again next year. Both of her brothers, **David '60 and Mart '55**



All the teachers we had were great. Even Miss Summers in the typing/shorthand classes. Remember when we first got the electric typewriters? You just barely touched a key and it would strike the paper. I remember Miss Summers constantly yelling, "keep your fingers off the keys while I am talking." How funny to remember this after all these years.



I still can't believe this year will be 50yrs for me. Where did the time go? I look forward to this next reunion. We always have such fun. I know there is a lot of work, but THANK YOU SO MUCH. **Gloria Schwenk '59**



Thanks for the great job you guys do on the Flashlight each and every month. We really enjoy them and love seeing articles on the 'old' (not me) gang. Hope you all have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and the very best HAPPY NEW YEAR ever. Thanks for your excellent work and PLEASE keep them coming through the years. Thanks to the guys, love to the gals. More later. **William (Bill) Eggert '55**



Since moving to Texas 40 years ago to work and marry a Texan, I've only made it back to "town" for family wedding or funeral's. Regarding classmate contacts, Don Henson and I grew up together, joined the Army together, but after a few years we went our separate ways. I did meet with him several times when visiting Las Vegas where he worked for several years. I'm sure his family misses him as I have in the past. A couple of "guys" I would look up at the "party" are Tom Rielly and Herb Eberle. I might even bring Herb's record to be signed. It would be an interesting few days visiting with the "guys and girls" from the past. So its still a *maybe* but we'll see about this next year. Hope everyone has a great Holiday and a Happy New Year. **Ron Hanson '56**





Ray Morse '56 and wife, Mary Kay Parker '56 take train vacation across USA



Since the foreign exchange rate was bad **Ray Morse '56** and his wife **Mary Kay Parker '56** decided to see the USA by train. They left St. Louis for Chicago where they boarded the *Empire Builder* train which was equipped with a small bedroom and bathroom. They traveled thru N. Dakota, Montana, ending up in Portland, Oregon where they rented a car. They spent several days driving south on Hwy 1 towards San Francisco. Both enjoyed the beautiful country side, ocean, redwood forest, the wild life and great food along the way.

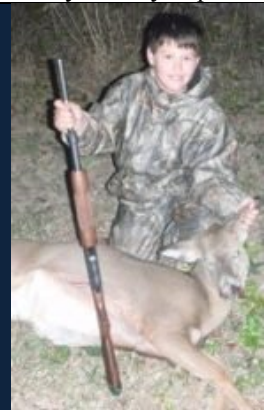
Ray and Mary Kay rode a streetcar (not the trolley) when they reached San Fran, enjoying the fabulous sites there. From San Fran they boarded the *California Zephyr* on their way to Denver where they rented another car. They drove to Ft. Collins to visit relatives before leaving for a few days of trout fishing in the mountains. Then it was back to Denver visiting more friends before heading back to Chicago where they spent several days sightseeing. They were amazed of how much Chicago had changed since their last visit there some 20+ years ago.



They spent a very restful 16 days on their trip where they met so many interesting people along the way while seeing some awesome sites along their journey. Their next train trip will be crossing Canada.



Next year they hope to vacation in Switzerland (depending on the economy.)

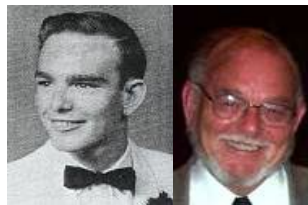


10 year old grandson of Jo Ann Williams' ('60), Jim, went on his first deer hunt in December.

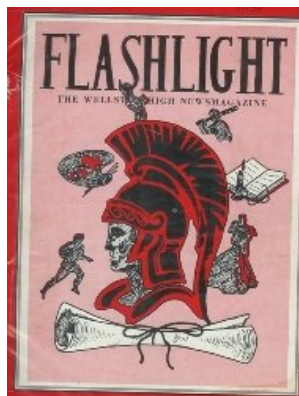
Jim was determined to make his Dad proud by showing him how well he had learned to use his 20 gauge shot gun he'd received as a gift. His dad and uncles trained him how to shoot with target practicing. . It was a cold, damp night as Jim and his dad sat very still in their deer blind. They didn't want to scare off any deer. They had been sitting there for several hours when Jim spotted his doe. His first shot missed but his second one hit the doe bring her down. He was the only one in his group who got a deer that weekend! Needless to say, Jim was elated and his dad *VERY* proud.

DID YOU KNOW?

Musicians will know this but others might not. The song "Boogie Woogie" was written in 1928 (Surprise) by Clarence (Pine Top) Smith. It was recorded by Tommy Dorsey in 1938 and instantly became a hit and launched the new Dorsey Band (minus his brother Jimmy) into one of the top Swing bands of the 40's. And he was from PA too... This is a fun piece to play on the piano



Don Taylor '61



Flashlights from the 40, 50, and 60s being posted to Internet.

We are able to achieve this costly process with the support from our Alumni Club. You can help to by becoming a member. Cost: \$10.00 yearly or \$15.00 for a hard copy.

They will be available for those without Internet service through CD's so you can read and/or print them. We hope you enjoy the trip down memory lane:

Attention Classmates of 1947



Since they celebrated their 50th class reunion, '47 the gals have been 'doing lunch' twice a year, (April & Oct.) They have decided its time to invite the guys and their spouses to join them. Invitations are sent a month in advance with information of where and when the luncheon will be held. If you no longer drive then ask someone to accompany you. Anyone from this era is welcome to join them.

Contact **Betty (Smith) Shaw '47** @ 636-379-4576 for more information.



Christmas Parties - 2008

Class of '42 - 44 exchange presents at their monthly luncheon at Cracker Barrel.



L-R: **Dorma Lee Koch '44, Mildred Collins '43, Rich Stopke '42, Art Bahr '42, and Loretta Hulahan '43**

US Bank hosted their annual Christmas Party where

(L-R) **Rich Stopke '42, Mildred Collins '43, June Oswald '47, JoAnn Williams '60, Betty Smith '47, and Jim Shaw '45** were able to sit together.



Santa (**Jim Chapman '60**) smiles as **Sharon Short '62** sits on his lap waiting for other Red Shirts to join them. Sharon hosted the party at her home.

L-R **Carolyn Waller '62, Wanda Cornman '60, Santa, Mary Ann Creelius '60** sitting on Santa's lap:

Back: Kathy Erwin '62, Gloria Brown '63, Cheryl Horne '61, JoAnn Williams '60, Janet Scott: Front: Carol Beeman '60, Sharon Short '62, and Jeanie Wright '61



CLASSMATES REMEMBERED



George Green '45
12/8/08
Complication from diabetes



Kenny Will '68
10/08
Lung Cancer



Kenny Eaton '68
12/5/08



Irvin Wieman '60
11/05
Prostrate Cancer



Where in the World is Pat Hawkins '61?

Check out the link taking you to the missing alumni list in your class. They may not even know they are missing!! If there's someone on the list that you know the whereabouts of (dead or alive) please email us the information, or have them contact us. As you see there are only a few classes with people missing. Most classes have someone who takes the initiative to keep their class list current. While this is not an easy task to undertake, it does make the job easier for the Reunion Committee. Check all the classes, because someone's brother, sister, aunt, uncle, parents or even neighbor, might be on the "Missing List". The list spans a period over 30 years.

Editors

Bill Voos ('48)
Sandy Gibbons('57)
JoAnn Williams ('60)

President

Mary Kay Parker '56

Sec/Treasurer

Jim Shaw '45

Trustees

Joe Hunter '54
JoAnn Williams '60
Larry Turner '60
Phyllis Crouch '62
Donna Hagan '68

Buzz Book

Pat Miner '62

ClassMates Remembered

Carol Beeman '60

Database

Tom Manley '67

WELLSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Welhisco Alumni Club
P.O. Box 774
O'Fallon, MO 63366

Phone 636-978-9330

How come we never hear father-in-law jokes?

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?
Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are almost dead?
Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?
Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they already know there is not enough money?
Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars;
but has to check when you say the paint is still wet?
Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest,
but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?
Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?
If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?
Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?
Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?
Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?
Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?
How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?
When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart when apologizes for doing so, why do we say, 'It's all right?' Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, 'That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?'
Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table, you always manage to knock something else over?

KEEP THE DATE: OCTOBER 2, 3, AND 4TH OF 2009 – CALL TO SEE WHOSE COMING!



Wellston High School
WELHISCO ALUMNI CLUB
PO Box 774
O'Fallon, MO 63366