

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 – Marcia (Craver) Thomas
txstarmt@aol.com

1954 – Betsy (Neff) Cote (d. 2024)

1955 – Nancie Anderson (d. 2016)



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



1957 – William Douglas
rwmDouglas@gmail.com



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

1959 – John “Mike” Hall (d. 2024)



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr42@gmail.com

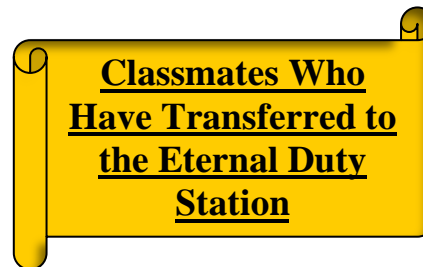


1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



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.



Roberta Lee Green Norman (61)

[Got this from her brother Dennis January 26, 2025. I've replied and asked for an obit if they have one (nothing on Google). When/if I get something will send it on. Pat Terpening (58) Owen]

Sadly, my sister, Bea, passed away in Reno, Nevada, January 15, 2025, aged 81. Bea graduated from Lakenheath in 1961 and attended CHS 1959-60.
Dennis

###



Rae Warren Lombard, Teacher (1960)

Rae Warren Lombard, 89, of Honolulu, died September 14, 2007.

Born on the North Shore of Massachusetts, Ms. Lombard received her master's degree in education from the University of Michigan. She was an artist & former English teacher, as well as a member of Kawaiaha'o Church.

She is survived by her three nieces; their mother, children, & grandchildren; as well as several cousins.

A graveside service will be held in Massachusetts at a later date. Arrangements by Moanalua Mortuary of Hawai'i.

###



Ethelyn Jacobson Haugland, Teacher (from 1960)

Ethelyn Jacobson Haugland, 82, passed away May 6, 2008, of natural causes at Edgewood Vista in Kalispell. Ethelyn was born June 28, 1925, in Rushford, Minn., the first of four children, to Gunhild and Nels Jacobson. She had one sister, Lila, and brothers Nels and James.

Prior to her death, she lived in Kalispell for 28 years with her husband, Palmer, and daughter, Solveig.

Ethelyn attended Rushford High School and worked for her uncle in Chicago and Augsburg Publishing House in Minneapolis. She completed certification as a lab technician and working in Casper, Wyo. Her interest in science led her to enroll in and work her way through Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and

biology. After graduation in 1955, Ethelyn taught chemistry and biology at U.S. Air Force bases around the world, which took her to Japan, England, France and Norway.

Adventurous and independent, she never missed an opportunity to take a weekend trip to the Suez Canal or ski the French Alps. She became an excellent amateur photographer, recording her journeys with insightful, untraditional images of her destinations, from Mount Fuji to the Champs-Elysees.

Upon returning stateside in the early 1960s, she settled in Minneapolis, where she continued working as a teacher, and attended square dances.

At a dance in July 1962, she met Palmer Haugland, whom she had met briefly at their joint going-away party when both had left for Europe five years previously. They were engaged six weeks later and were married Nov. 20 of that year. The couple moved to Bakersfield, Calif., for work; soon after, they relocated to Boulder, Colo., where she gave birth to a daughter, Solveig Laura. After a brief tenure in Washington, D.C., the family moved to Juneau, Alaska, where, from 1974 to 1979, Ethelyn led Girl Scout troops, clipped salmon fins for wildlife-research projects, and pursued the art of tole painting. She also enjoyed skiing, hiking, ice skating, and had a fondness for movies, especially the best of Jacques Tati.

In 1980, the family settled in Kalispell, where she helped her husband build their house (as she had with the previous two). She pursued her interests in birding and flower gardening, and became an active member of Friends of the Library, Sons of Norway, Northridge Lutheran Church, and Northridge spirituality groups. Ethelyn took joy in learning anything she could on any topic, from encyclopedias, maps, books, and especially good conversation. Ethelyn was a delightful and original woman whose intelligence, insight, kindness and adventurous spirit made this world a better and more interesting place.

She continued traveling throughout her life, visiting her grandparents' native Norway frequently, including a trip with her husband and daughter when she was 72. At home, she pored over maps, devoured biographical histories, and, later in life, satisfied a lifelong appetite for learning by buying a full set of Encyclopedia Britannica. The last book she completed, not long ago, was a biography of Abraham Lincoln. Her acute mind and keen sense of humor will be missed.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Gunhild Jacobson; her father, Nels Jacobson; sister, Lila Isberg; and brother, James Jacobson.

She is survived by her husband, Palmer Haugland, of Kalispell; her daughter, Solveig Haugland, of Lafayette, Colo.; and brother, Nels, of Peterson, Minn.

Funeral services for Ethelyn Haugland were held May 8, 2007, at Northridge Lutheran Church in Kalispell, with Pastor Dan Heskett officiating.

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Marjorie Ruth Ulrich - Teacher 1960
December 21, 1928 – February 15, 2024

Marjorie Ruth Ulrich, age 95, of Manhattan Beach, California passed away on February 15, 2024.

###



Thomas J. Seaton, Jr. - Teacher
August 5, 1922 - January 2, 2014

Thomas J. Seaton, Jr., passed away on January 2, 2014. Mr. Seaton was born on August 5, 1922, on Fishers Island, New York, to Harriet Cranska Seaton and Thomas J. Seaton. He grew up in Moosup, CT, attended Plainfield High School,



and then attended Bowdoin College, Maine. In 1944 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served as a pilot and aerial gunnery instructor during World War II. After being honorably discharged in 1945, he attended Centre College, Kentucky, and completed his education at Columbia University, earning a master's degree in library science in 1953. He married Marguerite Parks in December 1952.

In 1954 he was posted to the United States Department of Defense School system in England, where he served as a high school librarian until 1985.

In 1990 he returned to the United States, living in Thompson, CT and later in Woodstock, CT. Mr. Seaton enjoyed many interests including, hiking, golfing, gardening, piano playing, and collecting antiquarian books. He taught adults to read and changed a number of lives as a literacy volunteer.

Mr. Seaton is survived by his wife Marguerite Parks Seaton, daughter Jean Seaton Keleher of Kensington, MD, his son Thomas J. Seaton, III of Waldorf, MD, and his son Edward A. Seaton of Pomfret Center, CT, as well as his five grandchildren, Christopher, Alexander, and Claire Keleher, and Elena and Jeffrey Seaton. He is also survived by his two sisters Evelyn Seaton Treiber of Central Village, CT and Jean Seaton Rosane of Middlebury, VT.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. To share a memory with his family "Light a Candle" at www.smithandwalkerfh.com To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

Published by Norwich Bulletin on Jan. 8, 2014.

###



Dr. Ray Dee Bernardi – Teacher
June 6, 1929 - May 30, 2016



Dr. Ray Dee Bernardi, husband of Betty Bernardi of Lexington passed away on May 30, 2016 at Brookdale Richmond Place. He was born June 6, 1929, in Adamson, Oklahoma, to the late John and Nellie Bernardi.

He is also preceded in death by a son, Mark Bernardi; four brothers, John Bernardi, George Antonio, a twin, Roy Lee and Clifford Bernardi.

Surviving relatives include two children, John Bernardi and Lisa Lancaster (Eric); the mother of these two children and lifelong friend, Sabrina Bernardi; a daughter in law, Kelly Bernardi; two stepchildren, Sherri Corley (Jerry) and Norman Broderick; three grand-children, Chris Nowlin (Kelli), Hunter Ray Bernardi and Jessica Corley; one great grand-child Axle Nowlin; one brother, Steve Bernardi (Norma); several nieces and nephews.

Ray's first job was working in a coal mine, which motivated him to go to college. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University and a P.H.D. from Oklahoma University. He taught forty-four years in high schools and universities. He taught high school in California, Turkey, Germany and London. His university teaching included Eastern Oklahoma State College, Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville, Morehead and The University of Kentucky.

Ray was a member of the Eastern Church of God, National Business Association and past president of the International Business Education Association. He was a member of state and local business groups. He was a member of the local ski and dance club. Mr. Bernardi also served in the Navy Reserve.

Ray had a love for learning and traveling. He traveled all over Europe more than once. He traveled the Middle East, South America and the Far East. He was the owner of a tour business that took teachers and professors abroad during the summer. He also loved to dance. He and Betty ballroom

danced almost every week when he was a few years younger. His other interests included woodworking, photography, cars, skiing and flying planes. Some of Ray's best memories were him growing up on the farm, tending to the cattle with his father and brothers.

Ray was a kind, humble man that loved life and his family. He had an array of interests, lots of energy and enthusiasm. His presence will be missed, but he will forever live in our hearts. Friends and loved ones, do not be sad, for eternity with God is a time to be glad.

###



**Margaret “Peg” Denise Delphine Hebert Wernette – Teacher
June 22, 1932 - May 14, 2024**

Margaret “Peg” Denise Delphine Hebert Wernette, of Castroville passed away May 14, 2024, at the age of 91. She was born June 22, 1932, in Rouses Point, New York to Domina Hebert and Regina Bourgeois Hebert.

On March 30, 1964, Peg married Tondre Jack Wernette in London, England. They were blessed with sixty years of marriage and one daughter, Denise Marie Wernette.

Survivors include her husband; daughter and son-in-law, Denise Wernette and Michael Rudnick of Rochester, New York; granddaughter, Margaret Rudnick; grandson, Thomas Rudnick; sister, Janet Czajkowski Van Kooten; and in-laws, John Glyn and Cheryl Wernette of Castroville.

Peg was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings, Frank Hebert, Theresa Bossard, Helen Reynolds, George Hebert, and John Hebert.

Peg was a math teacher for the U.S. Department of Defense. She worked in Japan and Turkey before making her home in London, England for 50 years. She moved to Castroville in 2014 with her husband, a native of Texas.

Peg was a vibrant member of the community. She was in several book clubs and a skilled bridge player. She was an active member of the St. Ann’s Society and numerous other charities. She loved visiting and keeping in touch with her many friends and family around the world, long before the days of email and Facebook. She will be sorely missed by all of them.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held May 22, 2024, at St. Louis Catholic Church. Interment at St. Louis Catholic Cemetery in Castroville, Texas.

Memorials may be made in Peg’s memory to St Louis Catholic School or to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements by Tondre-Guinn Funeral Home. Visit www.tondre-guinn.com

###

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: Mike Perkins, Class of '59.

Enlisted in 1961 after the Berlin Wall went up. Served as a paratrooper in 101st Airborne and then in anti-aircraft missile battery on East German Border.

Selected for Officer Candidate School in 1964 and served with Special Forces in Vietnam, 1966-67, leading Australians and Chinese in combat against North Vietnamese along Laotian border. In 1967-68 led US soldiers in long range patrols along Cambodian border. In 1969 served as commander of rifle company with joint Army/Navy riverine force on Mekong River. Badly wounded in night raid and evacuated to US. Returned to Vietnam in 1971-72, advising Vietnamese rangers on Cambodian and Laotian borders and then as district adviser.

Was Special Forces adviser to Koreans in 1970's and after 3 years with XVIII Airborne Corps served as adviser to Special Forces of Colorado National Guard for 4 years before retiring in 1985. Recipient of 37 medals for valor and meritorious service.

Hello, Mike,

Thank you for your excellent and amazing service record. I commend you on the many tours in Vietnam. I appreciate your responding to our request for service of Bushy Park attendees and graduates.

What was your rank when you retired?

*Kind regards,
Bill*

Major. I didn't mention difficulty with a general that ended further promotion. Though the Lt. Governor of Colorado awarded me that State's highest award for distinguished service.

Mike,

Thank you for your response. Reaching the rank of Major is commendable. I doubt that the general that hindered your further advancement had a service record that came close to yours.

It is a very good thing that the Lt. Governor of Colorado acknowledged your service record in this way. Clearly, all of your previous superiors in the service did so as well.

What have you done since you retired?

*Kind regards,
Bill*

You keep asking questions. I taught middle school for 22 years. Received the Rytting Award for distinguished service to youth of Utah. Been a volunteer in Scouting for 60+ years. Received the Silver Buffalo award (highest award in Scouting), Silver Antelope and Gold Hornaday Medal (only 67 ever awarded). Scoutmaster for 25+ years. Still Scouting, but fewer hours a week, though I still sleep on the ground when camping with Scouts. I'm 84 now so have slowed down. Was a British scout for a year while at Bushy. I was an Eagle Scout in Texas before arriving in England.

Mike,

Thank you very much for your detailed response. Quite a life you have had.

One last question, do you have any objections to my including your military service and subsequent service in the State of Colorado in the next newsletter?

*Kind regards,
Bill*

I'm a bit reluctant to tell much of my life as I may appear to be boastful. Serving in the military was eventful and rewarding, especially with some truly great people who have had much influence on my life. As a teacher, I loved my students and tried to be a good role model and influence their lives towards success.

No objection--but will likely come as a surprise to any who knew me at Bushy. I had a reputation for being pugnacious and a non-conformist.

Mike,

Your description of how others perceived you at Bushy Park seems to me to be good qualities for your military service.

When I was in 4th grade in 1950, my teacher was a military veteran. He served in WWII in an Army airborne division, 101st or 82nd, and was actively engaged in the activities around Normandy D-Day landings in June 1944. I think they parachuted in behind the Germans defending Normandy the night before the beach landings. He was an excellent teacher. He was very positive, helpful and compassionate towards his students.

I will leave you alone now. I thank you for your military experience. I served in the Navy from 1962 - 1966 on active duty, after graduating from NavOCS in Newport, RI. My first two years I served on a destroyer based in Newport. After I left active duty, I served four years in the Ready Reserve.

My father was a Naval Academy graduate and served 28 years as a naval engineer and marine architect designing naval ships, particularly nuclear-powered submarines. On December 7, 1941, he was stationed at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. We were living in Naval housing on a bluff above and east of Pearl Harbor. Japanese fighters flew over our house as they headed to attack the Navy ships in the harbor. They flew so low that my mom could see the faces of the pilots.

During my Naval career I was not engaged in any combat. The Year after I left my ship our destroyer squadron was deployed to Vietnam with a carrier.

One of my longest friends and business partner was drafted into the Army in 1968 and served his year in combat in Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Light Infantry Brigade.

I admire your dedication, your courage and your accomplishments.

*Kind regards,
Bill*

Thanks, Bill. Regret I did not know you at Bushy.

I spent lots of time on Navy ships in Vietnam. Stationed on USS Benewah 1969 on Mekong cruise and had much respect for the swabbies who took us down rivers and canals in those landing craft.

Doesn't matter if you saw combat or not--you served your country where and when you were asked.

1-20 Infantry was in Quang Ngai Province and was the unit involved in the My Lai tragedy.

Mike

Mike,

I wish that I had known you during my time at Bushy Park. It was a brief time - middle of May 1954 to middle of October 1955.

My good friend's company in Vietnam was not involved in the My Lai tragedy. He was well aware of it, however.

*Kind regards,
Bill*

Here's a picture of me with Sandra Pitts in 1959. I believe she is deceased.



Mike,

Thank you for this great picture! I will include it with your story in the March newsletter.

I really appreciate your response to all of my questions and especially your initial email.

*Kind regards,
Bill*

###



From: Robert F. Harrold, II (60)

Life Expectancy

The Open A.I. says:

In the U.S., we can break it down more specifically:

- **Life Expectancy in the 1940s:** Those born between 1939 and 1945 had an average life expectancy at birth of around 60-70 years. However, this has increased over time due to advances in healthcare, lifestyle changes, and better medical treatments.

- **Survival Rates for 80+ Year Olds:** As of 2023, the general life expectancy for someone born in the 1940s (around 80 years old now) would be in the range of 85-90 years, depending on various factors. But by the age of 80, a significant number of people from this cohort would still be alive.

Estimation:

For those born between 1939 and 1945, the estimated percentage still alive in the U.S. as of 2025 is likely between 55-65%, factoring in both the aging population and mortality rates at older ages.

This number can vary depending on health and lifestyle factors, but roughly 60% is a fair estimate for this age group. This estimate assumes you're looking at the total number of people born in that period, not just those still living in a specific year.

###

Historic ocean liner (*SS United States*) departs Philadelphia on voyage to become the world's largest artificial reef – AP News (Feb. 19, 2025)



The historic, aging ocean liner that a Florida county plans to turn into the world's largest artificial reef departed from south Philadelphia's Delaware River waterfront on Wednesday, marking the opening segment of its final voyage. The *SS United States*, a 1,000-foot vessel that shattered the transatlantic speed record on its maiden voyage in 1952, is being towed to Mobile, Alabama, for

planned prep work before officials eventually sink it off Florida's Gulf Coast. The move comes about four months after the conservancy that oversees the ship, and its landlord resolved a years-old rent dispute. Officials initially planned to move the vessel last November, but that was delayed due to concerns from the U.S. Coast Guard that the ship wasn't stable enough to make the trip.



The SS United States is towed down the Delaware River between Pennsylvania and New Jersey, from Philadelphia, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

Officials in Okaloosa County on Florida's coastal Panhandle hope it will become a barnacle-encrusted standout among the county's more than 500 artificial reefs and a signature diving attraction that could generate millions of dollars annually in local tourism spending for scuba shops, charter fishing boats and hotels. Officials have said the deal to buy the ship could eventually cost more than \$10 million. The lengthy process of cleaning, transporting and sinking the vessel is expected to take at least one-and-a-half years.

The *SS United States* was once considered a beacon of American engineering, doubling as a military vessel that could carry thousands of troops. Its maiden voyage broke the transatlantic speed record in both directions when it reached an average speed of 36 knots, or just over 41 mph (66 kph), The Associated Press reported from aboard the ship. The ship crossed the Atlantic Ocean in three days, 10 hours and 40 minutes, besting the *RMS Queen Mary's* time by 10 hours. To this day, the *SS United States* holds the transatlantic speed record for an ocean liner.

The SS United States is towed down the Delaware River between Pennsylvania and New Jersey, from Philadelphia, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke)



“The ship will forever symbolize our nation’s strength, innovation, and resilience,” said Susan Gibbs, president of the *SS United States Conservancy* and granddaughter of the naval architect who designed the vessel. “We wish her ‘fair winds and following seas’ on her historic journey to her new home.” The *SS United States* became a reserve ship in 1969 and later bounced to various private owners who hoped to redevelop it. But they eventually found their plans too expensive or poorly timed, leaving the vessel looming for (nearly 30) years on south Philadelphia’s Delaware River waterfront.

--FINIS--