

Bushy Tales

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



Issue #9

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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: In the past, we've had some former classmates ask that we not publish certain information, their addresses, e-mail addresses, etc. We've tried to honor these requests. However, now that we've found over 1200 of the 2400 former classmates, it's become harder to remember who didn't want something published in the newsletter. Therefore, we're asking that you let us know if you send something to us, and don't wish to share it with other classmates. We'll honor these requests as they are received, but it is almost impossible to honor a blanket request, so it would be necessary for you to let us know each time you don't want something published. Thanks. Gary and Pat

Roster Changes

New email addresses:

Peg Corder Johnson (54) PetuniaPatchJX@bellsouth.net

Dave McManigal (56) dmcmanigal@cableone.net

Brian Mcmahon (57)

BpMcmahon1@msn.com As I move to the new world (the 20ish Century) I have a new email address. This is it Bpmcmahon1@msn.com please use this from now on. I also have a new Mobile phone that number is 719-213-0927.

Sean (Carr) McMahon (58) <u>Bpmcmahon1@msn.com</u> Mobile phone -719-213-0927 Marie "Pinky" (Carmichael) Berg (59) berg37@verizon.net

Arlene (Costello) Marcley (60) amarcley@charter.net

Charles Raysbrook (60) craysbrook@hotmail.com

Sandra (Vawter) Van Doren (61) essellvee@sbcglobal.net

Joe Garcia (62)

I have changed internet service, my home email address is <u>XUSNXFA@peoplepc.com</u> I like reading Bushy tales. I can remember living in the Annex and jumping the wall after study hall. Ah those were good old days.

Suzanne Trammell (62) eieio@inebraska.com

New Address:

Dr. Thomas Drysdale DOD Schools Archives 5010 East 21st Street North Wichita, KS 67208

Dan Guisinger (62)

drguisinger@gmail.com 2902 W. Haley Drive Anthem, AZ 85086

Look Who We Found

Charles Arnhold (62)

charlesarnhold@comcast.net 18229 Paladin Dr. Olney, MD 20832 Home phone: (301) 924-9154 Cell phone: (301) 366-3309

<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

From Mike Murphy (58) OLDSALT1223@aol.com

Obituary for my brother Jack.

My brother Jack was put to rest on Friday the 24th of September 2004. He was cremated at his request and the cremains were buried at the Veterans gravesite in Sandhills, north of Fort Bragg NC. A headstone was provided with the inscription. MSGT Jack F. Murphy, US Army Retired. 1938 - 2004 beloved father, soldier and friend. The memorial was at the VFW post in Fayetteville NC. There were about 200 people attending. I, along with my brothers, George and James gave the Eulogy. Jack died doing what he did best, Volunteering showing people Names on the Moving Vietnam Veterans wall. Jack was on his way home when he was hit by a large delivery truck that ran a red light. He died instantly. He is survived by his sons, Paul and Gregory (stepson), and 3 brothers. Jack was a bachelor. I want to thank everyone for their cards, letters and caring during this time. I will send thank you notes as soon as I can. I intend to honor his life by attending the re union in DC Oct 2005. Thank you

From Wanda Castor DeVary (60) mumszie@tampabay.rr.com

JEFFREY W. JOWDRY DEXTER - Jeffrey W. Jowdry 64 died May 4, 2004 at a Bangor hospital. He was born in Milo Aug. 21, 1939 the son of Earl and Margaret (Crozier) Jowdry. Jeffrey attended high school in Milo, Ellsworth, and spent his senior year in London England and graduated from Bushey Park High School in London.

Throughout his high school day he was an excellent athlete and was a star basketball player and remained a sports fan throughout his life. Jeffrey owned and operated Jacobs Cattle Country Store in Mapleville R.I. until his retirement. Jeffrey enjoyed woodworking and had a woodworking shop at his home. He also enjoyed spending summers in Colorado with his daughters and while there developed a summer business making Adirondack furniture. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dexter.

He is survived by his mother Margaret Jowdry of Old Town, his wife of 25 years Ernestine (Wojnar) Jowdry of Dexter, one son Jeffrey W. Jowdry Jr. of Silver Springs New Mexico, three daughters, Megan Jowdry of Dexter, Catherine Williamson of Boulder, Colorado, Gretchen Bitner of Colorado Springs, Colorado, one sister Faye McDermott of Old Town, five grandchildren Riley DeCoteau, Chelsea and Matthew Williamson, Katie and Aaron Bitner, several nieces and nephews.

There are no public visiting hours. Memorial services will be conducted 1 PM June 5, 2004 at the First Baptist Church in Dexter. Arrangements are entrusted to the Brown Funeral Home 34 High St. Newport.

Reunion News

From Betsy Neff Cote (54) betsycote@atlanticbb.net

My husband and I had quite a trip both on the way to and from the reunion. We put over 6,000 miles on the car. On the way out we left home on Friday the 1st and spent the weekend with our son's family in Dayton, Ohio. On

Monday morning we started west and drove all the way to Columbia, Missouri. Saw the Arch in St. Louis. Rte. 70 through Kansas is pretty straight but on it they have the largest Russell Stover Candy outlet in the country and who can resist going there? Also on this road a little ways from Hays in a very small town is a beautiful Cathedral of the Plains which seems unusual for a farming community that doesn't seem to have much in the way of buildings or even people. In Colorado the scenery changes to one of gorgeous mountains with snow on the peaks. Just drove straight through Colorado Springs as we had toured there when we visited my Dad who was at one time stationed at Fort Carson. In Taos, New Mexico we visited some old Air Force friends who we knew in Montana They are retired and live in their home town and we got some Mexican American cultural information as well as a hail storm that evening. In the morning we went to Santa Fe to view the oldest continuous seat of government in the U.S. My husband who is always interested in construction had to see that chapel that has a unique staircase. That afternoon we drove through the Painted Desert and Petrified Forest. The next day we were a little ahead of schedule so we stopped in Williams, Az. and took the train to the Grand Canyon even though we had driven all around the Canyon a few years ago. Since I come from a railroad town I wanted to ride the train which reminded me of the days during the Second World War when being an Army Brat had to ride the train from one assignment to another as my Dad had no car. We entered Laughlin by old Rte. 66 having picked it up in Seligman. It was in a lot worse shape than the part we tried one time in Texas and when we got to Oatman had to stop as the road through town was blocked with a gunfight. The Reunion in Laughlin was a really nice time and I feel like it is more of a family reunion than a school reunion. I am very happy to have been able to attend the last three big reunions. I am sorry to say I did

not come home a monetary winner although I didn't try too hard as I spent most of my time talking over old times and catching up on what is going on now. We had thought that on the way home we might check out Branson once again but my daughter who just moved to Chatanooga, TN. wanted us to get there for Sat. night as she had tickets for the local symphony to see the Pirates of Penzance. She wanted to surprise her Dad who she said drove her crazy with Gilbert and Sullivan music when she was growing up. While there we also took in a German Festival and the Aquarium. On our drive back home through Virginia the fall foilage put on quite a show. We came home on the 20th after a very eventful time which had it now been for the Reunion we probably would not have thought of taking such a trip. A big Thanks to Billie and her committee.

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

London Central High School, Class of 1954 50th Reunion

The 50th reunion was held October 10, 11 & 12, 2004 at the Flamingo Laughlin Hotel/Casino, Laughlin, Nevada with 58 classmates and spouses attending from the classes of 1953, 54 & 55. If you were a member of one of these classes and did not attend, you missed a great time.

We started off with a Dinner Cruise on the Colorado River on Sunday night. On Monday we were able to use the Amazon Aviary banquet room all day to set up our memorabilia. And, the best part of that was when classmates brought their memorabilia, they stayed to visit with other classmates, which gave us a lot more time to visit with everyone. Two slide shows were set up on laptops, by Sam Myers and Gary Schroeder, with pictures of various classmates, other reunions and current pictures taken on a digital camera and downloaded to the laptop.

Monday night we returned to the banquet room for a cocktail hour, followed by a buffet dinner, a special recognition program, dancing to 50's music and a lot more time to visit with everyone. The special recognition part of our evening was to honor Gary Baldwin and Bob Lyle from the class of 1954 for being the best detectives in finding classmates. We honored Nancie Anderson Weber, the Godmother of the class of 1955 for finding classmates, publishing newsletters for her classmates over the years and publishing the memory books for several reunions. Gary Schroeder was honored for being the "Glue that holds us together" with his Bushy Tales Newsletters.

We were honored to have 3 faculty members attend this reunion, Joy Zindell, John Billington and Doris Billington and we involved them in a special contest to see "who was the most recognizable from their high school photos on their nametags". The winners were Ruth Lund Bethea, Betsy Neff Cote, Sam Myers and Gene Hibbeler and a special gift was given to Mariann Walton McCornack for being the only one from the class of 1953 brave enough to attend the reunion.

Tuesday we all assembled for a bus tour to Lake Havasu City to see the London Bridge, lunch on the patio of the London Bridge Resort, overlooking the bridge and then on to a walk thru the old mining town of Oatman, Arizona to see the wild burros and the honeymoon suite in the Oatman Hotel where Clark Gable and Carol Lombard spent their honeymoon.

In between the planned activities many had smaller group conversations, meals together, walks on the Riverwalk, trips to local museums, a little gambling and a WHOLE LOT OF FUN!







From Coralie (Guertin) Lajoie (55) Mondo19341@aol.com

What a great reunion, I really had a lot of fun visiting with my Central High school buddies. The memory book was a tremendous idea and

I send a great big thank you to Nancie Anderson Webber for a job well done. Billie Bules certainly deserves the same for doing such a great job in organizing the activities. I thoroughly I enjoyed the dinner cruise, dinner dance and the trip to the London Bridge and Oatman. It is amazing how much of a bond we all have between us even after fifty years. I guess we revert to our teenage years once we get together (at least in our heads.) Isn't it just too bad our bodies don't revert back too. I'm delighted that we will continue to have these reunions. I can't wait for the next one to come along, it gives me something to look forward to every couple of years. By the way my husband and I loved the area so much that we stayed on another five days. You just can't beat the weather in Nevada.

Mini Reunion News

From Mike McManis (58) MMiros@aol.com

Mike McManis and Harold "The Snake" Dilley had lunch in Simpsonville, and really enjoyed going over our stories. Harold brought up a good point and that was those who were day students did not have as many close relationships as those that lived in the Dorms. True. I was fortunate and did both.

Keep up the good work. We are having dinner with David Anderson and his family in VA next week.

Memories of Bushy

From Tony Taylor (58) tonyt@realtymail.net

As I sit at my computer on a rainy day in Seattle (it is fall, you know) and listening to "Earth Angel" and "Duke of Earl" on my favorite Doo Wop CD, I couldn¹t help but think that it is time to drop a line to my Bushy Park classmates and friends. Speaking of classmates, Kris (Ludlow) Ravetz and her husband, Ted (he could have easily fit in with the Bushy crowd), came by for a visit and lunch several weeks ago. It was one of those beautiful early fall days as we relived some favorite moments from Bushy Park and our Easter break to Paris for a week (Chuck Stewart and me and 3 beautiful girls)! Kris and Ted live in a cozy cabin on Whidbey Island about a hour from here.

By the way, speaking of beautiful girls from so long ago, do any of you guys or gals from Class of 57 have any idea whatever happened to Janice Taylor (no relation) after she graduated and went to Germany with her parents (her dad was in the Army)? I know Pat Owen has tried to trace down Janice whereabouts for the past few years. And for my classmates in 58, does anyone know where the lovely and vivacious Kathy Tibbets disappeared? I lost touch with her shortly after she remarried and moved to Harvard, MA in the mid-90s. Even Fred Gruin does not know where she lives now.

Ah, yes, and then you guys remember one other beautiful gal from Bushy Park and the American Teenage Club (TAC) in London: Donna Forsman! Donna was our houseguest for a few days in early September. She was out here from her home in Annandale, VA, for a visit with us, and old friends from her early career days in NYC. Donna has become quite the world traveler having taken canal trips in Europe and visited favorite spots in South and Central America. Don¹t be surprised if one of these days we see a change of address for Donna living in Costa Rica. One of Donna¹s current careers among several is that she is a technical and commercial writer. So if any of you out there in post-Bushy Park land need a great writer to put your next technical paper in proper context, give Donna a call.

For those of you who remember the TAC in the basement of the Columbia Club, wasn't that the greatest? One of my favorite photos from London days is a group picture of the TAC gang when Fred Buhler was president. There is Judy Icke on his left, Mrs. Stewart (Chuck¹s mom) on his right, then, next to her is Chuck and pretty Jane Milburn. Also in the front row is another beautiful gal, Nancy Vorlander, and cool man, Keith Johnson. In the background are over two dozen other TAC members including Donna and brother Al Forsman, and Elizabeth Manning who had the most beautiful natural blond hair of any girl or woman I have ever known. In fact poor Elizabeth took a lot of ribbing because some did not believe she was a natural blond, but if you knew her, you knew she was for real. Why is it that I remember most of the gal's names, but not so many of the guys? Do you know that every one of these gals is wearing a dress or skirt in the photo, and every guy, to a man, is actually wearing a coat and tie! And this is for a teenage club photo....

Anyway, even today, 46 years later, I still think of these wonderful friends just as I knew them then. Many of them I have been in touch with over the years since the marvels of email came into our lives, but so many of them I have not seen since those days so long ago. (Oh, now my Doo Wop CD is playing 16 Candles...were we ever that young?) I often wish that today's youth had the wonderful carefree days that we had. They were carefree, yet we all seemed to have a sophistication that came with living in London, riding the tube, spending Friday nights in the coffee bars in Soho, and taking a date to the Old Vic (I wish Chris Boex were around to relive that date with me). And even that trip the Chuck and I took to Paris that Easter of our senior year with Kris, Judy Garrison, and Sandi Kosanke (all fabulously beautiful). As platonic as that trip was, it was the memorable in so many wonderful ways. Easter at Notre Dame was unforgettable, as were the walks along Seine

and through the alleys of the Left Bank. And we all remember Madame who was the proprietor of the pension where we stayed. Of course we mourn those whom we knew so well and who have since passed on to a better life: Sally Stanton (if I ever had a little sister, she would have been the one I would have loved the most), Judy Garrison (so full of life, but passed on so very young), and Janet Bode (she brought so much joy to so many, but struggled to the end to live her life to the fullest). We have also lost Jack Murphy only recently, as well as Randy Crane, both great guys who will ever be a part of our past...a past where we were a part of the Fabulous Generation, the son's and daughters of the Greatest Generation!

Well, guys and gals, this time next week (week of 26 October-3 November) Gitta and I will be back East. We will be in Annapolis that weekend for my 40th Class Reunion from the Naval Academy. Maybe I will run into one or two of you while we are in the area.

I would love to hear from any of you who feel that you want to connect again and share a few memories about the fabulous times we all shared in London so long ago, yet it seems like just yesterday. You can reach me, Tony Taylor 58 at <u>usna1964@earthlink.net</u> If you are ever in the Seattle area, let me know and we can meet at Starbucks down at the Pike Place Market...not quite the same as the coffee bars of Soho, but it has its own history (the original Starbucks).

From Gail Sawyer Mitchell (59) RMitch1886@aol.com

I wouldn't want to miss even one issue of the newsletter! Even though I have never written anything for it. I am always amazed to read what others write - amazed at the fact that they are able to remember so many episodes and in such detail. My memory is a blank in comparison!

One thing I remember is our bus from Brize Norton stopping at a pub in Reading every Sunday on our way back to the dorm at Bushy Park, and I always bought a Cadbury candy bar. This was loooong before you could buy Cadbury in the US. 1957-58 to be exact. My father was stationed at Burderop Park, a USAF hospital base, outside of Swindon. There weren't very many of us so we were driven to Brize Norton and caught their bus for the trip to Bushy Park. Those of us from Burderop included my sister, Barbara '58, Suzanne (Jean) Pletcher '59, and Jackie Bland '61.

Another memory of dorm life occurred one night after dinner when a bunch of girls were in the lounge listening to music and talking. There was a meeting being held in a small room attached to the lounge, attended by some girls from the dorm and some boys from their dorm. One of the girls in the lounge, who shall remain nameless at least by me, who was very well endowed started dancing to one of the records in a suggestive but not vulgar way. Unknown to her a couple of the boys in the meeting next door quietly opened the door and thoroughly enjoyed themselves watching her. When she realized they were watching (I'm sure one of us told her) she was very embarrassed! These days I'm sure no one would pay any attention! How times have changed. I for one am glad I was a teenager in the Good Old Days!

So I guess I do still have something left in my memory bank about Bushy Park!

From Alan Meyer (60) alanm@mind.net

Just to confirm what others have already said. That is, indeed, me in that picture at the dinner/dance -- I think it was my sophomore year (Sophomore Prom?). The girl next to me on my left (in the picture) is Lois Thomas, my date. I was crazy in love with her but too shy to tell her. I did summon up the courage to ask her out once -- and that once has been captured on film. I probably never talked to her again. That's the way I accomplished my goals in those days.

Stephen D. Otto (62)

Stephen_Otto@yahoo.com

I really enjoyed my stay at Bushy Park. It was a great experience! I had been going to a private school in the city of Oxford, England, just prior to transferring to Bushy Park. I was on the school's basketball team for one season and that was a blast. Not sure how many games we won that season. I do remember long trips on the bus to our various home locations, but that just gave us a chance to chat, and really get to know each other. (I am glad that this site (the Bushy Park website) as it really brings back the memories...but I'd rather forget that yearbook shot! Boy, did I look like a geek or what! Sometimes the teen years can be a rough time of life, but I think that the gang at Bushy Park had such diversity and strength of character that it made it better for all of us. Possibly because we were all Navy brats, or Air Force brats, or whatever, we were used to traveling and meeting new faces as a part of our life, we were able to adjust to and become a part of that interesting group at Bushy Park. I had attended other high schools, but this one stands out as the one that I remember the most. (And for me at my current age...that is saying a lot!). I am now fulfilling a dream and living at the beach in wonderful San Diego and surfing as many days a week as I can fit in... If anyone is ever in the area or planning to be in the area of Pacific Beach, let me know and I'll wax up the board for you and we can catch some waves..... SEE YA.... Surf's UP!

This and That

From Cliff Gunderson (Faculty) cliffordg9@cox.net

SENIOR DRESS CODE

Many of us "Old Folks" (those WAY, WAY over 40) are quite confused about how we should present ourselves. We're unsure about the kind of image we are projecting and whether or not we are correct as we try to conform to current fashions. Despite what you may have seen on the streets, the following combinations DO NOT go together and should be avoided:

- 1. A nose ring and bifocals
- 2. Spiked hair and bald spots
- 3. A pierced tongue and dentures
- 4. Miniskirts and support hose
- 5. Ankle bracelets and corn pads
- 6. Speedo's and cellulite
- 7. A belly-button ring and a gall-bladdersurgery scar
- 8. Unbuttoned disco shirts and a heart monitor
- 9. Midriff shirts and a midriff bulge
- 10. Bikinis and liver spots
- 11. Short shorts and varicose veins
- 12. In-line skates and a walker
- 13. Thongs and Depends

Please keep these basic guidelines foremost in your mind when you shop.

From Celeste Plitouke Brodigan (57) Mbrodi1939@aol.com

My dear friend and classmate, Father Aaron (Sheldon Peters, class of 1957), has recently answered my requests for Mass intentions for some precious people in my life. Knowing that a Mass was being offered by a friend made it even more special so I thought I should share the information with others. If you would like to have Father Aaron offer a Mass drop him a note with the request:

Reverend Aaron Peters 913 E. Wea Street Paola, KS 66071-1837 (913) 294-2481

Or by email to <u>aaronosb@hotmail.com</u>

Mass stipends (five dollars) should be made out to St. Benedict's Abbey and specifying for whom masses are to be offered.

And, as Pete would say, Blessings to You and Yours.

From William English (57) ametalartist@yahoo.com

Fender Skirts What a great blast from the past! I haven't thought about "fender skirts" in years. When I was a kid. I considered it such a funny term. Made me think of a car in a dress. Thinking about "fender skirts" started me thinking about other words that quietly disappear from our language with hardly a notice. Like "curb feelers" and "steering knobs." Since I'd been thinking of cars, my mind naturally went that direction first. Any kid will probably have to find some elderly person over 50 to explain some of these terms to you. Remember "Continental kits?" They were rear bumper extenders and spare tire covers that were supposed to make any car as cool as a Lincoln Continental. When did we quit calling them "emergency brakes?" At some point "parking brake" became the proper term. But I miss the hint of drama that went with "emergency brake." I'm sad, too, that almost all the old folks are gone who would call the accelerator the "foot feed." Didn't you ever wait at the street for your daddy to come

home, so you could ride the "running board" up to the house?

Here's a phrase I heard all the time in my youth but never anymore "store-bought." Of course, just about everything is store-bought these days. But once it was bragging material to have a store-bought dress or a store-bought bag of candy. "Coast to coast" is a phrase that once held all sorts of excitement and now means almost nothing. Now we take the term "worldwide" for granted. This floors me. On a smaller scale, "wall-to-wall" was once a magical term in our homes. In the '50s, everyone covered their hardwood floors with, wow, wall-to-wall carpeting! Today, everyone replaces their wall-to-wall carpeting with hardwood floors. Go figure.

When's the last time you heard the quaint phrase "in a family way?" It's hard to imagine that the word "pregnant" was once considered a little too graphic, a little too clinical for use in polite company. So we had all that talk about stork visits and "being in a family way" or simply "expecting." Apparently "brassiere" is a word no longer in usage. I said it the other day and my daughter cracked up. I guess it's just "bra" now. "Unmentionables" probably wouldn't be understood at all.

It's hard to recall that this word was once said in a whisper -"divorce." And no one is called a "divorcee" anymore. Certainly not a "gay divorcee." Come to think of it, "confirmed bachelors" and "career girls" are long gone, too.

I always loved going to the "picture show," but I considered "movie" an affectation. Most of these words go back to the '50s, but here's a pure-'60s word I came across the other day -"rat fink." Ooh, what a nasty put-down!

Here's a word I miss - "percolator." That was just a fun word to say. And what was it replaced with? "Coffeemaker." How dull. Mr. Coffee, I blame you for this. I miss those made-up marketing words that were meant to sound so modern and now sound so retro. Words like "DynaFlow" and "ElectraLuxe." Introducing the 1963 Admiral TV, now with "SpectraVision!"

Food for thought - Was there a telethon that wiped out lumbago? Nobody complains of that anymore. Maybe that's what castor oil cured, because I never hear mothers threatening their kids with castor oil anymore. Some words aren't gone, but are definitely on the endangered list. The one that grieves me most - "supper." Now everybody says "dinner." Save a great word. Invite someone to supper. Discuss fender skirts. Someone forwarded this to me, and I thought some of us of a "certain age" would remember most of these.

From Wanda Castor DeVary (60) Mumszie@tampabay.rr.com

We've had a problem with our message board at the website. Bob Harrold and I are working on it and hope to have a message board back up soon.

From Roberta (Marchant) Jennings (58) Cheslevi@aol.com

Once again I enjoyed reading your newsletter. It is very interesting to see the various parts of the globe that are represented in the newsletter. My husband, Dave, and I survived yet ANOTHER hurricane, Jeanne, here in Florida. We stayed with our daughter Katherine and her husband because they live in a newer townhouse, and we thought we would be safer there. We were. Actually, our house sustained no damage, but the yard flooded, and we have LOTS of trees down. We just got our electricity back today, after a week. We're thinking that we don't want to stay here for the next hurricane, so will probably be looking for a hiding place in another state. The problem is that the hurricanes tend to head north too, so finding a hiding place gets to be a challenge.

I'm looking forward to the October 2005 reunion, and intend to be sure that my sister Helaire, attends with me. Neither one of us has seen ANY of our classmates from Bushy Park since we left, and it is high time we did something about it. Do we have any hotels listed yet that we can book rooms?

Thanks again for all of your work with the newsletter. I'm pretty good at finding people who are "missing", so if you need any help locating former classmates, let me know. I'll give it a shot!

From Tom Ackerman (62) TMAckerman@aol.com

Gary & Pat:

I'd like to thank both of you very much for your continuing efforts to prod us for informative material for the Bushy Tales. Here is a small effort on my part that might encourage others to participate.

There are many individuals that attended Bushy Park, Burtonwood and I suspect Lakenheath, who live in the path Ivan took ... so I can well imagine their experiences with this devastating natural disaster were very similar, yet unique. My wife (Inge) and I live in the Rocky Bayou

subdivision of Niceville, FL. The eye of Ivan hit land about 80 miles west of us, at about 1:30 AM, in Gulf Shores, AL. For those of you not familiar with hurricanes, the most severe/dangerous area is generally in the Northeast quadrant. The coastal area from there to Destin, FL was hit extremely hard and some locals were totally devastated.

When it hit Fort Walton Beach, about 10 miles south of us (in Niceville), the winds were still

gusting up to 118 MPH. The steady-state winds were still well over hurricane force when they hit here. We stayed through the storm across the street with friends and we were up until about 1:30 AM, watching the storm (from their back screened-in porch) and listening to "radio" reports--we lost electricity about 2 hours earlier at 11:20 PM. When we awoke and went out in the morning, about 7:15, we could hardly believe the cosmetic distress. Trees, branches and leaves coated the landscape and the winds were still gusting over 50-60 MPH. Through the grace of God, no one in our immediate area was harmed and structural damage was minimal ... a few shingles missing, water leaks and a few minor housing scrapes from trees and branches. Our house had no/zero damage. Everyone in the neighborhood lost a few trees that we think might have been caused by micro-bursts. All in the neighborhood came together as a team and we worked for 3 days to clean up the mess in the street and in each other's yards. Since we were without power for $4 \frac{1}{2}$ days, we had to "rough it" and have a post-hurricane party at a different location in the neighborhood every night to eat the refrigerated food before it spoiled and drink the beer before it got warm. All in all this was quite an experience.

That pretty well highlight the occasion except to say that I was a minor casualty in the aftermath and it has taken me 45 minutes to type this ...I broke my right hand during the cleanup operation Friday morning after the storm. Needless to say, after I returned from the hospital about 3 hours later, my neighbors showed no sympathy and had me out there, with the best of them, as I still had a good left hand. I truly hope everyone else in the area was as fortunate as us. This holds true for individuals in the other areas of FL and the South hit by Charlie, Francis and Jeanne.

From Charlie Arnhold (62) charliearnhold@comcast.net

I'm delighted to hear of the next "gathering", especially as I now live in the D.C. area! I started at Bushy Park in March 1957 (spring term) in the 7th grade and graduated with the class of '62. The only person I know who was there as long as I was Anne Cable, also of the class of '62, but as I recall she moved before graduation.

Letters to the Editor

From Thomas T Drysdale (Faculty) overseasschools@juno.com

Hi Gary: This issue is a good one, and like the others, will be saved in the American Overseas Schools Archives. Thank you for helping us save some of the history and memorabilia of overseas schools alumni. I always forward your newsletter to friends and relatives who were at Bushy Park. Keep up the good work, and don't quit.

From Walt Hunt (56) Walt6238@aol.com

I think it is a monumental task to produce any type of a newsletter, especially with some regularity. And NINE (!!) pages at that.

As a marginal observer--I only went to Bushy the first semester of my freshman year (1952) and graduated from Frankfurt--I quite enjoy receiving the newsletter, and would welcome even one page from time to time. You are truly dedicated. Thanks.

From Roberta (Marchant) Jennings (58) Chesleyj@aol.com

Hi Gary,

Sure, you can use anything I send in the newsletter. I'm really looking forward to the 2005 reunion. I have been in touch with Fred Buhler, corresponding with him while he was in Baghdad. I was really happy when he finally got out of there. I'm hoping he and his wife will be at the reunion. He said he would probably make it. I haven't seen him in almost 50 years, but we were pretty good buddies in 7th and 8th grade, and I was really worried about him. I think it would be really great to get to see friends from so long ago. You know, most of us moved so many times, and very few of us saw each other again.

It was like every three years all of our friends "died," because we never heard from them again. I'm always glad to be back in touch with folks I knew so long ago. I was very shy back then, unlike my sisters, who were always going somewhere with their friends. Well, I got over that! Can't wait to "re-meet" folks from Bushy Park! See you there!

From Connie Newlin Drennon (60) cbdrenn@UAKRON.EDU

Today I trained to work the polls on election day. I wonder if others in our "group will have done the same. I don't think we have ever asked Bushy types to mention how or whether they are volunteers, or have special hobbies or the like. It might connect people who have no idea they have common interests, as well as the common background of our time in the U.K.

Keep up the good work on "Bushy Tales." I do enjoy it each month and hope it will continue.

From Mike Murphy (58) OLDSALT1223@aol.com

Gary, for the news letter...to all of you that sent me cards and letters. I would like to thank each one of you. There were so many that I could not respond individually, although I would have liked to. Jack was a decent man and loved. going to all the re unions..i will miss him as well as all of you will....thank you again...regards and love