



**East High "Class of 56"
NewsLink
December, 2003**



FAMILIAR PLACES-NEW FACES

The fall dinner get-together was held at Pagliai's Pizza on Merle Hay Rd. on September 29th. We had a turnout of 40 people, mostly familiar faces, but happily some new faces. It is always nice to see a few new faces at each one of these get-togethers.

We start at 6:30 PM and usually it breaks up by about 8:15. This gives us time to have our dinner, pass on any quick messages if there are any, then the fun part of mingling with the familiar faces, and getting reacquainted with the new faces. We talk about our job's, retirement, grandkids, vacations, recreation, likes, dislikes, etc. It is a good relaxing fun filled evening. If you have not done so, you should plan on attending the next one.

The spring dinner get-together will be held:
Monday April 26th, 2004 at 6:30 PM at Okoboji Grill at 1225 Copper Creek Dr. in Pleasant Hill.

The call committee will contact those in the metropolitan Des Moines area about 2 weeks ahead of time. When they call you, just indicate if you are planning on attending, and if you will be alone or will you be bringing your spouse, significant other?

We have had some out of town surprises, for the past couple of dinners.

Remember, there is no cover charge, no minimum. You order from the regular menu and pay your own check. There is a 18% gratuity added in.

Those in attendance at the fall dinner were:
Larry & Janeene (Miller) Carlisle, Bob & Connie Trotter, LaVae (Konz) & Larry Willson, Larry & Margaret Fogelson, Larry & Jackie Solomon, Dale & Marlene (Roberts) Wheeler, Don & Mary (Crum) Moses, Ruth(Cook) & Jerry Haag, Sheryl (Sporoa) & Irven Polson, Jackie (Fisher) & Paul Schwartztrauber, Yvonne (Miller) & Sonny Nauman, Phil & Barb (Lowe) Penn, Chico & Kay (Edwards) Alcantar, Don & Arlene Spaw, Norma (Treanor) & Bill Burke, Tom & Roberta (Elin) Abbott, Larry & Karen Watkins, Lyle & Judi Norman, Pat (Rounds) & Larry Hockersmith, Jerry & Carole Hall.

HAPPY TURKEY DAY TO YA- ALL!

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving Day no matter how you chose to celebrate it.

It was cool here in Tulsa, Tulsa I said. It was only in the 50's. I went to my friend's home (Shirley Moore). She had about a dozen people over, most of us were without family here in the Tulsa area. It was a good time for all. We all brought assigned dishes. Always more than enough. Well once again I hope everyone else had a blessed Thanksgiving, and enjoyed the good food, and especially the friendship of family and friends.

I am thankful for my health, and especially my E-mail buddies. God bless ya one and all.

Deanna (Wheatly) Peterson

ALERT-HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?



He is often seen in the presence of children. He says his name is “Kris Kringle” a.k.a. Santa Claus. On good authority I have learned he is really **Tom Abbott**, one of our classmates from the “Class of 56”.

For many years Tom has enjoyed playing Santa Claus for children. He has done it for family members, and friends as well as for Corporate Christmas Parties, and as a fund raiser for The Animal Rescue League.



Tom at a corporate Christmas Party.



Tom and wife Roberta with their dog Mandy.

Tom thoroughly enjoys being with and talking to children. Tom once came to a Christmas Eve family get-together at my son’s house as Santa, for a “last minute checkup”. Wow, what an impact. Tom is very easy for the children to talk to. Tom seems to embody the very “Spirit of Saint Nicolas.”

RETIREMENT IN THE SLOW LANE- OR LIVING IN A 35’ MOTORHOME

By Larry Watkins

Skipping through time to 35 years after graduation from East. This is an outline of some of our activities since “Retirement”. My wife Karen (Bryan EHS 59) and I have always been RVer’s , starting in the early 70’s with a 19’ camping trailer, and then in 1978 moving up to a 23’ Class C Motorhome in which we camped and vacationed for 12 years. After my retirement from IBM in 1991, we decided to move to a larger Class A motorhome, and acquired a 32-footer. In 1994 we sold our home in Southeast Polk. Karen retired from Principal Insurance Company, and we moved our home base to Table Rock, MO. We then started to travel to the south in the winter, spending 4-6 months living in the motorhome, and then returning to the Midwest in the summer. Florida seemed to become our favorite winter destination; we became “Snowbirds”.

Somewhere in this timeframe we joined the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA) and a chapter in the FMCA called the Ozark Schooners. This chapter of about 60 Motorhome owners holds at least 6 rallies each year in different locations throughout the US. A typical rally agenda includes visits and tours of local sites of interest such as National Parks, State Capitals, Museums, Zoos, Theaters, Restaurants, etc. There is also plenty of time for daily continental breakfasts, social hours, an occasional Potluck, a catered meal, and entertainment.

In 1996 we purchased a home in an “55” and older village in Bonita Springs, FL., and became Florida residents. This eventually became our home base and we traveled in the motorhome during the summer; traveling first to Des Moines and then to several of the rallies mentioned above.

Finally in 2001 we sold out in Florida and became “Full timers”, living in our 36 ft Holiday Rambler motorhome 12 months a years. We spend 6 months in Florida where we still work seasonally at H & R Block and Hallmark, and 6 months on-the-road. It’s been a great time, however we are looking forward

to re-establishing a home base in Southeast Polk again in 2004.

Traveling in our Motorhome during the last 8 years has allowed us a opportunity to experience and enjoy many things: camping at a Buffalo Ranch in Wyoming , photographing Alligators and Manatees from an airboat in Florida, watching the Cadets march at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, white water river rafting in Wyoming, touring a light-house on the coast at Newport, OR. We have also visited numerous National and State Parks, Museums, Historical sites, Monuments, Restaurants, Theaters, Capitals, and Elks Lodges throughout the 38 States and Washington, DC.

It has been a real trip in the “slow lane”.

Larry & Karen Watkins

(Larry, it sounds like you and Karen have enjoyed some wonderful experiences. I envy you both. You did what many of us only dream about.)

ANOTHER RVer WITH A MISSION

Hello Larry & All:

Please find an enclosed check for postage for the NewsLink. Please pass it on to Shirley.

Even though I was not one of the “in crowd”, I enjoy reading about everyone.

After eleven years of full time RVing and doing mobile missionary work, we finally decided to settle down. Most importantly, you know it is time when your 4 year old grandson asks “grandma, where is your house going to be this time”?

So we are building a small home at Lake Rathban, and are going to try to enjoy the country life. We have deer, turkey, fox, and coyote that roam the pond behind the house.

Maybe one of these times I’ll shock the socks off all of you and turn up at a dinner. *(She did)*

My best to all, and please keep up the good work, and thanks again.

Sheryl (Sporaa) Polson

SPEAKING OF MISSIONS

Hello to all of you out there. I was hoping to see some of you at this years Alumni Banquet so we could chat. But unfortunately I was the only one there from our class. I did really enjoy the evening and the activities. They honored my sisters class for

their 50 years. Speaking of which, our 50 year reunion will be coming up in 2006. Please try to attend, it would be so nice to see everyone again.

I would love to hear from you all, especially those who think they might remember me.

Remember, I am still a Pastor, so if you have any prayer request, please let me know.

Pastor John Hill

revjwhill@earthlink.net

(Looking forward to seeing you at the 50th John. Maybe you can do the Benidiction for us)

HE KNOWS WHO’S DOING WHAT AND WHERE

Dear Larry, I wasn’t able to make the Dinner get-together in September, but I did want to share the following with my classmates if you could put it in the next newsletter.

I retired this summer after 26 years of teaching and doing research in Sociology at Illinois State University in demography and urban sociology. I also directed the research unit for Census and Data Users Services, providing U.S. census data to interested users for a quarter of a century.

My wife Carolyn and I will stay in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, and be involved in the community. We are particularly interested in environmental issues.

We plan to travel to see our children in Washington, DC, Seattle, WA, and Vancouver, BC. We have a new grandson in Washington, DC, so we are eagerly looking forward to seeing him.

I appreciate your work on the “NewsLink”. It helps me to stay in touch with my 1956 East High Des Moines classmates.

Roy C. Treadway

(Enjoy Roy, and plan a trip back to D.S.M in 2006 for our 50th class reunion)

SISTERS TOGETHER AGAIN

Dear Larry, I am writing to let you know that I have moved.

My sister who lived in California for 45 years lost her husband this past February. So she moved back to Iowa because her family is all here.

She and I are sharing a two bedroom apartment in Ankeny, IA. **Etha (Penengar) Whitten**

PERSEVERANCE THRU DETERMINATION

I had made it my personal goal to locate our classmate **Rhoda Smith**. I am happy to report that I found her through Classmates.com on the internet. She is now **Mrs Rhoda Parks** living in Omaha, NE.

I have been in touch with her through email. She would love to get future newsletters.

Enclosed is a check to help with NewsLink expenses.

Norma (Breton) Girton

PLEASE HELP ON ADDRESS CHANGES

I want to express my gratitude, and personal THANKS to people like Sheryl and Etha for keeping me informed of their address changes. To Norma, bouquets for the effort expended in helping us find one more lost classmate. Wow, if everyone would take this attitude to find one more of our missing classmates. Thanks again Norma, it is really appreciated.

PLEASE PEOPLE, what with retirements, moving into townhouses, etc., it is becoming extremely difficult to try and keep abreast of where everyone is now. So please send your address changes to me. Or if you know of someone who is moving, remind them to contact me. Thank You!

Address Changes and Articles for the NewsLink to:

Larry Fogelson
3121 Twana Dr
Des Moines, IA 50310
Ph# (515) 279-0013
chieffog@mchsi.com

I do need articles for the NewsLink. No matter how trivial you might think them to be. Others enjoy hearing about you.

Donations to:

Shirley Robinette
812 E. 22nd Ct.
Des Moines, IA 50317

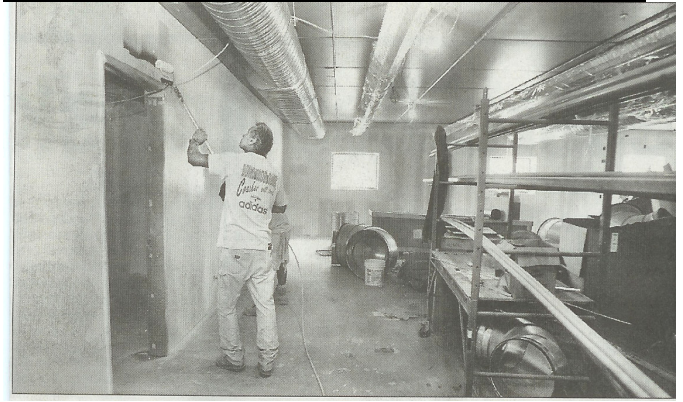
NEWSLINK DONATIONS

I wish to thank everyone for the donations to keep the NewsLink going. Your donations defray the expense of Stamps, envelopes, printing, labels, etc. The latest round of contributors were:

Elinore Irene(Viers) Bell – Nancy Bishop – Janice (Webber) Casidy – Norma (Breton) Girton – Mary Lou (Katzman) Goodman – Janet (Griffiths) Harmon – Doris Harrington – Jack Hensley – Kay (Johnson) Inman – Rae Leto – Ed McCarthy – Charles McQuerry – Ron Olson – Sheryl (Sporaa) Polson – Don Spaw – Roy Treadway – Shirley Warrick – Donna (Mattis) Wright.

I also wish to thank you for the compliments that usually accompany the donations. Shirley passes those on to me. She knows that I will do almost anything if I get a swelled head.

GETTING EAST READY FOR FALL CLASS



Worker smooths primer to get Bldg ready for Students

In early August workers scrambled to get a auxiliary Bldg ready for student occupancy. They had two weeks to paint walls, install doors, light fixtures, toilets and sinks, lay carpet, pour concrete for sidewalks and driveways, move chairs, desks, kitchen equipment and cafeteria tables.

They had two weeks to finish remodeling an auxiliary building that will house this years estimated 700 ninth-graders, as well as the school cafeteria for East's 2000 students. .

More than 100 workers, some pulling 10-12 hour shifts, are scrambling to complete work on the building to complete it before school started on Aug. 21st.

East High School's \$18 million renovation project began this summer with demolition of the school's cafeteria. In its place will be a new building that

will include offices, science laboratories, a cafeteria and a student center. Renovation and expansion plans also include new classrooms, air conditioning, windows and an elevator.

While the three-year renovation is under way, East's ninth-graders will attend classes in the auxiliary building located at 1421 Walker St., about a block east of the high school. The cafeteria also will be in this building.

Duane Van Hemert, executive director of facility management for Des Moines Schools said much of the work will be completed in time.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE PROJECT

The campaign to raise \$5,000,000 to provide funding for additional building projects not covered by the \$18,000,000 raised by the local option 1% sales tax is going well. They now have over \$4,000,000 in pledges. But they still need to raise almost another million.

Please donate what you can, no matter how large or small, it all adds up.

In 2006 it will be nice to see the differences in our "Ol Alma Mater".

Mail your contributions to:
East High School Alumni Foundation
C/O Iowa State Bank
Attn: Bob Mahaffey, Treasurer
PO Box 3070
Des Moines, IA 50316

LIST OF THE LOST

The following is our current list of classmates whose whereabouts or disposition is unknown. If you recognize any name on this list, and can help us out, as to their current address, or if they are deceased, etc. Please let me know.

Do what **Norma (Breton) Girton** did; pick one name and make it your quest to find out what has happened to that individual.

Sharon (Crawford) Allsteadt	Frances (Tulley) Malloy
Charles Baker	Thomas P. Mason
Lola Baker	Ralph Marshall
Susan (Beebe) Bane	Sandra (Parsons) Mathys
Karen (Anderson) Barton	Bill McGriff
Edward James Brown Jr.	Barbara (Byerly) Monahan
Shirley Brown	Jeanne (Clark) Moore

George Butler	Nancy Morrow
Sandra Carter	Norma (Allison) Moslander
Carl Christiansen	John Nelson
DeWayne F. Clark	Bill Orris
Helen Cooper	Donald Patton
William Downey	Gail (Black) Polson
Donald J. Dugan	Charles Price
William E. Fleming	Donna (Yargas) Quirk
Robert L. Freeborn	Jeanne (Sacco) Randleman
Robert L. Graham	Wilma Richards
John Hall	Margaret (Chapman) Roe
Jean K. Hamilton	Lucille (Belzer) Ryan
Edward L. Harvey	Jolene (Wichersheim) Shadley
Patricia (Marin) Hughes	Jack Slattery
Marilyn Jackson	Betty Smith
James Jesser	Max K. Smith
Joanne (Bosshardt) Jergens	Opal Tomlinson
Jim Jordan	Ruth (Jeanine) Turner
Barbara (Batty) Kimley	Lynn Van Sickle
Gary Lewis	Anita Ward
Gene Lewis	Tom F. White
	Frances Knotts Wright
	Janet Wright

CLASS WEBSITE

Those of you with a computer who has not ventured to the class website set up by **Tom Lettington**, you are missing something. You can spend hours going through the things he has taken the time to put on there, and it is all something that you should be able to identify with.

If your email server has changed, you need to contact Tom so he can get it changed to keep you in the class loop for emails. This allows you to email a message of importance to everyone in the system with just one stroke. **Rules: No spam –No jokes, etc.** It must be a message of importance to your classmates.

www.ehs56.org

**May you all enjoy the Merriest of this
Holiday Season!**

**May your New Year be filled with
peace, prosperity, health, and
happiness.**

