

LMHS – Classes of the Fifties

1954 - 1959

www.LevittownMemorial.org

#3 – JUNE 2007



Joel Saren '57
 21 Kelly Brook Lane
 E. Hampstead, NH 03826
 (603) 382-5978
joel@jsaren.com

Leadership Team

Joel Saren '57
 Tom Lamendola '57
 Eileen Kelly Semeniuk '57
 Barbara Rivero Leary '57
 Pat Davis Fishback '57
 Les Rumel '58
 Cynthia Roberts Kaylor '59

The Friday Jones Beach event has been canceled due to weather concerns. In its place a buffet lunch at the Marriott is being offered.

Reunion July 19-21, 2007 (Thurs.-Sat.)

Where The Melville Marriott in NY will be the headquarters. When making a reservation, be sure to mention that you are with the Levittown Memorial High School reunion to receive a special rate. See www.longislandexchange.com/motels/melvillemarriott.html

Thursday 5-9 PM: welcome party (casual attire) at the Marriott with buffet dinner and cash bar (\$50 per person).
Friday 10-12 AM: free Levittown Museum tour followed by a buffet lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers and much more, at the Marriott (\$45 per person).
Saturday 6-11 AM: farewell breakfast buffet at the Marriott (\$20 per person).
Registration Fee With the exception of guest teachers, each attendee is required to pay the registration fee that covers the costs of shirts, hats, badges, teachers' expenses and other related expenses. **Register by June 30th and pay a registration fee of \$35 per attendee. After June 30th the registration fee increases to \$50 per attendee.**

The Great Inter-fraternity Egg Fight

It was 1957 or 1958. LMHS male students had formed two fraternities, Phi Beta Chi (Gees) and Pi Kappa Epsilon. I think their only purpose was to have an organized method to meet the girls after sorority meetings on Wednesday nights. As far as I can remember, the fraternity I was in (The Gees) did nothing socially useful. OK, we ran a small ad in the yearbook. But memories fade, so perhaps we did do a few good things.

After our fraternity meetings, the guys would high tail it over to wherever the girls were meeting so they could dance to record music, eat cookies and drink soda (times were simple then).

The two fraternities were somewhat competitive. One night a car, or two, that was parked in front of a sorority meeting was hit with an egg, or two; an accident, of course. This led to a declaration of

war...and planning for a major egg battle began.

A few nights later the two fraternities met on the field of battle, the Azalea Road baseball field, under the Levittown water tower. Egg throwers emptied from cars onto the field. The Pi Kappa Epsilon guys were on the east side of the field, the Gees on the west. There were perhaps 20 guys on each side. It was a dark night with no moon.

Our strategy was to get close enough to hit the guy you were aiming at, throw your eggs and run like hell. Each Gee had about a half dozen eggs, thanks mostly to Artie Fogel who worked at Safeway.

Both groups merged in the center of the baseball diamond. After a few taunting remarks, the fight was on. Naturally, with only six or so eggs per combatant, battle was over pretty quickly and the groups separated. Everyone ran through the adjoining back

yards of the homes on Old Farm Road.

I kept one egg in my pocket. Now I was racing across the field behind an opposition fraternity member. As we reached the field's edge I yelled, "I think we lost them." He stopped, turned around and received my last egg squarely in his face.

I immediately felt sorry for what I had done. Not only was his face a mess of broken egg but also the smack must have been very painful. I apologized and helped him clean his face. After all, this was supposed to be just fraternity fun.

To this day I cannot remember whom I hit with that egg. If one of you shares this memory with me, please drop me a line.

Norm Urban '58
 35885 Duster Rd, Murrieta CA 92562-4439
 cell (951) 265-3125 urbannorm@yahoo.com

JOIN IN THE FUN!

BE SURE TO REGISTER ASAP!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

LMHS WOMEN INCLUDE MAIDEN NAME IN PARENTHESES

MAIL TO LMHS-GO, c/o JOEL SAREN, 21 Kelly Brook Lane, E. Hampstead, NH 03826

Attendee Name(s) & Class(es)

Address & ZIP

E-mail

Phone

Shirt Size(s) W/M S-XXL

Hat Size(s) 7, 7¹/₈, 7¹/₄, etc.

Attendees

Each 2007 Event is Optional

Thursday (7/19) Welcome Party & Buffet Dinner

@ \$50 each

Friday (7/20) Buffet Lunch at the Marriott

@ \$45 each

Saturday (7/21) Farewell Breakfast Buffet

@ \$20 each

Registration Fee Required (\$35 if received by 6/30, \$50 thereafter)

@ \$35 or \$50 each

Make check payable to LMHS-GO

Check #

Total Amount



Everyone wants to know about YOU!

Write your news and comments on the website blog or send a single line or a few paragraphs to

Nan Scharer Jessup '58
35 Sunset Lane, Patchogue, NY 11772
williamjessup@cs.com



L to R: Jon Hennessey '56, Norm Urban '58 and Dan Hennessey '58

Spotlight On... Barbara Stroup Dana '54

Hi Nan,

It is nice that you are interested in things about our high school years.

The class of 1954 was fairly small and we have managed to maintain contact with quite a few people over the years. We started having 'mini-reunions' years ago at different locations. Orlando and Las Vegas were easy to get to, so we went there. Also, several of us have made visits to each other's homes at various times.

I keep in touch with: Marion (Sussfeld) Mackey - PA, Gretchen (Eisele) Mucci - CA, Barbara (Smith) Bonk - Alaska and Phyllis (Prochaska) Resler - NV. I live in Florida. We are all thankful for e-mail! Sadly, Margie (Rowe) Ross, who was one of our 'group', recently died in Arizona.

Locally I get see Dave Zella and his wife, John DeLuca and his wife, Joan (Anderson) Searl and by a strange quirk of fate, with Susan (Potoff) Goldfine, who lives with her husband, Ira, in the same building as I do. I never knew Susan lived there until my husband and I were moving into the building a few years ago. I was wearing my LMHS baseball hat that day when a man in the parking lot yelled, "Hey! Where did you get that hat?" I answered it was from a high school reunion some years back. He said his wife had one just like it. I think he thought I had stolen hers! Anyway, after a few minutes of chatting he went home and brought Susan back to meet me. After so many years we probably would not have recognized each other and met were it not for this coincidence!

I write a newsletter for our condo association and recently became an officer on our board of directors.

My husband and I are very involved with The Four Freshmen Society, Inc. We are both Florida "Reps." and I am SE Director for the society, which is a very large support group of people who like The Four Freshmen style of music. We have a lot of fun promoting the current group of four young men who are multi-talented. If you want to learn more, just go to their website at www.fourfreshmen.com.

My husband is a professional musician - trombonist - and plays in two big bands here in Florida. We like 'music with integrity'. The 'rap-crap' thing isn't for us! I guess that makes us 'big-band-bigots'!

I would be interested in knowing who else from LMHS lives in my area of Florida and would appreciate it if they would contact me.

Barbara
441 Wellington 'H', West Palm Beach, FL 33417
(561) 689-1350 barbaradana@adelphia.net



Spotlight On... Joseph Meehan '58

Joseph Meehan has been a professional photographer, writer and teacher for over 30 years. He served as the Senior Technical and New Products Editor of *Photo District News* for 12 years and wrote more than 500 articles and columns on photography and photographic techniques that have appeared in magazines such as *Popular Photography*, *Photographic Magazine*, *Outdoor Photography*, *View Camera Magazine* and *Camera and Darkroom*. Joe also served as a contributing editor with the *British Journal of Photography* and the annual *The BJP Yearbook*. Joe is the first American to serve as editor of the *Photography Yearbook*, which was first published in Great Britain in 1935.

Joe is the author of 22 books on photographic technique including: *Panoramic Photography* (Amphoto), *The Photographer's Guide to Using Filters* (Amphoto), *Copying and Duplicating: Photographic and Digital Imaging Techniques* (Kodak) and *The Art of Close-up Photography* (Fountain Press). His most recent book, published in April 2004, is *The Complete Guide to Filters for Digital Photography* (Lark). He also presents seminars and workshop programs at major conventions such as PhotoPlus Expo, PhotoFusion, DIMA/PMA, Seybold and MacWorld.

Joe received a baccalaureate degree with honors from Columbia University and a Master of Arts degree from Manhattan College. He taught in the Arts as a college professor in the US, in England and in Asia for a total of twenty years. Joe turned to international editorial photography and to writing photography books in the late '80s. Last year he is served as expedition photographer for a series of Arctic studies of narwhal to determine the purpose of their extraordinary tusks (See www.narwhal.org). Harvard University, the Smithsonian, the Explorers Club, National Geographic and several other organizations sponsored the research, which included three trips to the Arctic to photograph this mysterious whale. See samples of Joe's photography on www.josephmeehan.com.

Joe Meehan (860) 824-9848 (home)
360 Between Lakes Rd (860) 824-4936 (cell)
Salisbury CT 06068 joseph@josephmeehan.com

SEND JOE YOUR ELECTRONIC PICTURES

Joe Meehan has volunteered to prepare a banner of LMHS-related pictures for display at the Welcome Party. Please send your electronic pictures to Joe **NOW!** Pictures are wanted of current days or of high school days, of people or of places. The best size picture to e-mail is jpeg @72dpi measuring 7.5" x 10". But whatever size you have, CDs, Zips, etc., will be just fine.

PICTURES CIRCA 1954 submitted by DAVID SMOLER '55.



Mr. Trayer,
Science Teacher

Jackie Belucci, Dorothy Alicandri
and Linda Roman, all '56



Mr. Lohman,
Biology Teacher

Anyone with Levittown memorabilia that we may display at the Welcome Party, please contact Pat Davis Fishback NOW at 1617 Princeton Rd., Richmond VA 23227 (804) 264-8613 pdfishback@comcast.net

Spotlight On... Josephine Robillard, Business & Mathematics Teacher

This ninety-year-old retired teacher is still going strong and she is just as much fun as ever! She currently shares a home in East Islip, L.I., with daughter Joanne Robillard '58 and son Tom. Her passions will always be swimming, golfing, reading, gardening, her six children, twelve grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren.



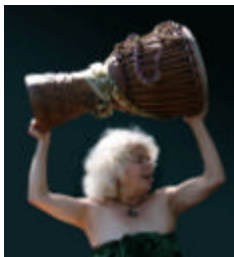
L to R: Nan Scharer Jessup '58, Ann Mackwisch Lauther '58 & Joanne Robillard '58 with Josephine Robillard, Dec. 2006.

After retiring from LMHS in 1979, Mrs. Robillard enrolled in a theology program at the Episcopal Seminary in Garden City. Although she completed the entire program, health considerations prevented her from taking the final exam that would have allowed her to pursue a second career as a Deacon. After two knee replacements, a hip replacement and a fused spine, she now boasts of her "bionic woman" status.

166 Keswick Dr., East Islip NY 11730 (631) 581-4110 JCR166@optonline.net

Spotlight On... Simone "Sugar" Grossman LaDrumma '59

After graduation I married, had a baby and got divorced. In 1967 I heeded Tim Leary's call to "tune in, turn on and drop out" and became a hippy in the Haight-Ashbury area. There I met my second husband. We moved from L.A. to Seattle in '75, I worked in Labor Relations, he died in '84 and a few years later I was reborn - as a musician. A drummer, actually.



Now I support myself exclusively by teaching and performing on hand drums. It is a very exciting, challenging and rewarding existence. I have taught all over the U.S., in Canada and, recently, in Germany and Sweden also. In 1996 I legally changed my name to Simone LaDrumma. You can look me up on Google or on my website: www.LaDrumma.com.

Like most of us, the older I get, the more nostalgic I get. A few years ago, on one of my all-too-rare trips to New York, I was met by Ed and Judy Horowitz, who were kind enough to take me on a tour of the old 'hood. It was the first time I'd been back to Levittown since 1959.

Around 1999-2000, thanks to the Web, I connected with Jeannie Kleitman, who was my best friend in school. She raved about the previous reunion, which sadly, I did not know about.

A few years ago Bob Benson visited me. Thank you, Bob, for the visit and thank you for bringing your 1959 LMHS yearbook! Reviewing the yearbook was such a trip! I wish I had one but the yearbook was his one and only copy.

I would love to attend the July reunion but I am attending a drumming camp earlier that month and am not certain I can afford both.

Blessings to you all! I am with you in spirit, if not in flesh. Love,

Simone "Sugar" LaDrumma
907 N. 72nd St., Seattle, WA 98103 (206) 632-2170
www.LaDrumma.com simone@ladrumma.com



Spotlight On... Tom O'Connell '58

Hello Levittown Memorial High School Alumni,

I was playing with my "Google Earth Explorer" and looking over Long Island when I noticed Levittown. Thought of Levittown Memorial High came to me. I checked to see if there was a web site for LMHS and there it was. I'm one of the missing '58 graduates.

Marcia Canton, class of '59, and I were married. We divorced but not before we had two lovely children, Karen and Kevin: Karen is married with three children and lives in Oak Ridge, NJ; Kevin is married with two children and lives in Mahwah, NJ. Due to business, Kevin and his family will soon transfer to Tampa FL. Marcia remarried and is living nearby in NJ. When I see her I will tell her she's "among the missing" from the class of '59.

As for me, after graduating from SUATI, Farmingdale, in 1960, I worked in various engineering positions at a number of companies on Long Island and in New Jersey. I've worked with many product development teams for both commercial and military applications. I'm recently retired from Honeywell Corp, my last employer.

I am not remarried. I live in a private Lake Community (Pines Lake) in Wayne NJ where I can fish, rowboat, swim and hang out at the beach just like I did when I was a teenager, except that now I sit with the Senior Citizens. The Senior Citizens group here is vibrant. Here we have activities every month. I'm certainly enjoying my retirement. For the past year I've been on some long overdue vacations with my significant other, Christina. In my spare time I catch up on numbers of house projects and, thanks to Honeywell for all the computer training I was required to take, I play on my computer.

I'm sorry to inform you that my brother Raymond O'Connell, class of '59, is deceased. He died in June of 2001 after a long illness. We all loved him and really miss him. Raymond and Betty's children are doing well and they are spread out all over the map: Timothy is married with two children and living in Walton, KY; Erin is married and living in Islip, LI; Mary is married with one child and living in Palm Coast, FL; and Sean is married with one child and living in Miller Place, LI.

Now that I've found you guys, I plan to keep in touch. The 50th Reunion sounds interesting and Christina and I plan to attend. I've included a photo of myself. This is the photo I hung by my desk the first week I retired.

Sincerely,
Tom O'Connell

197 Mohawk Trail, Wayne, NJ 07470
tomoco@verizon.net (973)-616-7202

Spotlight On... Barbara Brinen Glickman '55

What a great job you are doing keeping people informed. I really don't hear from anyone from High School but I did go to the '50s reunion and saw my classmates. That was really great.

This is Barbara Brinen Glickman. I have been living in Plantation, Florida, for the last 23 years and in Florida in general for the last 37 years. I am divorced with three great children: son Mitchell & family live in Culver City, CA, 2 granddaughters, Leah & Claire; son Adam lives in Chicago, IL with wife Christina and children Ryder and Emily. Adam produces and creates TV Commercials. Right now he is working on the Capital One commercials. Daughter Susan lives with me and is single. I am still working; I run an executive floor and have been here for 21 years. This is the greatest job in the world. On weekends and evenings I work at a live theatre doing what I really love best, helping create an atmosphere where actors do their best work. I have served as stage manager, lights and sound attendant, box office attendant, official baker for intermission snacks and more. I have thought about retirement but don't know what to retire to. So work will be it or me for the time being.

I wish health and happiness to you and to all of our classmates from Levittown Memorial High School.

Barbara
1060 NW 84th Ave, Plantation FL 33322
(954) 472-0395 Glickb2003@yahoo.com

Spotlight On... Peggy Wanless Burns '57

Hi Joel,

I'm happy to know that one of my classmates lives in NH even though you are so close to the dreaded border of Mass. Just kidding.

Yes, we're up here in rural NH where most of us live on several acres of land. It's quite a change from Levittown. Do you ever go back to L.I. to visit? I don't since I have no relatives living there any more and, from what I hear, L.I. has become very heavily populated and the traffic is more than I'd want to deal with anyway. I haven't been back since around 1964.

I just was browsing through my Echoes '57 yearbook and going down memory lane. You look like such a little boy in it, but like the rest of us, we've all made some changes.

I've spent the last 24 years of my working career teaching geography in our Gilford Middle High School. I'm now retired and love every minute of it. It gives me time to do things like this. We've spent all of our winters skiing at Gunstock Mt., which is right behind our house (up the hill a bit). I'll bet you know it. Well, since last winter we will be spending our winters in Hernando Beach on the west coast of FL. The weather is so wonderful and we take full advantage of motorcycling, biking, and canoeing while we're there. Though I have to admit that I do miss skiing.

I'd love to hear from you and get all the news about our '57 classmates. I read the newsletter and was so sorry to learn of the deaths among our friends. A friend of mine just went to his 50th reunion last year and came back with a wonderful book containing a page of news about each classmate with a before and after photo. Wouldn't that be an interesting idea for our class? A bit late for this reunion, however.

Well, thanks for getting back to me. I'd love to see everyone. Please give my regards to all.

Thanks again. Peggy

32 Carriage Road, Gilford, NH 03249 (603) 524-0468 k1ve@amsat.org

Spotlight On...

Carol Nezin Raisfeld '56



Carol Raisfeld lives in Atlantic Beach, New York. Photography, poetry, yoga and kickboxing are integral parts of her life. Her hobbies include sailing, tournament chess, sculpting and painting. As an inventor, Carol holds US and foreign design patents in the field of interactive soft toy design.

Carol serves as Director of WHChaikumultimedia, as Multimedia Editor for *World Haiku Review*, as Associate Editor for *Simply Haiku* and as a moderator for WHClovehaiku. She contributes to the *World Tempos Journal* and to *Beacons*. She is a member of The Haiku Society of America, The World Haiku Association, The Academy of American Poets, The World Haiku Club and the WHC International Kigo Project.

Carol's poetry and photography have appeared in *The Poetry Protocol*, *Photo-Haiku Anthology*, *Frogfest*, *PhotoHaiku.net*, *The Green Leaf Files*, *tinywords.com*, *Temps Libres-Free Times*, *The World Haiku Review*, *HSA Members' Anthology*, *haigaonline*, *Wild Flowers*, *New Leaves-Collection of World Haiku*, *Charnwood Arts*, *Ku Nouveau*, *Haiku Pacific Rim*, *The Daily Yomiuri*, *Frogpond*, *Amaze*, *The Cinquain Journal*, *The Heron's Nest*, *Simply Haiku*, *Autumn Leaves*, *Full Moon Magazine* and many online interactive Photo-Haiku galleries.

Carol Nezin Raisfeld 40 Cayuga Ave, Atlantic Beach, NY 11509
(516) 239-0015 www.HaikuBuds.com LaaRouge@aol.com
www.poetrylives.com/SimplyHaiku/SHpages/carol_raisfeld.html

Don't Miss This Reunion!

It's Your '50s Schoolmates! It's A Lifetime Happening!

Spotlight On... The Levittown Museum

www.levittownhistoricalsociety.org

The Levittown Museum is located on the lower level of the Levittown Memorial Education Center, which used to be Levittown Memorial High School. It was opened in 1997 as part of Levittown's 50th anniversary celebration.



The museum tour is a nostalgic glimpse of Levittown's past. It begins with recollections, photographs, and belongings of some of the World War II veterans who moved to Long Island in search of affordable housing. On display are memorabilia and several rooms complete with original furniture, appliances and fixtures that date back to Levitt homes of the late 1940s and early 1950s.

What Levittown museum would not be complete without a tribute to William Levitt, the developer who had the vision and who made the vision a reality? This tribute is also included. And, to commemorate Levittown's 2007 sixtieth anniversary, a special display of inventions that were created over the last sixty years has been added.

The museum has a gift shop where post cards, books,

Official Levittown Pride T-Shirts, some original "Thousand Lanes" magazines and more may be purchased. These items may also be purchased from the website.



Special arrangements have been made with Polly Dwyer, President of the Levittown Historical Society, for the 2007 reunion participants to tour the Levittown Museum on Friday, July 20, 2007. There is no charge for the tour. Additional details about this tour will be made available at the reunion.

If you have a question regarding the Levittown Museum or if you have an item that you would like to donate for possible display at the museum, contact

Polly Dwyer, President
Levittown Historical Society
PO Box 57
Levittown, NY 11756
(516) 735-9060
PollyDwyer@aol.com



Check to see whether or not your contact information is correct and look up your schoolmates on www.LevittownMemorial.org. For those without Internet access, your public librarian should be able to help you obtain class lists from the website.