

# THE 1955 TROJAN Alumni PRINTS

June 2005 • Send news articles and/or photos to Frank Hunter, 3379 Hidden Haven Ct., Tampa, FL 33607 • Email fhunter@sptimes.com • Issue 29

## Were We Smart... or What?

### National Honor Society

1st row: Bill Trone, Mary Ann Carter, Nancy Bower, Deanie Harrison, Katy Davis. 2nd row: Jerry McColgan, Mary Gail Drake, Ginny Smith, Norma Ray. 3rd row: Homer Adams, Nelson Barker, Charles McKelvey, Michael Moore. Back row: Marty Lehman, Dave Wagner

I speak for democracy. I speak for a way of life which governs my ideals, provides law and order, but, most important, insures my individuality. Millions of people, distinguished and common, have lived and discovered this way of life. Thousands have given their lives that this way of life might live.

But it is not enough to sit back and let the government and its words about nothing about our offer.

We are not only physically under attack by two of the most powerful forces of food and hide a hand which swings the ability of the PHS

In the cannot do a single thing unless we ourselves are willing spirit of freedom come into our lives and work through us. If not, I'm afraid that democracy, real democracy, will become only a remembered utterance of a few men who were willing to sacrifice "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor that this nation might live."

I speak for democracy. I have seen, you have seen the suffering and cruelty that liberty-loving nations have had to endure as a result of the

**What a School!  
What a Class!  
What Fantastic  
Teachers!**

### State of Ohio Educational Excellence

Portsmouth High School topped all others in Ohio in the statewide scholarship tests which were held in May 1954. In the classification for all high schools in the state regardless of size, PHS students took nine places among the first 10 in eight of the 21 scholastic subjects covered by the tests. They are: Dot Armstrong, Colin Heath, Terry Taylor, Mickey Herring, **Tom Bond**, Gerald Appleton, John Johnson, **Marty Lehman** and **Mike Moore**.

In English scholarship PHS was the only school whose students placed in all four years of English subjects. They are: Connie Caudill, **Mary Gail Drake**, **Don Snively**, Dona Flowers and Ann Whitlatch.

The Scholarship Team was composed of those students (three for each subject offered) who represented the school in the State Scholarship Tests.

In the Prince of Peace Contest, **Michael Moore** placed first in the county, first in the district, and second in the state semifinals. He placed first in the county and third in the state of Ohio in the "I Speak for Democracy" contest.

In the Ohio History, Government and Citizenship Test, it was the first time in the history of PHS that three representatives were sent to the finals. **Don Snively** and **Roger Quinn** tied for first place in the county. In the finals, **Mike Moore** took ninth place and **Roger Quinn**, placed tenth.

## PHS Factoid

A careful perusal of the recently-published 2005 Portsmouth High School Alumni Directory shows the remarkable fact that 19 of our Class of 1955's teachers were, themselves, graduates of PHS. They are:

Nellie Niswonger	(Algebra); 1906
Isabel Musser	(English); 1913
Margaret Ball	(Latin); 1913
Henrietta DuPuy	(Mathematics); 1915
Margaret Anderson	(English)
Genevieve DuPre	(English); 1918
Helen DuPre	(English); 1920
Anna Blazer	(Latin/English)
Richard Hopkins, Sr.	(Grant-Principal); 1922
Lowell Adams	(Physics); 1923
Ruth Burton	(American History); 1924
Mary Elizabeth Schwartz	(Eng/Journalism); 1925
Marie Trowbridge	(Mathematics); 1926
Hazel Wyatt	(Business); 1936
Alberta Wittenburg	(Business); 1939
Geo. Heller	(Basketball Coach/Drive Ed); 1942
Earl Gibson	(Football Coach/History/Science)
Ruth Ann Peake	(Girls' PE); and 1945
Richard Hopkins, Jr.	(Baseball Coach/Boys' PE)

## Occupations Factoid

The PHS 2005 Alumni Directory lists ten members of our Class of 1955 as Registered Nurses: Linda Boorman King, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing; Mary Ann Carter Stone, Bethesda Hospital School of Nursing; Nancy Clausung Wertman, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing (deceased); Katherine Doty Collier, Bethesda Hospital School of Nursing; Sharon Gallagher Carpenter, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing; Virginia Graham Wagner, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing; Robyn Harold Johnson, Kentucky State University School of Nursing; Betty Hill Ammons, University of Cincinnati School of Nursing; Marilyn Mucha Albrecht, Riverside-White cross School of Nursing; and Connie Smith Enlow, University of Kentucky School of Nursing.

## Graduation Factoid

The Portsmouth High School Class of 1955, had 247 members.

The PHS Class of 2005, which graduates some fifty years later, numbers only 91 members.

Interestingly, the following last names are included in the Class of 2005 roster: Browne, Carter, Clifford, Collins, Cook, Hill, Howard, Johnson, Lewis, Miller, Parker, Rammel, Smith, and Wood. Seems that some things never change.

To see how our class fares in dropout rates vs. today's classes, we can look at our Class of 1955 as Freshmen. Data is from 1952 TROJAN Yearbook (Red cover)

(Count is based on pictures-some people may have been absent on picture day.)

HR 312	25	HR 313	29
HR 314	26	HR 315	30
HR 316	26	HR 318	35
HR 319	30	HR 321 A	72
HR 321 B	68		
		TOTAL	341

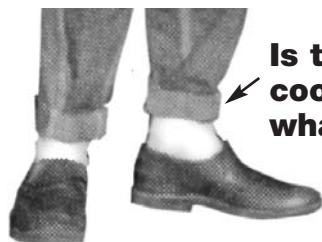
So we started with 341 students and ended up with on 247. Someone do the math...

*Blaine Bierley*

## PHS Faculty 1954-55

H. W. McKelvey	Superintendent
Edward H. Fournier	Principal
Ralph Elliott	Dean of Boys
Margaret McBroom	Dean of Girls
Lowell Adams	Physics
Margaret Anderson	English IV, College English
Margaret Ball	Latin II, III
Temple Baker	English I, III
Anna Blazer	Latin I, English II
Freda Burke	Current History, Social Problems
Ruth Burton	American History
Michael Capozziello	World History
Ralph Cole	Chemistry, General Science
William Coleman	Biology
Herb Crabtree Sr	Machine Shop, RelSci/Math
Genevieve DuPre	English I
Helen DuPre	English I
Henrietta DuPuy	Mathematics
Juanita Fuller	Psychology, French, Counseling
John Glass	English I, Speech, College English
Earl Gibson	World History, General Science
Paul Goings	Sheet Metal Shop, Related Subjects
O. M. Gwinn	Vocational Supervisor
Marion Hartley	Librarian
George Heller	Health, Driver Training
Einar Helstrom	Dir. Music, Concert Band, Choir
Elizabeth Hines	Plane Geometry
Richard Hopkins	Boys' P. E.
Ray Humphrey	Automotive Instructor
Joe Kegley	Civics, American History
Mary Krausz	World History, American History
Bert Leach	Business Training, Gen Mathematics
Joanne Lowery	Home Economics
Charles Lorentz	General Science
Charles McClure	Typing II, Distributive Ed
Marvin McGoron	Auto Rel., Blueprint Reading
Duffrin Morris	Mechanical Drawing I, II
Fred Multer	Industrial Arts
Isabel Musser	English III, Business English
Nellie Niswonger	Algebra I
Gurney Noel	English II
Jack Overman	English III, Spanish I, II
Ruth Ann Peake	Girls' P. E.
Robert Pearson	Junior Machine Shop
Frank Pierson	General mathematics
Charlotte Schaefer	Typing I, II, Clerical practice
Mary Elizabeth Schwartz	English III, IV, Journalism, Creative Writ.
Octavia Shinkle	Home Economics II, III
Richard Sunderland	Marching Band, Choir
Marie Trowbridge	Study Hall Supervisor
Tom Watson	Social Living
Alberta Wittenburg	Typing 1, Comm. Co-Op
Olive Wood	English II, IV
Gale Watts	Bookkeeping
Hazel Wyatt	Shorthand I, Office Practice
Edward Zoretic	General Science
Richard Hopkins, Jr.	Baseball Coach/Boys' PE

*Blaine Bierley*



Is this  
cool or  
what?

## The Poets Corner

IF

*Rudyard Kipling*

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;  
If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with triumph and disaster  
And treat those two imposters just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools;  
If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breath a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";  
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with kings - nor lose the common touch;  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgetting minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run -  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And - which is more - you'll be a Man my son!

## NO COWARD SOUL IS MINE

*by Emily Bronte*

No coward soul is mine,  
No trembler in the world's storm-troubled sphere:  
I see Heaven's glories shine,  
And Faith shines equal, arming me from Fear.  
O God within my breast,  
Almighty, ever-present Deity!  
Life, that in me has rest,  
As I, undying Life, have power in Thee!  
Vain are the thousand creeds  
That move men's hearts: unutterably vain;  
Worthless as withered weeds,  
Or idlest froth amid the boundless main,  
To waken doubt in one  
Holding so fast by Thy infinity,  
So surely anchored on  
The steadfast rock of Immortality.  
With wide-embracing love  
Thy Spirit animates eternal years,  
Pervades and broods above,  
Changes, sustains, dissolves, creates, and rears.  
Though earth and moon were gone,  
And suns and universes ceased to be,  
And Thou wert left alone,  
Every existence would exist in Thee.  
There is not room for Death,  
Nor atom that his might could render void:  
Thou - Thou art Being and Breath,  
And what Thou art may never be destroyed.

If you have a favorite poem, send its title to Jackie at jackieb@earthlink.net or snail-mail to Jackie at 124 Glen Circle, Worthington, OH 43085.

## **Nancy Bower News**

I had an eventful year in 2004. In May, I had brain surgery to implant a shunt to help a condition diagnosed as Normal Pressure Hydroencephalitis (NPH). It drains the excess cerebral spinal fluid through a tube into my peritoneal cavity. Seem to be getting along all right so far.

In Sept., I sold my house in Westerville and moved to State College, PA where I bought a condo that I am very happy with (stairs had become difficult for me due to arthritis). I located here to be near my eldest daughter Angela and her family. Her husband is a professor at Penn State. I have really enjoyed living here and seeing my two grandchildren more often. It has been some adjustment living in an area so much smaller than Columbus, but I have made friends and am singing in a local church choir.

Other than that there has not been anything too exciting with me. I really enjoy keeping in touch by e-mail with my friends and classmates. I am really hoping to come to the reunion in Sept., health permitting.

911 Hart Circle, State College, PA 16801  
814-231-0514  
nsom@earthlink.net

*Nancy*

## **Castor Oil**

I still remember the trauma that I experienced when my mother gave me a good dose of castor oil when I was a kid.

You must remember that my mother, Esta, was a Registered Nurse-Mercy Hospital School of Nursing-Class of 1935-in Portsmouth, Ohio. Now, don't get me wrong, having a mother who was a nurse had a lot of advantages, but it also had some drawbacks-castor oil was one of them. She also had a thing for enemas, but we won't get into that here.

She would bend over with a grim look and sternly thrust a spoonful of the awful stuff into my mouth. When my face would contort, she would say with a big smile, "It's good for you."

Castor oil was a foul-tasting elixir, but my mother, with her nursing background, firmly believed that it was good for me. She believed that it slicked up my insides and made them run smoother. I noticed, however, that she never took any of it herself.

When I was very young, she gave me a dose of cod-liver oil daily as part of breakfast. She tried to disguise its taste by putting it in my orange juice. It was the worst-tasting orange juice that you can imagine.

I saw in a drug store a while back that they now have flavored castor oil. It came in orange and cherry flavors. Taking castor oil today must be a piece of cake.

The only thing that I know of that "real" castor oil is used for any more is to keep moles from burrowing in your yard or garden. I saw some for sale at a garden store last spring. I can understand how it would discourage them. I wonder how moles would take to cod-liver oil? I'm sure that it would send them running!

*Blaine*

## **Curt Gentry News**

In the next issue, you can add that I was reelected to another 6 year term as commissioner of the Round Lake(IL.) Area Park District. Also, I write a monthly sports column for a local publication called the People's Voice. It serves the cities of Waukegan, Zion, and North Chicago, Illinois.

*Curt*

## **Tom DuPuy News**

I will be moving to my little log house this week. T. J. Du Puy, 4315 West County Road 54G  
P. O. Box 788, LaPorte, CO 80535  
970-742-0839

National Cell = 615-202-4747

If you send anything for our web site, the P. O. Box is best.

## **Bob Otworth News**

Please note my new e/mail address -  
rotworth@bellsouth.net I will continue to monitor old e/m address for two weeks - thank you -

*Bob*

## **Teddy Baer**

TEDDY RAY BAER, 70, of Wheelersburg died April 7, 2005, at his residence. He was a member of the PHS Class of 1953, and was a retired Portsmouth City Police Officer. On September 26, 1953, in Greenup, Kentucky, he married Joyce Neal Baer, who preceded him in death on March 20, 2000. (N.B. Joyce Neal did not graduate with the PHS Class of 1955, but was in our class in her 9th, 10th, & 11th grade years.) He is survived by three children and four grandchildren. Funeral services were held on April 11, 2005, with interment at Memorial Burial park in Wheelersburg.

## **Roger Howard News**

I plan to be married on August 20 & move to Texas in November. I met a lady at church & we feel that God brought us together- her name is Ellen. We may have to live in an apartment for a while after the move to Texas. The computer may be out of use after October. I will try to keep all your addresses & re establish contact with you.

*Roger*

## **Roger Quinn Note**

The memorial wall of Vietnam Veterans, known as "The Wall That Heals", is on display in Portsmouth at Tracy Park this weekend. The name of our friend and classmate Maj. Roger A Quinn, is located on Panel 47E, Line 053. This location also applies to The Wall Memorial in Washington D.C., and The Wall That Heals scaled replica that tours the USA. When the Memorial display comes to your area or if you happen to get a chance to view the actual Wall Memorial, hopefully this information will help to locate the name of our friend and classmate who gave so much for so many.

Verizon recently changed our Email address to c.fredjane@verizon.net , they don't seem to like the GTE name being used.....I apologize for the inconvenience, just in case you wanted to know.....hope all is well with everyone.

*Fred and Jane Ramsey*

## **More Portsmouth School History**

Portsmouth City Schools records of 1908 showed schools operating as: Bond Street, Campbell (Wilson), Highland, Fourth Street, Offnere Street, Second Street, and Union Street. Garfield and Lincoln were in use by 1916, and McKinley was under construction by 1917. Massie School replaced Second Street School. Massie was later closed and reopened as a branch of Ohio University and then as part of the City of Portsmouth administrative offices.

Sciotoville schools came into the city system in 1921 with the annexation. North Moreland was added in 1926 and the Boulevard School (Roosevelt) in 1928. Lindsay was added in 1929. Scudder School replaced Fourth Street and Grant replaced Union Street School, which was destroyed by fire in 1929.

By 1935 Portsmouth has 18 buildings in use: Bond, Garfield, Grant, Harding, Highland, Lafayette, Lincoln, Lindsay, Massie, McKinley, North Moreland, Offnere, Roosevelt, Scudder, Washington, Wilson, Portsmouth High, and East High.

With population changes and lack of industrial growth, closing of shoe and steel factories, loss of brick plants, and movement to rural areas, pupil population required fewer buildings. By 1985 the school roster listed only Portsmouth High, East High, East Middle, McKinley and Grant Middle, Harding, Highland, Roosevelt, Lincoln, and Wilson Elementary facilities.

By 2000, the district closed Lincoln and Highland Elementary facilities and in 2001 Portsmouth East High and Middle School due to low enrollment across the district.

In the fall of 2001, the residents of Portsmouth voted a 6.4 mill bond issue to construct all new buildings for the city school district. A new grades 7-12 complex is being constructed on the corner of Gallia and Waller Streets opposite of the old PHS. A PreKindergarten-grade 6 elementary building is being constructed on the corner of Gallia and Union Streets and a PreKindergarten-grade 6 elementary building on Harding Avenue. All remaining buildings are scheduled for demolition.

(adapted from PHS Alumni Directory 2005-- Portsmouth City Schools Office of Educational Media and Technology)

## **Motels in Portsmouth for Reunion Attendees**

**Holiday Inn Express** - 5100 Old Scioto Trail

From \$78 740-3533232

**Ramada Inn** - 711 2nd St. (2nd & Chillicothe)

From \$62 740-354-7711

**Super 8 Motel** - 4266 U.S. Route 23 North

From \$58 740-353-8880

**Days Inn** Wheelersburg - 8340 Ohio River Rd

From \$54 740-574-8431

**Comfort Inn** Wheelersburg - 8226 Ohio River Rd

From \$54.00 740-574-1046

**Days Inn** - 3762 US Hwy 23 North

From \$50 740-354-2851

*All information gleaned from internet - Dollar amounts may not be accurate.*

## **Class of PHS 1955 Loses Unique Website**

With regret, we must inform readers that the magnificent PHS 1955 website planned, built and administered for free by Tom DuPuy, has been dismantled.

The reason? Apathy by the many PHS 1955 classmates who have never, or seldom, contributed any brief stories, updates or pictures for this unique communications vehicle. Tom DuPuy, Frank Hunter, Gene Lucas and frequent contributors who have made heroic efforts in past years simply cannot continue almost alone and therefore, APATHY "wins". What the tearing down of the physical building that was home to PHS 1955 graduates could not do - i.e., also remove our collective memories of the years of our youth, APATHY has accomplished.

And so, today, we bid all a sad and reluctant ...good-bye.

Well, folks, that's the bad news. The good news is that this is merely a projected future headline AND it can be easily averted!

To do so, simply fill in the form which Gene will be sending. All who do so will have the results of their brief profile published next to their class picture on our website. And - speaking of our website, Tom has some terrific technical break-through news: He now has the capability of adding animation, music, videos to your part of the website so if you have any ideas about how we can use these fabulous capabilities, snail or e-mail Tom!

They say if you want something done, ask the busiest person around. The busy people we have asked have responded with enormous efforts and generosity and it's time to give them a little more help.

Examine your conscience; if you are at all proud of the website (which very few classes across the country possess), take a few minutes from what everyone understands is precious - your time - and fill out the form. This information will give us reams of interesting material with which to make both the newsletter and the web site more informative and meaningful to all.

Thank you for reading and many thanks in advance for filling out the form and thus, doing your part to contribute significantly in keeping the newsletter and web site not merely "alive" but thriving!

On any future, additional stories, pics, philosophical musings you wish to send in, please remember too: They needn't be of world-wide and shattering-events scope - after all, our lives are comprised in most part of little pleasures and small joys and that is the kind of human-interest "stuff" and "stuff of emotional life" material we can share and enjoy with others down through coming years.

*Jackie Brown*

## **Time for Dues Payment**

dues for the coming year are payable by June 1 for everyone who has not already paid. Please send **Five Dollars** to Gene Lucas, 1419 Second Street, West Portsmouth, OH 45663.

## **Contest Note**

Look on the website, then under "class of". You will notice that our names are posted in 4 rows. To this date, there are no "4 across - like bingo"! I propose that whoever fills in their 4 across will win a free trip around the world or something similar for all four classmates. Well, perhaps something a bit cheaper, but it will be fun to see if it happens and who causes it. Like for me, roger howard and clayton howerton... we need emma howard to fill up the four. Just send a bit of info to Tom DuPuy.

T. J. Du Puy, 4315 West County Road 54G  
P. O. Box 788, LaPorte, CO 80535  
970-742-0839, email to tj@sfaw.org



**Guess Who**  
or should we say "guess when"

## **Note from Bill Banchy**

George and his wife Florence ran the Park Shoppe for a number of years, and the Banchy children all attended Holy Redeemer and Notre Dame schools.

Bill Banchy sent along these photos. The first photo is of the Banchy matriarch, Helen Banchy (who died in 1977), and it shows her expressing surprise at meeting President Lyndon Johnson and his wife, Lady Bird, in Washington many years ago. The second picture is of my sister, Helen (Banchy) Hurly with one of her daughters, Lou Sagsveen, meeting Pope John Paul II at an audience in Rome.

*Bill Banchy*



## **Spring Fling Gals**

Our Annual Spring Fling in Florida took place in Sarasota the first part of April. The gals attending were: Marilyn Grierson Payne, Donna McCally Boren, Carol Merb Conley and Linda Boorman King. Peg Harvey was too ill to be with us and was certainly missed.

*Donna*