

Eagles' Landing

A reunion newsletter for the classmates of 1954



Best class ever at WWHS prepares for number 50

Could you ever imagine you'd be eligible for your 50th high school reunion?

No matter how we figure it, as of May, 2004, we will have been out of high school for FIFTY YEARS! We will each legitimately become a "Golden Eagle".

The Class Reunion Committee has been meeting to put together plans for our FIFTIETH CLASS REUNION, October 1st - 3rd, 2004. They are planning a weekend that will truly represent our "Golden Anniversary", and when the weekend is over we want you to be singing "we'll have these moments to remember!" Hopefully you won't miss this one.

Come back home, to a place we called "The City of Champs," so named because when the original "Golden Eagle", Jerome Van Meter, and his Beckley Flying Eagles took the court or the field, magic just sort of happened. And incredibly, all three years that we were in high school, our football AND basketball teams won the state championships. Additionally, our wrestling teams took championships in 1952 and again in 1954. The track teams were not too shabby either!



And, what about Glen Sallack and his Flying Eagle Band? When they marched down the street, or onto a field or a stage, a feeling of pride, respect and awe just sort of filled the air.

Do you remember those years? Sure you do. . . we all do, and this is the time to come together to reminisce, laugh and remember these things with other people who not only know what you're talking about, but know exactly how you feel about it as well! We were all a part of that special time, each one of us. You didn't have to be a "jock", or a band member, or carry any kind of special title to feel the pride of being at WWHS and in Beckley during those years..

Being a member of The Class of '54 made us a part of a very special time, and we want to celebrate those times with each of you. How does that verse go? "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, the other gold." This is the time to keep golden friendships alive, at our GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY REUNION!

Included here are updates from some of our classmates, for your information and reading pleasure. We would like to know more about you as well, so please send information that we can share.

The cost of the reunion will be reasonable and will include an informal Friday dinner/get together with a dinner and dance at Tamarack on Saturday. You will receive a more detailed itinerary and request for information after the first of the year. Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend.

We will prepare a new directory of names, addresses and pictures after the reunion. A photographer will be present to take pictures of those attending. For those unable to attend the reunion, please send in your information, along with a recent picture, so that you may be included in the directory. It will not be complete unless you are in it. This is absolutely a once in a lifetime event -- please don't miss it.



Do you recognize this guy?

News about friends...

Did you hear that **Larry Hawks and Shirley Williams** were recently married? These WWHS love-bugs rekindled their romance and tied the knot February 15. They will live primarily in Roanoke and secondarily in Eastanollee, GA. They are traveling to Beckley to participate in the reunion planning session.

Betty Bales Sparks still lives in Orange Park, FL. She and her husband are both retired and enjoy spending time with the grandchildren and volunteering at the elementary school where their daughter teaches. Their three children live in the area so they get to see them regularly. Betty still makes a trip to Beckley once a month to visit her 91 yr. old Dad. She is looking forward to our 50th Class Reunion.

Edna Mae Michael Berginis has been in California 37 1/2 years! She's been divorced for 20 of those years. Her son Michael 39, is married and lives in Santa Clara (Silicon Valley), daughter Barbara 37, lives in Lancaster, CA. She says her future is uncertain, "maybe I'll move, maybe I won't! For sure I'll be at the 50th reunion."

Great to hear from you. Wish we could go back to the summer reunions. I'm usually out west the first of Oct. every year. I missed the 45th and I sure hate to miss another. I recently had surgery on my back but I'm getting better every day. Lucy and I celebrated our 45th this past June. I told her I was only going to put up with her for 45 more and that's it. Stay well.
Your friend and classmate,

N.S. Gregory

"I live in Jacksonville, Florida. Have four daughters, and seven grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren. I am divorced twice (both ex-husbands passed away), have returned to work, and stay very busy and relatively healthy."

Wilma Kincaid

Sam Meadows joined the army for 3 years after graduation. He graduated from the Univ. of Washington in Seattle with a BSEE in 1964. I have been married to my lovely wife, Pat, for 37 years and we have two grown children. He's retired and live in Forest, VA.

I served 4 years in the Navy and was discharged in 1958. I lived in the Washington, DC area until 1964 when I moved to Indiana. Lived in several cities in Indiana before I moved to Kansas City, Missouri in January 1955. My wife, Sue, and I have 7 children between us. Two of them are living in Indiana, one in Alabama and 4 are living here in the Kansas City area. I retired from Civil Service in September 1993 and my wife retired 3 1/2 years later. We have been doing some travelling and enjoying our 16 grandchildren. I am looking forward to our class reunion. I haven't been in contact with any of our class mates since I joined the Navy and it is going to be an enjoyable occasion to see some of them.

Ron McKinney

Some of our classmates have been slowed up by illness and are in rehab. It sure would be nice if they could hear from classmates from '54. You can contact

Janet Mills Stiles	Cedar of Lebanon Nursing Home	102 E. Silver St.	Lebanon, Oh. 45036
Annette Angell Ward	Florida Living Nursing Home	3355 E. Semoran Blvd.	Apopka, Fl. 32703
Zernie Lowe		102 Hoist Rd.	Beckley, WV 25801

Kitty Garten Gill has been married to Ted Gill for 49 years, a career Army guy. They have 3 daughters, 6 grands and 3 great grands. We retired in 1973. She bowls and is active in her church and keeping up with the grandchildren's activities. "See you at the 50th."

At the young age of 67, I teach with the counties and own a new home, and with God's help, I am healthy and happy. I live in Atlanta and love it. I miss being a little girl in Beckley, waking up in the morning and listening to the snow outside, walking to dance classes, going to 4-H Lake, being a flag girl in the band. I loved growing up in Beckley and will always be proud of it.

Delores Marino Hodges

After high school my family moved to California. I received my Master's Degree in Speech Pathology and have worked in the Public School System here since then. I've lived in Palm Springs since 1979, with a few breaks along the way; I live in the "old movie colony" Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour's houses are across the street. The house I live in once belonged to Joan Davis (the comic). I plan on attending the reunion. I hope many of the graduates are there.

Larry Canady

I have lived in the Tampa Bay area since 1968, working for Chrysler Corporation for many years in Tampa, raising my four children. In 1974, I married Bill Clifford and we built our home in Seminole. I then worked for Lucent/AT&T/Paradyne Corporation, all of them being the same company! Bill passed away in 2000. Last year, I met and was swept of my feet, (at this age?) by a wonderful man, Franklin Pouliot, a retired teacher/guidance counselor from the Chicago area. We were married in April, having our grandchildren as our attendants; some of you were there! We love to travel and have been and will continue to do so as long as our good health allows.

Suzanne Curtis Puliot



From our yearbook,
The Echo



Some classmates (and our coach who provided us with many thrills and a great deal of pride. This will be our first reunion without Coach as a treasured guest. Wingler, Menghetti, Hawks, Eskins and Groseclose



Remember sock hops and dance contests?



Many of us spent 6 years with Mr. Sallack



Future Golden Eagles!
Agnes, Patsy and Nancy Carol



Remember King Tut's?



Kozy Korner it was a special place

Your help would be appreciated...

Any financial help with the costs of our 50th reunion will be greatly appreciated. You can send a check made payable to: **Class of 1954 Reunion Fund** and send it to Anne S. Miller 123 Quesenberry St. Beckley, WV 25801

Send comments and news items about you or your family to Norm Haddad 10335 Longwood Dr. Largo, FL 33777 or NHaddad939@aol.com

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us. We have our yesterdays, time has not taken them away.

Tomorrow may not be, but we still have today. As memories unfold across the meadows of our minds, We remember the special moments that we will never leave behind.

With excitement and anticipation, We look forward to the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1954

Woodrow Wilson High School
October one
October three
Two Thousand Four

We are retired from county government. I was Adm. Asst. (Fiscal officer/Human Resources.) for Clinton County Board of MR/DD. Eight years as Chief Accountant for Wilberforce University near Xenia, Ohio before going to county government. We have one son and family in Richmond, Ky. and a grand daughter who is a senior at Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio. Its great knowing where so many are that was part of our lives for a few years.

Dorcas Hicks Gallimore

Delores Ash Taylor is busy as Dee Taylor, and has a company called "Prime Time Productions, Inc." in which she writes and produces a television broadcast called "Sizzlin' Seniors" which reaches more than two million people in the Dallas area. She also has a radio program oriented to people (more than six million in the market range of the station) as they age, offering ideas for making positive choices on pertinent topics critical to a healthy, active and happy life-style as they age. She's been doing it for seven years and hopes to go national with it soon. On the personal side, she is grandmother of 10 and great-grandmother of two.

Greetings from Virginia Beach. Charles and I are both retired and enjoying the free time. He had surgery for lung cancer in Jan. 2001 and I had a lumpectomy in Jan. 2003. At this point we are enjoying good health. We are hoping for a better Jan. 2004. I stay in touch with **Betty Scurlock**. Her husband, died a few years ago and she married again last year. She lives in Ocala, Florida, but does not have a computer. Newsletter sounds like a good idea.

Sharon Gabriel Lane

Fred Morris recently retired from Mohawk Carpet after spending a "100 years or more" in that industry. He lives in a home he and his wife built in Barnesville GA along with their horses (outside) and beautiful Lab. Fred turns wooden bowls as a hobby and has shown them in craft festivals. He has just finished a round of chemotherapy following surgery last year.

Ann Monroe Dinger visited Texas recently and spent time with **Susan Hogg Griffith** and her husband, Bill, at their house in Lakeway, TX (near Austin). She said it was a wonderful visit. She has also been in touch with **Virginia Broaddus Patel and Anne Drake Maynor**, on a regular basis. And recently, she went to a Community Association Meeting where she saw **Dwight Wilcox**, who owns a lot in her neighborhood although he lives in MD.

Jessie Davis Dew and her husband Nelson ('50) have retired from the DC/MD area (not really) to their large spread in Ghent where they care for their dogs, landscaping and garden, and the visiting deer. They each keep busy with volunteer work and beautiful glass work.

John Sarandon has changed his residence from CA to Tarpon Springs, FL -- except when he's traveling to New England, Alaska, or Hawaii to visit **Roy Pyles**. With **Suzanne Curtis, Norm Haddad, Mary Sanna** living in the same area, maybe we can have a reunion in Florida someday.

Jesse "Tex" Houston lives in Colorado Spgs. and has been a hot air balloon pilot (hobby) for a number of years. He will forgo that Oct. event in Albuquerque, to be with us next year. He deserves GREAT credit for helping to track down many of our classmates, and we owe him a big thank you.

Jim Bryson has been back in Beckley for a number of years, retired from the Social Security Administration. He is a walking encyclopedia of Beckley sports history and is preparing a sports review for our informal Friday night gathering.

Nancy Holt Stewart still works for the Beckley Register/Herald, she's been there about 30 years. She's looking forward to renewing old friendships at the reunion.

Joyce Blakely McGrady resides in Daniels and enjoys her passion for painting -- acrylics and watercolors. She also enjoys gardening in the summertime.

Joyce Licklitter Broyles is an accomplished author and illustrator. She has written several books, poetry and about Raleigh Co. history. She and her husband, Randall ('49) retired to Beckley several years ago. Joyce was an office manager for the Beckley Area Foundations also.

Tom Durrett resides in Clarksburg, and still uses his artistic skills. He is now involved in stained glass creations and made a large window replacement for one of the churches in Clarksburg. He spent a career in law enforcement. Thanks for your service, Tom. Maybe he'll bring a bit of his art to show at the reunion.

Bernie Menghetti is still trying to retire, but just doesn't have time. He, along with Jim Bryson and Larry Hawks, are keeping the reunion planning meetings on track! They're pleased the plans call for a casual evening on Friday night of the reunion.

Norm Haddad
10335 Longwood Drive
Largo, FL 33777