

Bushy Tales

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



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

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



1953 – Mariann (Walton)
McCornack
mgm2010@comcast.net



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

1955 – Volunteer Requested



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



1957 – William Douglas
rwmDouglas@gmail.com



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



1959 – John "Mike" Hall
MGHall446@gmail.com



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr@frontiernet.net

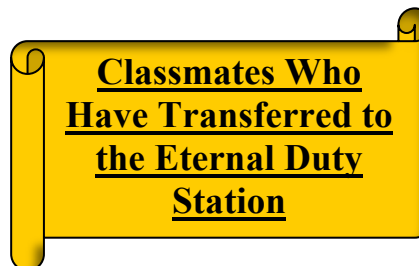


1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie
Dona.Ritchie@att.net

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat Terpening (58) Owen 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.



Dear Pat,

With great sadness I am writing to let you know that my mother passed away suddenly on March 25, 2021. The Bushy Park newsletter meant so much to her and she always forwarded it to me. She recalled that being an army brat was sometimes difficult with having to move so much - but those years in London were the exception. Her father was assistant Army Attache during those years and she, her younger brother Robert and her mother were able to travel to many places.

This newsletter is so much work to produce, but I know it brings much happiness to many. Thank you for all of your work and for making my mom smile for the last two decades.

Gretchen Yost



Michele Roberts Jenkins

February 11, 1944 - March 25, 2021

Michele Roberts Jenkins passed away suddenly on March 25, 2021 in Melbourne, Florida. She was 77 although many who knew her thought she was much younger due to her long devotion to a healthy lifestyle. That her physical heart failed was painfully ironic given the enormous strength of her figurative heart.

Michele was born February 11, 1944 in Durham, NC to Robert A Roberts and Irene Hill Roberts. Michele came into this world during her father's service in WWII and thus began the childhood of an "Army brat". She and her younger brother, Bob Andy, lived in NC, OK, AL, GA, IL, Washington DC and finally in London where she finished high school at Bushy Park Central High - a school for children of American military families.

She attended MacMurray College in Illinois for one year before transferring to Auburn University in Alabama where both sides of her family had deep roots. While at Auburn she married Eric Yost and gave birth to her only child, Gretchen.

She moved with her young family to Melbourne, Florida in 1966 and was soon challenged to survive on her own as a single mom. She accepted an assembly line position at Radiation Inc. and quickly moved into other roles as her strengths were discovered and her skills improved. In 1973 she married Bill Jenkins and they moved to Tampa.

Michele seized the opportunity to finish her education and graduated in 1974 from the

University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. The second marriage ended, and she once again devoted herself to the role of single mom raising a young daughter. She worked as a professional for a few Tampa companies always defining herself by her ethics and beliefs rather than her job title.

During those Tampa years she met and married Bob Mahoney and their love has endured and strengthened over their 46 years together. They moved to Palm Bay in 1984 where they both worked for Harris Corporation and where Bob is currently an L3Harris Director.

Michele enjoyed 26 years of retirement but was in no way idle. She was fiercely devoted to those in her inner circle of family and friends and was an activist for causes she deeply believed in. Animal welfare was her greatest passion, and she celebrated all actions that led to the alleviation of their suffering. One of Michele's defining attributes was a steadfast aversion to people or animals being dismissed as not of equal value. In many ways she championed the marginalized. Michele couldn't abide a world where the strong hurt the weak, where the bullies ruled the schoolyard, or where the powerful rigged the rules. An avid reader, Michele worked to balance the convenient history she was taught as a child with the realities of today. This enabled her to lend her voice to the needs for criminal justice reform, voting rights, reproductive rights, and the elimination of racism.

Michele always referred to herself as an introvert, preferring the company of cats, but all who met her were completely charmed by her grace and effortless ability to make you feel like the most interesting person in the world. She was always humble and kind with an easy way about her. She believed in prompt thank you notes and birthday cards with handwritten sentiments that took time to construct in order to affect the most warmth. Everything she did, she did with care. She never cut corners on tasks, the responsibilities of friendship or showing her love. Michele is survived by her husband, Bob Mahoney, and her daughter Gretchen Yost and son-in-law, Norman Doggett of La Puebla, NM. Her cats - Duma, Julius, Peepers and Buddy - will miss her devotion and neighborhood backyard raccoons will miss her soft voice as she chatted with them over meals of scattered peanuts. In memory of Michele, a fund has been set up to help feral cats via TNR and to assist in the foster care of neonate orphaned kittens at the animal shelter where her daughter Gretchen is a veterinarian: Espanola Humane, 108 Hamm Parkway, Espanola, NM 87532
- www.espanolahumane.org

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Stephen Dwight Warner (58)
May 12, 1940 – April 16, 2021



Stephen Dwight Warner was born on May 12, 1940 and passed away on April 16, 2021 in Marietta, Georgia and is under the care of Georgia Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery Winkenhofers Chapel.

Memories of Bushy Park

Robert Harrold (60) maintains a Bushy Park website at BushyPark.org Among the things you can see at this website is a “Guestbook”, in which many website visitors have left comments. There are many entries, dating back to April 2007.

Here is a direct link: [Bushy Park Guest Book](#)



Letters to the Editor

From: Sean Kelly (78)

Delighted to announce that the 4th annual International CHS/LCHS Bobcat Day (an event that also celebrates HWAS, West Ruislip, Eastcote, Bushy Park, Bushey Hall South Ruislip, and London area bases) will take place on SATURDAY, 1 MAY 2021.

This coincides with the LCHS All Years Reunion going on from April 28 to May 2 in Conroe, Texas.

Those of you who have something with South Ruislip, Bushy Park, Bushey Hall, High Wycombe Air Station, US Navy London, or any of the London area bases - why not use the day to wear the name with pride and tell the story of the base and your duty assignment to someone or several people. Share a picture of you wearing something or an old memory of your base. Send it from wherever you are in the world with a few words of update or memory. And keep a look out for anyone wearing a bit of memorabilia in case you do by chance 'cross paths'! I still live in hope that will happen in a really random way and maybe with younger, 'baby' Bobcats!

Only you can continue to grow the London area bases legend and keep the memories of these unique places alive! And I think most of you, by dint of reading this, are proud of that heritage.

This is the picture I have issued out with this announcement across the websites for LCHS, HWAS and South Ruislip Base. I will also issue it on 'Home Bases' and also on the one for 7 North Audley Street - the address for the US Navy HQ in London.

Sean Kelly '78



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From: Michael Hoyt (60)

My Dad kept a flight journal, along with his official log, of his 50 missions in WWII. My Mom took those notes and with my Dad's recollection of some missing details, typed out all 50 missions to preserve those memories. This is just a brief and shortened recap of two of those missions. Please feel free to use this article if you think it would be interesting to Bushy Tales readers.

Mike



My Dad, Ralph A. Hoyt, kept a detailed log of his 50 WWII missions. This is a brief account of two of those missions.

"July 14th, 1944 was my fifth mission to Budapest. Over Yugoslavia we flew over an 88mm gun battery. Before we were at our designated altitude, we got some very close bursts of flak, so close that the concussion caused the dust on the floor to rise up and cloud the air in the cockpit. One piece of shrapnel entered through the belly of the aircraft, went between the co-pilot and me and out the top of the aircraft. It sang like a ricochet bullet. We soon encountered an

overcast that was gradually descending as we were getting closer to Budapest. Before we got to the target, 15th Air Force Headquarters broadcast a message to the radio operator of the lead B-17s in each group cancelling the mission due to weather. The radio operator in our group did not



receive the message for recall, so we were soon the only B-17 group heading for Budapest. On the bomb run, we were just below the clouds, which was almost an ideal situation for the anti-aircraft guns. The flak was accurate and heavy, we could hear many of the rounds exploding over the noise of the engines and as the shrapnel cut through the skin of the airplane, it sounded to me like someone was chopping on the skin with an ax. When we landed, we counted over 100 holes in the skin of the aircraft. We knew it was going to be a long and hard air war." 1st Lt. Hoyt is on the far left of Bombay Baby.

"I flew my 50th mission to the German Arms Works at Paleum, Germany in #466262. She had no war paint or nose art. It was a relatively quiet mission because we were now getting P-51 escorts to our targets. I had to feather the #3 engine on the way home due to loss of oil pressure. After landing, an official Army photographer from another aircraft told me he had got a good picture of my aircraft with the engine feathered." The original photo has been misplaced and this is an artist's drawing of same aircraft.

Ralph Hoyt started out in B-17's and had flown everything from the B-29, P51, F84 and the F86, before we went to Wethersfield AFB England in 1956, where he flew F100's in the 55th squadron. He went on to fly 100 missions in Vietnam in the Phantom F4 and retired a Colonel in 1972. In retirement he owned 2 Piper Pacers and a Piper Cub and was out at the Apple Valley airport almost every day. Every now and then he would buzz our house and waggle his wings at us. He continued his flying into his 80's and passed away at 94 in 2017.

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