

Bushy Tales

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



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Gary Schroeder (55), Founder & Editor (2001-2016)

Bill Rumble, Acting Editor

BushyTales1@verizon.net

Visit the Bushy Park Website at <http://www.bushypark.org/>

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



1953 – Jackie (Brown) Kenny
JKYKNY@aol.com



1954 – Betsy (Neff) Cote
betsycote@Atlanticbb.net

1955 – Volunteer Requested



1956 – Edie (Williams) Wingate
WingW@aol.com



1957 – Shirley (Huff) Dulski
shuffy2@msn.com



1958 – Pat (Terpening) Owen
nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net



1959 – John "Mike" Hall
MGHall@Q.com



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr@frontier.net



1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie
DonaRitchie@aol.com



Gerald "Gary" Earl Schroeder
November 14, 1936
to
March 26, 2016

Memorial Service for Gerald "Gary" Earl Schroeder

Welcome	Chaplain Espinosa
Escort of Honorary Chief	BMCS Pierce
Present the Colors Officer Assoc. (CPOA)	USCG Chief Petty
National Anthem Nancy Jo Cobbs	Rev. Don Brown & Rev.
Retire the Colors	USCG CPOA
Words of Grace and Greeting	Rev. Brown

Opening Prayer	Chaplain Jace Masters
USCG Hymn	Rev. Brown & Rev. Cobbs

Scripture Reading:

- Deuteronomy 31: 7-8 (Commodore Allen Harding, USCG AUX)
- John 6:40 (Mr. Patrick Cooney)
- 2 Corinthians 4:13-14; 16-5:1 (Mr. Patrick Cooney)

Psalm 23 (Congregational Reading led by Jacquie Poteet)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Naming	Rev. Brown
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Speakers

Gary Roy-Dean Schroeder, Son
Haley Aguilera, Granddaughter
Ted Ewing, USCG-AUX
Ken Boncic, USCG-AUX
Captain Brian Penoyer, Sector Houston-Galveston Commander, USCG

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer Chaplain Masters

Special Music: "It Is Well With My Soul" (Bella Aguilera & Rev. Cobbs)

Message Chaplain Espinosa

Benediction Chaplain Espinosa

Rendering of Military Honors



Gary Schroeder's History in the USCG Auxiliary

Gary voluntarily joined the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1975. His original Flotilla was 10-4. Gary quickly made his presence known within his Flotilla and Division. In 1978 he earned his coveted Auxiliary Operation insignia and this same year he was voted in as the Flotilla Vice Commander. As the Flotilla Vice Commander, Gary was the second highest elected person in the Flotilla and responsible for ensuring members of the Flotilla were completing their required training and abiding by Coast Guard standards. In 1980, Gary transferred to Flotilla 10-3, and he was elected Flotilla Commander, which meant Gary was in charge. Being in charge was a definite character trait that Gary exuded.

Gary spent the next several years in Flotilla 10-3 where he served in several different leadership positions. In 1989, Gary transferred to Flotilla 6-3 where he continued to climb the Auxiliary Chain of Leadership and during this year Gary earned his Auxiliary Coxswain certification. 1993, Gary became the Division Commander for Division 6. In this position Gary, was responsible for multiple Flotillas that ranged from Lake Charles LA, to Freeport TX, and up to Lake Conroe. In 1999, Gary transferred to Flotilla 6-8 and continued his stellar record of service. In 2005, he was selected to be the Auxiliary Sector Coordinator for Eight Coastal Region. As the Auxiliary Sector Coordinator, Gary played a significant role as the main liaison between Auxiliary Chain of Leadership and active duty senior leadership. Lastly in 2015, Gary was awarded his 40 Year Certificate of Appreciation.

The majority of Gary's service predated our current record keeping system, but since we began our current record keeping system 1996, Gary has volunteered over 13,000 hours of work for our service and this number could easily be doubled.

Gary earned numerous certifications, competencies, and awards during his 40 year tenure with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Some of his personnel awards include: Auxiliary Commendation Medal, Humanitarian Award, Meritorious Service Award, Presidential Citation, Department of Transportation Secretary's Outstanding Service Award, Auxiliary Public Education Service Award, Auxiliary Letter of Commendation, and 9 Auxiliary Operation Service Awards.

In addition to his service in the USCG Auxiliary, Gary was a US Air Force veteran (1955-1963) serving CONUS and overseas. He also has 33 years of service to the US Postal System (1958 to 1991). Still, perhaps his proudest moment was being made an Honorary Chief in the USCG.

Gary loved the years he attended Bushy Park (London Central High School). He was proud to be a member of the first graduating class (1953-1955). Gary was devoted to the monthly Bushy Tales newsletter, which he created and published every month for over 15 years. Hundreds of

alumni from all over the world receive this newsletter. Gary was honored by all the alumni at the last reunion for his dedication.

Gary and Debra were married on February 2, 2005. Gary doted on Dee and took great pride in pampering her. He will be missed.

Survivors:

Wife: Debra Schroeder.

Brother: Richard A Schroeder.

Sister: Beverly Schroeder Smith.

Son: Gary Roy-Dean Schroeder and wife,

Step-daughters: Jacquie Poteet and Shannon League.

Grandchildren: Colton Vining, Haley Aguilera, Bella Aguilera, Colby Vining, and Jackson Zeagler.

4 grandsons, 5 great granddaughters, six nephews and one niece.

Bill,

This photo from a Web site called "The 100 best photographs ever taken without Photoshop," would be an ideal picture for when we pay tribute to Gary Schroeder...it reminds me of how often we would look out through the fence and see the deer grazing in the Royal Deer Park. The title of this photo is the one that actually accompanies this marvelous picture as posted on the Web site. By the way, it was my good friend and classmate from '58, Fred Gruin, who sent me this photo total by coincidence about the time you notified us of the Gary's passing.



Sunrise in Bushy Park in London, United Kingdom. © Max Ellis

I was truly saddened to hear of the passing of Gary; he was an institution himself in founding Bushy Tales and in keeping us all together through these many years. Bushy Tales was Gary's baby... he made it what it is today, an ongoing monthly high school newsletter for a school (overseas at that) that existed for only 10 years, most of that time situated within the grounds of a Royal Deer Park that was once the D-Day headquarters of General Eisenhower, and one that last closed its doors 54 years ago... that's a tale in itself. When I have mentioned to friends over the years that my high school, which probably never had more than 1000 graduates

in its lifetime, has had a newsletter since 2001 that covers not only the graduates during the years of its existence, but also anyone who ever attended the school, they are impressed with the dedication and the story behind it all. As I tell the story, most everyone agrees that we had a unique lifetime experience not only by having the opportunity to live and go to school in England, but also by the demographics of the boys and girls who made up the student body.

Most of us were the sons and daughters of a military parent(s), a diplomat, or an employee of an American business stationed in England. And those were also the years when the teenage sons and daughters of the Greatest Generation were most impressionable and were preparing to become leaders in their own generation... our generation! Most of us had already learned personal life-skills from our parents, but we had an exceptional opportunity to take them one step further. No longer did we have a neighborhood community or lifetime friends with whom we had grownup since childhood; we were now living in a land where we had to learn new customs on our own and take responsibilities for our own actions totally unlike what we had ever known before... fortunately we did not have to learn a new language (or did we?). Mom and dad were not much help since it was all new and strange to them as well, so when we were told that we had to take a bus or train to get to a school that may have been either ten miles or a hundred miles away, we had to learn the hows and wherefores on our own. If we were told that we had to live in a dorm with kids we had never known and follow a regimented routine for the most part before and after school, we learned it on our own, just as did the kid down the hall. If we were fortunate enough to live within the environs of London, we soon found out that the school bus was not yellow and didn't have a flashing red light, but the ride could easily take an hour. Very, very few of us could walk or drive to school, but it did not matter... we were living the life of new experiences that would stay with us for a lifetime, and these were the tales that Gary shared with us through our letters and emails as we retold our own stories of living overseas and the independence we came to accept that few of our friends living back in the States ever considered. Without Gary, many of these stories would have been lost, but fortunately the wonders of the Internet keeps them alive... we can still find all of those stories in the back issues of Bushy



Tales as prepared by Gary as part of a Bushy Park Web site at http://www.bushypark.org/Start_News.htm.

Rest in peace, Gary. And to you, Bill Rumble, we wish you well as you continue to take the helm and carry on the legacy.

Tony Taylor '58

I loved Gary for his enthusiasm; his sense of mischief; his dedication to family; to our Bushy Park family; to his USCG family and our country. Once we got back in touch, we stayed in touch, having many "breakfasts at iHop", other mini reunions, countless emails and texts (although not his favorite form of communication) and phone conversations over the years. I'm saddened by our personal loss and the loss of a true American patriot..... (We're going to miss his corny jokes and contagious giggle too).



Ruth Lund (55) Bethea

My condolences to Gary's family. He will be missed. And thank you so much, Bill, for taking over as acting editor. You are very much appreciated. Just want you all to know that each time I read "Bushy Tales" it brings tears to my eyes. Perhaps nostalgia for memories long forgotten, or for pride in hearing about the many long and successful lives of classmates and fellow Alumni.

Each article is so well written (many thanks to our great teachers at CHS, and to our loving military families and friends who helped us along the way). A great deal of us went on to continue our lives connected with the Military. Kudos!

Shortly after high school, I married an Airman. And in 1973, after being divorced, I married an Army Captain. After forty-three years, we remain happily married with two sons and four grandchildren.

I have fond memories of living in London. I was born in NYC. However, since my father stayed twenty three years in the Air Force, I lived in many different places....New York, Massachusetts, New Mexico, England, South Carolina, Virginia, and presently in North Carolina. What an exciting life!



So I thank you again for reminding me of my past... "Cheerio"

Leslie Landon Crews (nee Tanenzaph, class of '62)

I felt so badly reading about Gary. Due to the many years passed, there are too few people I remember at school. Gary & Beverly I remember, but I don't remember their brother, Dick. I feel so cheated that I couldn't contact Gary even though he probably wouldn't remember me. This whole thing was so strange because of the fact that Gary and Beverly were the only names I remember. I do remember others but cannot remember their names. For me to remember only them - they must be very special. Unfortunately, no one remembers me, but I still love to see what has happened with people that were in England while I was there. I have so many happy memories. However, most of my memories were where I lived - across from Petersham Meadows. I was only 13 when I started Bushy Park and my parents were not the most lenient



when it came to freedom for their kids (I guess I can understand now that I have had kids and been through the worry). As a matter of fact, I had 3 children and have 7 grandchildren. I certainly would not want to lose this prize website – especially since I only found this site recently

Regards,

Winifred "Wini" Thomas (56) Contrastano

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net or me know, if you want to continue to receive the newsletter. Too many times we only find out when you send us an email saying you haven't received the newsletter in few months. Thanks guys.



Classmates Who Have Transferred To The Eternal Duty



George Robert Keich (58) 1941 - 2015

George Robert Keich left this earth to join his parents Robert and Louise after a brave fight against lymphoma. He was 74 years old. He leaves behind his wife, Corrie of 37 years, son Robert, daughters, Linda and Ellen, grandchildren, Cameron, Derek, and Aleena, and a sister Ruth. George grew up with his father in the military and moved all over the country as well as abroad in England. He was a proud Gator graduating from The University of Florida with a degree in chemical engineering. He went on to work for DuPont, Calsicat, and Powers Chemco in the Netherlands. It was in the Netherlands that he met his wife and returned home to the US. After retiring, he drove a school bus for Therapeutic Center and Kidspace, and later moved to Florida where he went to work for Enterprise. He was a member of the SCCA running road rallies with his wife and son for many years. He was also the founding coach for the Salisbury Youth Association Girls Basketball League and also actively involved in coaching his daughters in softball. He was a member of the NYU Photographic Department, as well as the Elks and the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club. George was an avid animal lover, in lieu of flowers the family requests that you make a donation to a local animal shelter in his name.



Charles Louis Drude (60)

It is with deep sorrow that I report the passing of Chuck Drude, Class of 60. Chuck went to Our Lord on June 6th. Our prayers go out to his family and he will be missed.

Ren Briggs (60)



This is a new column that is strictly for your humble editor to correct some of the mistakes I make in some of the issues – sure hope it doesn't get too long. 😊



Memories of Bushy Park

Bill: Sorry I am not proficient in using the computer. I avoid it like the plague, however, I do enjoy receiving all the latest info! I graduated in 1956 from Glen Burnie High in Glen Burnie, MD. I had spent the three previous years in Central High in England but was a day student. We did not have much socialization due to the LONG bus rides home. I lived in Windsor and the bus originated at my house. On occasion I went to Ruislip and came home with my father who worked in the Finance Office there. My sister was Valedictorian of her class in 52/53? not sure. Sammy Meyers was also in her class and someone told me he went on to become a General. Not sure though. My sister, Lani DeVaughn (54), took her life in 1978 I believe. It was the same day that Lennon was shot. Hers was due to a troubled marriage/divorce. My husband Don Floyd and I have been married 56 years and we reside in The Woods Resort in Hedgesville, WV. We have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 3 g/g daughters. I did not retain any contacts with friends from Bushy Park, only in memories. My friends were Babs Smith (56), Karen Sheley (56), Linda Sparks (56) and my first love Tim Sutherland. All of my memorabilia was lost in transit so I have few of anything pertaining to Bushy but I do have my yearbook, The



Londoner, 1955. I also see a signature from YOU in the back of my Londoner wishing me lots of luck to a real swell girl.....that does date us, huh? I have a magazine cover from 1953 I would like to scan for the paper but need to figure out how to do it.

More later from me,

Carolyn Tish (DeVaughn) (56) Floyd

Hi Bill,

Thank you again on my behalf for filling in for Gary while he is recovering! That truly is a magnanimous thing to do for all of us! I want to help you so much, so I will give you a little input for the newsletter.

My name is Martha Connor Bartsch....class of '56. I attended BP in 1953. My Dad was stationed @ Bentwaters A. F.B., and we lived in Aldeburgh. Absolutely loved that town and the people!

I went to all-girls college in Denver, CO, and married in Dec. of 1961. My husband, George, was a Capt. in the Air Force. We were blessed with 4 boys in a very short time, and they are wonderful, wonderful adults....very caring.

We are as we speak, planning on returning to Aldeburgh tomorrow, on Friday the 13th of November. I am so excited I can hardly wait! We will only be there about a week, but my husband was a pilot with Braniff, Piedmont, USAirways and ultimately, American, so we do enjoy the perks of being able to travel! This however is the first trip back!!

I will think of my classmates at BP when we land @ Heathrow on Saturday the 14th!!

Martha Connor Bartsch (56)

Hi Bill,

Martha Connor Bartsch here, a little more "news".

My husband, George, and I went to England on the 13th of November last. Yes, Friday the 13th. On the 13th Paris was attacked, and we found out on the morning of Saturday the 14th when we landed.

We made our way to Aldeburgh-by-the-sea by train, bus, more trains and buses and then taxi, all in the rain! But it was all worth it! We stayed @ Tirah's B&B right outside Aldeburgh. George found it on the Internet. We were SO lucky! The couple who built and owned Tirah's were SO wonderful, gracious and generous, it blew our minds! Steve, the owner took us everywhere to find the 4 different homes we had lived in when my Dad was stationed @ Bentwaters AFB...we found 3 of the 4! The couple, Steve and Karen knew EVERYONE in one of the photos I had carried w/me from our time between '51 and '53!! We found the best pub, The Parrot & the Punchbowl, owned by Sheila! We had a friend of Steve's & Karen's who owned a taxi company drive us back to Heathrow, 3 hours only, when we had to leave! What a difference!

My own Brigadoon, but instead of 100 years, it was only 65!!

Martha Connor (56) Bartsch



Had a lovely little CHS Reunion here in March with Warren Gerhrett (56) and Bev Gehrett (58) Wagner, Sandy Mittelstadt (58) Buchanan, Sean Carr (58) McMahon and myself. Very nice. Think Bev sent picture to you guys for Next newsletter. Got to see George Keich (58) at our Reunion in DC. He, Sean and Warren and I were all from same base. We have lost a good friend. Jim did so much to keep us all in touch. He will be missed by us all. You're doing a good job in his place. Thank you,

Carol Ann Albert (57) Yacovone



Sean Carr (58) McMahon & me (L-R)



Bev Gehrett (58) Wagner & Warren Gerhrett (56)



Warren Gerhrett (56), Carol Ann Albert (57) Yacovone, Sandy Mittelstadt (58) Buchanan, Sean Carr (58) McMahon and Bev Gehrett (58) Wagner (L-R)

Letters to the Editor



Hi Bill:

I have a short item to have add to the next newsletter.

My husband David W. Bules passed away on March 25, 2016 in the Hospice House, Fayetteville, AR. He had been ill for a long time and spent his last 2-1/2 months in Hospice care, with me as his caregiver, in our home. Then the last 13 days he was in Hospice House, as he required treatment that I could not give him at home. He had bladder cancer with metastasis, which did not respond to immuno treatments.



Some of you may remember him attending reunions with the Class of 1954, until his health made it hard for him to travel. He always said that he felt "like a military brat himself" because he was in the Air Force and attended military correspondence school. He volunteered to be the disc jockey at our 50th reunion, held in Laughlin, NV, in 2004 and had so much fun.

Billie Culp (54) Bules

--FINIS--