

Bushy Tales

Dedicated to all who attended London Central High School in Bushy Park, London England from 1952 to 1962



Issue #5

August 2004

Volume #4

Gary Schroeder (55), Editor <u>gschroeder_uscgaux@msn.com</u> Visit the Bushy Park Web Site at http://www.bushypark.org/

Class Representatives

1953 - Jackie (Brown) Kenny JKYKNY@aol.com 1954 – Betsy (Neff) Cote betsycote@atlanticbb.net 1955 - Nancie (Anderson) Weber nancieT@verizon.net 1956 - Glenda F. Drake gfdrake@swbell.net 1957 – Celeste (Plitouke) Brodigan Mbrodi1939@aol.com 1958 – Pat (Terpening) Owen nemoamasa@worldnet.att.net 1959 - Jerry Sandham Jsandham@quixnet.net 1960 - Ren Briggs renpat1671@uneedspeed.net 1961 - Betsy (Schley) Slepetz sbslepetz@erols.com 1962 - Dona (Hale) Ritchie DonaRitchi@aol.com

Editors Note: I have moved the Roster Changes, New Email addresses, New Addresses, etc... to the end of the newsletter for this one time only. There were two pages of them. Look for them at the beginning of the next newsletter just as before.

Look Who We Found

Dorothy L. Zirkle (56) 1004 Markham Court, #K Bel Air, MD 21014

Cleo Chambliss Courington (57) 27528 118th Street, SE Monroe, WA 98272

Nancy M. Fleese Holcomb (69) 1881 Clifton Bridge Drive Virginia Beach, VA 25456

Bruce Bristow (61)

3265 Marigold Lane Medford, OR 97504

Jerry D. Pickinpaugh (61) Jpickinpaugh@msn.com 906 Westminster Drive Richardson, TX 75081

Marilyn Franz Rucker (62) 15620 10th Avenue SW Seattle, WA 98166 NO INTEREST

Frances M. Yates Kawakami (62) francesk@wyellowstone.com 18 N. Faithful Street P.O. Box 317 West Yellowstone, MT 59758 (406) 646-9683

<u>Classmates Who Have Transferred</u> <u>To The Eternal Duty Station</u>

Our love and prayers go out to the family and friends of our classmates who have gone on before us. We will miss them, yet we can find comfort in knowing that one-day we will all join them for the greatest of all reunions

Kinney Vines (57) February 2, 1938 - December 1980

Lois Geenter (59)

Jackie Cates Steinher (60) Died suddenly on June 25, 1991

Jerry Hunsicker (56) - July 12, 2004

Hi, I found your name (Bushy Park) on my dad's computer. He passed away on July 12, 2004. He took me and my son to England 2 years ago. I loved it. So if you can pass it on. I know he got a newsletter. Thank you. C. J. Hunsicker, Jr. (cjhappybeach@aol.com)

Gail Lorraine Ross (62)

Received from Shirley Ross, aunt to Gail Ross (62)

Hi Pat - We have a niece by of the name Gail, and her family was in England. Her father was in the Air Force. Yes she was from Eau Claire, PA. Gail married and her and husband and kids lived in NJ. Gail's mother and father retired to Florida in the early 1970's. I hate to be the one to pass on bad news, but Gail passed away from cancer in 1995. Her mother and sister live in Leesburg, Florida.

Reunion News

From Billie (Culp) Bules (54) bcbules@aol.com

ONE LAST CHANCE to register for the 50th class reunion of the Class of 1954. If you were a member of the class of 1953, 1954 or 1955 London Central High School and have not registered yet for our 50th reunion in Laughlin, Nevada, October 10, 11 & 12, 2004, you still have an opportunity to register and attend. We can accept 7 more for the dinner cruise October 10th and 7 more for the bus trip to Lake Havasu City to see the London Bridge, October 12th and room for many more to attend the dinner/dance on October 11th. THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS: August 15, 2004. Come join the fun!

Email Billie (Culp) Bules, class of 1954 at <u>bcbules@aol.com</u> or call her at 602-482-2839 for registration information, or mail your registration to her at 1105 E. Annette Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85022-1123

Memories of Bushy

From Don Mercer (62) donaldmercer@yahoo.com

The mystery photo in the last issue looks like the main gate to Bushy. (Editors Note: How right he is. Give the man a pint at the local Pub.)

From Patricia Owen (58)

nemoamasa@worldnet.att.net

#14 is Judy Mercier (62). Does anyone know who any of the others are?



From John Strand (58) jsstrand@sbcglobal.net

I was saddened to hear of Mr. Threlkelds recent death. He was the first to give a young Les Paul wannabe guitar lessons - that would be 1954-55. Once a week I would haul my brand new \$39.00 Sears and Roebuck Silvertone solid body electric (the very poor man's Gibson Les Paul!!) and a home built amp that worked on 220 to school on the bus. (Remember dealing with all those transformers and the 50 cps power instead of 60cps? - I used to wind lengths of scotch tape around the drive shaft of my record player to bring it up to speed - and it was never quite right!)

That year Mr. Threlkeld taught me some basic chords and picking, and toward the end of the semester made a guitar part to "Tumblin Tumble Weeds" which the choir was going to sing at graduation. Although I was scared to death, Mr. Threlkeld kept practicing with me and encouraging me to "play the gig". Denny Kise (who DID have the beautiful gold Gibson guitar) loaned me his Fender amp for the evening - and as I remember, my first public performance went well enough that I was hooked on performing.

Eventually, that turned into a lifetime second career in several different phases of the music world - one that has given me countless hours of pleasure (and at times a little extra money to supplement schoolteacher wages!) Summer of 2002 I put together a CD of old tapes that Sharon and I had done back in the mid 60's and sent a copy to Mr. Threlkeld along with my appreciation for his early guidance and encouragement plus a Xerox of the graduation program and his arrangement of "Tumblin Tumble Weeds" He let me know how much he enjoyed hearing from former students and knowing that he played some part in their lives and that it always brought fond memories of England. He enclosed a copy of his Christmas newsletter and shared some memories of his own about people, places, and times. (I knew that the rock group "America" were all "brats" but, I had no idea that they had been his students).

I feel so very fortunate to have been able to communicate after so many years (I guess we could all call those the "lost years" before the computer age put us in touch again) my appreciation and thanks to Mr. Threlkeld. My sympathy and thoughts are with all the members of his family. Know that I appreciate all his kind nurturing and that I have been fortunate enough to be in a position from time to time to pass that nurturing and kindness along to others in my life. His influence is an ever widening circle. Thanks again, Mr. Threlkeld. You were the best ever!!!

From Kinney Scott (62) kscott1@gbronline.com

Those were the good old days! How many times have you heard that? But in many ways they really were. What a wonderful opportunity-to go to high school in London and graduate at Wembley.

The class of 62 was a unique class to be in. I was one of the ones that dormed for a week and went home on the weekend-oh those bus rides! Mr. Slater was our dorm wing supervisor. He had a unique long nose and we affectionately nicknamed him "Slater Mouse" and had an interesting song that we sang to the tune of "The Mickey Mouse March" that cannot be repeated here.

Memories of filling up garbage cans full of water and leaning them up against doors and then knocking on the door and disappearingone dorm mate who was from a ranch; lassoing buck deer in Bushy Park and letting them loose in the middle of the night in the dorm halls-dancing in the aisles of the movie theater to "Rock Around The Clock" and someone in the theater calling the MP's; afraid that a riot was breaking out; sitting around in the dorms singing the historic protest songsand Mr. Slater getting rather annoyed at Harold Brown and myself sitting on the windowsill with our feet hanging out in the cold winter air at one AM -singing "Go Down To Kew At Lilac Time" at the top of our lungs.

The dorm rooms were so drab; I hung a full size 48 star American flag up in the room-it covered the entire wall and made life a little brighter.

I was the photographer on the yearbook staff and oh the memories of going into London with classmates and taking pictures. To realize now that you could go into London, have a gourmet meal at an Indian restaurant, go see a play and sit in the front row of the dress circle, run all over London for the entire day, and still have a few bob left over at the end of the day!!! On one trip we hit The Olde Curiosity Shop, St. Pauls, and probably every square and park in London.

The main school play was a production of the Pirates of Penzance and we made cannons out of taped together oatmeal drums. Others have talked about the interesting cafeteria food-I remember the two or three food fights that erupted when it was particularly bad.

The class trip was to Italy. Eighty-six of us went and we chartered a United Arab Airlines DeHaviland Comet and flew to Rome for eight days, total cost \$118 per person-which included the first class hotel, bus tours, and two meals a day. I still have an unopened bottle of coca-cola with Arabic lettering that I got from a stewardess and I still love blood oranges and cheese, which we carried around with us on our adventures.

Other memories include the gift shops on top of St. Peters that were divided in half with items that were blessed by the Pope on one side and unblessed stuff on the other side; which were cheaper-the American versus Italian bumper car contests at the carnival down the street from the hotel, which we stopped going to when the carnival raised the ride prices-Pompeii-Naples-Capri-where Eddie Broadhurst convinced a certain redhead that she really could jump of the high board into the pool with her new bikini. Our hotel room had red marble walls an inch thick, but the toilet did not flush well so we named it "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing".

Remember Dr. Young and his wife doing head counts at two AM in the hotel. One night we were all wet from running around Rome at night in the rain an Doc Young opened the door and said "head Count" we called out " 5 guys and 3 girls" and he just said "OKgoodnight".

On the flight back, the pilot took a turn around Mount Blanc so that we all could see it, and we stopped in Geneva to refuel-remember the smell of chocolate in the airport terminal?

I now also think about those being days of trust and relative innocence and times when our generation cared about not violating the trust that others had in us. Lots of memories and this could get really long, so---Hi to Bonnie Fritz, Harold Brown, Arnold, Rosemary, and many, many more. I remain happy with my marvelous memories of the "good old days."

This and That

From Frank Janusz (Faculty) FJanusz@cs.com

The following article from the NEA Journal might be of interest:

If you ever attended or taught in a school overseas, the nonprofit American Overseas Schools Historical Society would like to hear from you. AOSHS is launching a museum and archives featuring memorabilia reflecting life in American schools overseas. They're looking for donations of yearbooks, letter jackets, cheerleading outfits, mascots, and the like. Contact AOSHS, P.O. Box 4133, Scottsdale, AZ 85261 or go to <u>http://aoshs.wichita.edu</u> for more information.

From Bob Lyle (54) Robvlyle@cs.com

For the first two years we were in England I went to English schools. We arrived in

England in September of 1950. My father was an engineer for a private firm doing construction work in the oil and chemicals industries. We lived in a flat in South Kensington.

For the first month or two I went to a very small school near Cadogan Square. There were only a few students in each class and it was my first exposure to French, Latin, British history and several other subjects. The only thing I remember about that school was that the son of the actor Ray Milland was enrolled there - I don't remember the son's name.

Then I went to an all boys grammar school in Chelsea. At the time Chelsea was not the upscale community it is today. The term grammar school referred to a public funded school for high school and perhaps down to middle school age students. These types of schools were abolished some years later in favor of what I believe were called comprehensive schools.

The classes were organized by forms (grades) and within each form the students were assigned to classes based on academic achievement. There was an all girls school just down the street but the schedules must have been fixed so that there was absolutely no possible contact between the boys and the girls!

When I started I was assigned to the lowest academic group for my age because I was behind in many of the subjects offered. The best way to describe this group was they were mostly a bunch of ruffians! At that time I think I was the only foreign student in the school but the next year there were two other foreign students, boys whose families came from Poland. In any case, I think the only reason I survived that first year was I was physically bigger than any of them. There were no real out and out physical confrontations but I quickly developed a hard skin because of the verbal abuse from these English kids.

The school had a debating club and toward the end of the first year I was invited as an observer to an after school debate where the topic being debated was "England should become the 49th state of the United States." At the end of the debate I was asked about my views. I don't honestly remember what I said but I do remember that the school newspaper reporting on the debate said that R. Lyle, the sole American present, spoke highly of the English way of life and said that he thought that England should continue to be independent. I can't imagine that I would have said anything quite that diplomatic at age 15 and very naive about world affairs - the editor did me a big favor.

There are lots of other recollections, perhaps for a later issue.

Bill Cooper (57)

liammail@erols.com

Daughter Meg and her husband Joe Naab, just presented me with my 13th grandchild. Karl Samuel Naab, weighing 7 pounds and 12 ounces (with a blond curl) was born at 2:30 pm EDT on July 21, 2004. All are doing well.

From Connie (Newlin) Drennon (60) <u>cbdrenn@uakron.edu</u>

Just a note about the current 'Jeopardy' winner and a question he missed on Monday, July 12. Neither Ken Jennings nor his fellow competitors knew the name given to young English men of the 50's who dressed in a style inspired by the Edwardian era. How funny to sit in front of the TV and respond aloud "Teddy Boys!" Hey, just think how many of us knew the answer!

From Jeanette Hickey Sharp (60) thornal@skybest.com

You found the right Jeanette Hickey (Sharp). You are good!! Finding my brother did the trick. Thanks for keeping up the search.

What a treat. I have said for years - as my siblings go off to reunions- that I doubt if there will ever be one for Bushy Park grads. So I am pleased to know that isn't so! I'm looking forward to the 2005 gathering in DC.

Bill and I do still have a residence in Gloucester, VA. When we sold our home there we bought a little cottage on a river to give us a place to hang when we visit our children, grandchildren and friends in the area. However after keeping a post box and answering service for the phone for awhile, we found that both were filled with junk and not much important communication each time we checked. So we dropped both and receive everything here at our home in Ashe County NC. After 30 years on the water, we retired to a mountaintop. We are truly blessed.

I have done a quick visit to the website and will visit it at length soon. I'd love to be on the list to receive the newsletter. Now I need to climb in the attic and find my yearbook to place faces with the names from our graduating class. Can't believe how close some folks live to our home in Gloucester. What fun!

From John Stephens (60) stephens12@bellsouth.net

I have moved. This is the longest exchange we've had in a long time, and I welcome it. Whitesburg is southwest of Atlanta in Carroll County, toward the Alabama border. It's between Newnan and Carrollton. Thanks to friends in the area, I found a country house on 62 acres of a wildlife refuge -- plenty of woodlands for my hound dog to explore. From my porch (how I have missed having a porch), I can't see any houses. Awwww, a southern boy (Florida native) on a porch with his hound dog. How bucolic. It's about 45 miles from Atlanta, but quite remote, hidden in the forested lands near the Chattahoochee River.

Al LaGrille (61)

gato5@charter.net

I attended Bushey Park from '57 (middle school, back where Ike had his HQ's when he planned D-Day) thru '58, '59, '60, and rotated home the fall of '61. Steve LaFever went all through with me, along with the Holiday brothers.

Talking about Yearbooks, I have '58, '59, and '60. I also have a Central High School, London, England jacket which both of our children wore while they went to High School, and one of the kids there, Stoughton, WI High School, told my daughter her mother said she had gone to BPHS, and had been in my class. I was very upset that I was never to go and get in touch with her.

Letters to the Editor

From Yvette Vaughan (57) Dmulc16939@aol.com

You are doing a great job and I appreciate all of the time you put into keeping us informed. I am sending you my toll free number at work. I work for the City of Biloxi in Biloxi Ms. We are the latest threat to Vegas. (tongue in cheek). I work at the Visitor Center and will be happy to send any information to any one interested in coming to gamble, golf or vacation. The number is 1800-245-6943. I am there on Monday and Wednesday. From Bev Gehrett Wagner (58) Packrats2@aol.com

We are planning a visit to my brother, Warren (class of 56) in Ottumwa, IA, maybe in August. We would love to meet with anyone within some kind of driving distance. (Editors Note: Maybe she can say "Hello" to "Radar O'Reilley" while she is there for those of us who are M.A.S.H. fans.) ©

Felicia Hardison Londre (59) londref@umkc.edu

Yes, I am the Felicia Hardison who attended Bushy Park for my freshman year of high school, which would have been (I think, working backwards from my 1959 graduation from Lincoln H.S.) 1955-56. We left England in 1956.I would be very interested in information about a gathering.

From Valerie Filinson Katz (60) <u>vkatz@satx.rr.com</u>

I forgot to write to you to tell you I contacted Marion Irving. I did call her and we chatted several times. It seems her father lived in the same community that I was chief of Speech and Audiology. Our paths have crossed many times over the years but we never realized it. Hopefully next September we will be able to get together as I am traveling all summer. I was thrilled to hear her voice again. Thank you so much for your help in locating her.

From Judith (Samms) Stanford (59) stanfordwk@earthlink.net

I love the newsletter and you do a fantastic job. Brings back so many happy memories. Keep up the good work and thank you.

From Charyl Trayhern Singer (61) charylsinger@msn.com It was great to get your email! I certainly did attend Bushy Park and McLean. It seems so coincidental that you would contact me this week. On Tuesday I "googled" my father's name and was intrigued to see my own name listed on a bushypark.org page. Needless to say, I went right to it, and enjoyed tremendously seeing old names and faces.

Thanks to those of you who are doing this -the older I get the more I seem to want to revisit the scenes of my youth! And thanks, too, for going to the trouble of getting in touch with me...I think I'll take some time this a.m. to explore the website more thoroughly.

From Sue Miller Dalberg (62) Wolfpaw81@aol.com

Good job on the newsletter! Just a chuckle for all of you. I remember my first 4th of July in England and the stunned looks I got when I ask when the celebrations started! :)))) Luckily, the British are far to reserved to laugh in the face of a teenager!

Roster Changes

New email addresses:

Herbert Chico Kieswetter (56) kiesy@mindspring.com

Walter Hunt (56) Walt6238@aol.com

Ed Klohe (57) eklohe@ventanamed.com

James R. Bass (58) JRBlaw@sbcglobal.net

Robert McClelland (58)

rjm1usa@hotmail.com

Larry Haatvedt (59) f4stick@hotmail.com

Geneva Dennard Miller (60) GENEVA7478@msn.com

Valerie Filinson Katz (60) Vkatz@satx.rr.com

Sandra Littlefield (61) jeemar2003@yahoo.com

Bill Grass (61) liveklge@yahoo.com

Jerry Pickinpaugh (61) JPickinpaugh@msn.com

Sandy Vawter Van Doren (61) essellvee@juno.com

Edward Godwin (62) ed.godwin@rcc.edu

Tom Hanton (62) tomhanton@hotmail.com

Patricia Jones Lawrence (62) bradlawrence@comcast.net

Kathlee Knopke Bryan (62) nwbryan@earthlink.net

Gay Pierce McAllum (62) Gay.mcallum@wilmerhale.com

New addresses

Kaye (Caldwell) Jones (56) <u>kayeone@cox.net</u> I have a new address and phone number. The "two Jones" address will be going away. Also, no one knows me as "Virginia." Kaye (Caldwell) Jones '56 118 Nantucket Island Centerville, GA 31028 (478) 971-3799

Pat O'Brien (57)

4144 SE 74TH. Portland, OR 97206 (503) 774-2997

Margaret Bouterse Clement (61) 17619 N. Bentline Drive Sun City West, AZ 85375 (623) 975-1674

Terrisa F. Chastain Taylor (61) 921 Greenhill Road Bowling Green, KY 42103 NOT INTERESTED IN REUNIONS

New Address and E-Mail:

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Winona Hoagland Kripal (61)

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E-MAILS NO LONGER ACTIVE.

If anyone has information, please contact Pat Terpening Owen at <u>nemoamasa@worldnet.att.net</u>. Thanks

Hugh Arnold (57)- Iris0818@digitalusa.net Donald Ashkenase (61) Aashk@aol.com Zona Gayle Bailey McCormick (61) Mcsmon@msn.com Rebecca Blonts (62) - grumpeb@msn.com Margaret A. Bouterse Clement (61) - no longer has e-mail Jack C. Bunton (60) - Buntonjax@juno.com Penny Campbell Bumgardner (61) -Penny.bumgardner@savfoods.com Marc L. Chamberlain (62) -Mctrinc@bellsouth.net Patricia A. Daves Cain (60) -Canne911@aol.com Juanita Sue Daves Lyon (62) -SDICL@mail.msn.com Stanley Deuel (60) - Stan@ibpatdc5.org Richard Dubowy (59) - Gduboy@usadirect.net Gloria Carol Farmer Bruns (60) carolfarmer@sierracontracting.com Dwight Filley (59) - Fill206@aol.com William "Tex" Foelsing aka Dean Scott (59) -Dscott@281.com Carol Garside Brooks (62) -Brooks12@flash.net Sherry Gregory Carson (53) -Wcarson@mindspring.com

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