

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



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

1954 – *Betsy (Neff) Cote (d. 2024)*

1959 – *John “Mike” Hall (d. 2024)*

1955 – *Nancie Anderson (d. 2016)*



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr42@gmail.com



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



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



1957 – William Douglas
rwmdouglas@gmail.com



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.



**Classmates Who
Have Transferred to
the Eternal Duty
Station**

Memories of Bushy Park

Robert Harrold (60) maintains a Bushy Park website at this link: 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: Lyn Peterson (58) Stinnett

The second picture in the shorter chair is me when I was eighty-four, so I guess the first one is when I was sixty-four or sixty-five. Somewhere in there, working overseas, now retired.



**



Hi, Lyn,

Thank you very much for sharing these photos. I appreciate your doing this, especially with these two pictures, 20 years apart in the same shirt! I will post them and your statements in the next newsletter.

Kind regards,
Bill R.

**

Thanks, Bill. I'll try to get my act together and write something for next month's newsletter... stay well, thanks again.

Be sure to edit my statement. I think there are a few little problems with the structure of the sentences, since my microphone picks up everything!

**

Hi, Lyn,

No worries. Whatever you can provide will be appreciated.

Kind regards,
Bill

###

From: Liz Jackson (62)

Bill,

I copied my Bobcat friends on your message below with hopes you get more copy for the monthly newsletter. Thank you for being a champion of communication!

Liz Jackson, FASAE, President
Jackson Consulting, Inc.
Washington, DC

**



Left to right: Kathlee Knopke Bryan, Patty Jones Lawrence, Anne Cable Silver, Liz Griffiths Jackson

The four of us get together for lunch a couple times a year. Kathlee lives in Tampa and the rest of us are in Sarasota. Lots of great memories of Bushy Park, London and those bus rides! Anyone in the Sarasota/Tampa area who wants to join us? Email ljackson262@msn.com and we'll include you in the future.

**

Hi, Liz,

Thank you for your email and for the photo of you and your longtime friends from Bushy Park. I will include both in the next newsletter.

It would be great if you and your friends would write up some of your memories of your experiences at Bushy Park or in the years since and send them to me for inclusion in the newsletter. This is what keeps it up and running.

Kind regards
Bill R

###

From: Peggy J. Corder (54) Johnson

Hi Bill...thanks for keeping on keeping on. Love you for your kind efforts. I have very few classmates from 1954...sad but true. I am still doing my fashion shows almost weekly. It is a lot of work, but I do love it. It keeps me in touch with the nicest people. I have a website...petuniapatchonline.com. What if I wrote an article to keep us in touch, too?

Hugs to both of you for being there when we need a touch with our past.

Peggy J.

**

Hi, Peggy,

Thank you for your kind words.

Your continued work is amazing. I have become very limited as to what I can physically do. Scoliosis has become very evident in my lumbar spine.

Yes, the number of people from classes '53, '54, and '55 is becoming very low. My older brother, Pete, was in '55. Sadly, passed away a few months after his 60th birthday. He had been living in Australia for the previous 30+ years. Long story short.

It would be wonderful for you to write up an article for the newsletter. I look forward to reading it and including it in the newsletter.

Kind regards,
Bill R

**

Hi Bill...Would be delighted to write an article for our newsletter. What is my deadline? Have 3 shows booked for April...so I will love being busy.

So sorry to hear about losing your brother...so many people in our age bracket are gone.

I have a new project going...or trying to get going. I wrote a book, published through Amazon. I wrote it in 2 weeks, and it has taken 2 or 3 months to finally get the version I like published! Rejected for font types, margins, etc. That is all new to me. Will let you know when

it finally hits the stands. I was in Toastmasters for 22 years and loved their Youth Leadership Program. Taught it to the incarcerated young men at the jail for 13 years. Called it "Busy Behind Bars" ... it's a great program, would love for TM across the country to take it on. Helps kids who have had little to no parenting.

What's my deadline, Mr. Editor?

Hugs,
Peggy J.

**

Peggy,

No worries. This is what editors do! I will clean up your email and include it in the next newsletter, if that's okay with you.

The deadline for any newsletter issue is the end of the third week of the month.

Kind regards,
Bill R

###

From: Marcia (Craver) (54) Thomas

I saw the request to submit a photo from the 1980s to update our looks. I happened to have a photo that I used for my cards when traveling and performing at my theatre or out of town for many decades, so I am attaching it. This would have been taken about the mid-1980s, just as I was really working to move it along! A local photog took it one sunny day inside my townhouse (b. 1869) in downtown. Jefferson, Texas, where my husband and I not only lived, but I performed in what was once my downstairs living room - then renamed The Living Room Theatre! Really was a fun thing to do, and the boss could never fire me either!

My latest photo for PR is now about 5 years old, and I haven't done any more at this point. But I might sooner or later because I still keep my hand in it AND my head!

Marcia Thomas

(At BP, it was easier to use my stepfather's name, Craver, but this is my married name. Haven't changed even though I've been a widow for over 20 years)

**

Marcia -

Apparently, the request is confusing a lot of people. What was meant was to send a photo of you at age 80 and beyond, not a photo taken in the 80s. However, if you'd like, I'll go ahead and send the info to Bill. Just let me know. Thanks, and have a great day.

Pat

**

Oh, I see.....at age 80.....which I'm not sure I have but will see.....hold up on that one sent since it was in the 1980s. I can attach one that I know was in about 2019 or 2020.

That was a snap by a friend that I liked so well I used it in PR.....you can send that one I guess.....it was not doctored; the light was just perfect at that time, and he called to me and snapped as I turned! Liked it because it was a good angle and candid.

I was then 86 years.....now 91! Hard to believe!

Marcia



Marcia in 1980s



Marcia at 86

###

From: Connie Haave (58) Saunders

Tim, the oldest son, and Mark, the youngest, both wanted us to relocate closer to them. Some of the pros included being only about a block from Mark and his wife, Kathy, and not too far from Tim, who lives in West Palm Beach, as well as two nieces (one in Tampa and the other in Georgia). The cons included leaving life-long friends as well as finding new doctors, dentists, hair salons, etc.

We began this venture with a few obstacles in our way. Our flight was to depart at 6 a.m. on the 23rd so I arranged for the packers to come on the 22nd of September. Should have worked fine, right? Well, they only sent two packers, and they didn't arrive until noon. It takes a lot of time to pack for old people who have lived in the same house for 30+ years...they didn't finish packing and loading the truck until 5 a.m. So, I had to change our flight to a much later one, which made us arrive at 11 p.m. Not wanting to drive to Miami at that time of night, Tim arranged for a car to meet us at the airport and drive us to his house in West Palm Beach.

Then, apparently, the cat, Oreo, wasn't quite ready to leave Texas. She doesn't like strangers at the house, so she made it a point to stay away while the packers were there. She stayed away a little too long, and when it was time to leave, we couldn't find her. We had no choice but to leave anyway. Our neighbors were kind enough to say they would watch for her and, if they found her, they would have her transported to us. They were successful, and Oreo now purrs constantly while Missy is happy to have her playmate back. We haven't let Oreo out in the yard, but she seems content to stay in the lanai. I don't think she wants to stray very far anymore for fear that we'll leave her.

We stayed at Tim's place in West Palm Beach for a few days until our car arrived, at which time we drove up to Mark and Kay's home. They were both gracious hosts, and it was a pleasure to stay with them. How lucky for us that the moving van didn't stop to pick up or drop off anyone else's things (absolutely nothing else would have fit on the truck). They made the trip in only three days.

We've had a lot of help from family (nieces Kathy and Kim), Tim and his son, Sultan, and Aaron, Mark's son. Mark and Kay came over and did a fantastic job with the placement of furniture and pictures...a big help.

The house that Kay and Mark found for us is very nice, although I'm not too comfortable living on an island. We didn't realize there would so much work that needed to be done, including having the house painted inside and out. I'm hoping to feel more comfortable when all repairs are completed and the house is somewhat organized. So, if you're planning on moving I suggest that you don't wait until you are 85 and certainly, if you do move, have a huge garage sale prior to selling. There's way too much stress on the body and the brain.

One of the reasons we chose this house was the very nice backyard. Well, it WAS very nice until the three nights of freezing weather. Now, I'm hoping the plants will be restored to their former glory.

I'm going to look for a picture of me taken recently. I was going to attach pictures, but the extension on the pics wasn't supported, and I couldn't attach them.

I enjoy hearing the stories in the newsletter (and seeing any pictures), so I hope it can continue. I do appreciate all the work that I know is involved.

Connie, Class of '58.



[Editors: Is there a reason that each of the photos that we have received in response to Craig Sams's suggestion, except for mine, has been those of women? Curious! Great photos, ladies. Thank you!]

--FINIS--