

# Parsons College E-News

Volume 6, No. 3

Fall 2013

# Nine of 10 Wall of Honor inductees return to Parsons reunion; words of 'Gratitude and Appreciation' permeate Alumni Hall



Bangham



Topping-Bell



Harding



Litwin



Simonsen-Murphy



Stolarczyk

"The Pride of Parsons"

.... Parsons served its' students well!

Another 10 distinguished Student - Alumni were inducted into the Parsons College Wall of Honor at the 5th Annual Ceremony in the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center, Saturday, October 5, 2013. The day was cool and crisp but the happiness, appreciation, gratitude and joy ran Nine of the 10 inductees hot and heavy. returned and most expressed words of praise for having had the Parsons experience. Here are some of their comments: William Bangham: "I learned at Parsons that life is an adventure, of the spirit, mind and body. I learned that ideas are important; they shape our life and our world." **Dorothy Bell Topping**: "I came to Parsons from a nearby farm in 1944. We had no running water or I thought I had come to Heaven. electricity. Showers and light to study by." David Harding: "Parsons was the foundation of my academic enlightenment and achievements. She allowed me to dream of what might be and has served me well throughout my professional career." Larry Litwin: "A day doesn't go by without me thinking about Parsons and 'Doc Bob'. I don't want to think of where I'd be without having attended Parsons and taken the experience with me. My Rowan University students ask why I wear green and white at My proud response, 'because I commencement. graduated from Parsons College." Narda Simonsen Murphy: "I had no idea of the breadth and depth of learning at Parsons until I pursued my graduate degree. I am every day thankful for the rigor and challenges that were part of the learning journey." Ray Stolarczyk: At Parsons I got to know my professors and they got to know me. They cared and I made the Dean's list. At my previous school, the profs walked in, lectured and walked out. They didn't care." (Continued on page 2)



Left to right: Anne Elliot (presenter), David Elliot (honoree), Dr. Tree and Dave Neff.



Rather than talk about herself, Vera Price Young elected to talk about that unique multi-purpose building we called Trustee Gym.

COMMENTS – (cont'd)

David Elliot: "Parsons over the years has meant different things at different times. At 19, Parsons was a lifeboat allowing me to continue toward a degree after I had been asked to take a year off at my previous school. At 20, Parsons was a different kind of mothership. It was anchored where I'd never been before, with an unfamiliar culture and lifestyle. At 22, starting my career, Parsons (and my degree) was the additional element that buoyed my application to allow me to be selected for employment. At 25, I was disappointed to find Parsons the subject of an attack by Life Magazine and its' accreditation questioned. When I was 29, although now a ghost-ship, my Parsons degree made the difference in qualifying for a position in engineering management. It has meant recollections of wonderful and amazing friends and classmates who have gone and proven the dictum of Parsons." Vera Price Young: "I was always proud of our campus. Alumni liked to come back because they were well received. We (faculty) knew who they were and cared. At most universities no one cares who you are." ... In conclusion, the weekend was one of sharing wonderful memories of Parsons "Golden Years."

## Did you watch the Wall of Honor Ceremony? 262 viewers did!

Modern technology never ceases to amaze us. If you followed up on our E-News notice in the recent Special Edition you may have been one of the 1,000 clicks-ons to have seen a live "streaming" of the festivities. The entire ceremony was available on line thanks to the local access provided by the Fairfield

Media Center, their technical knowledge and the financial support from the Alumni Association and Foundation Fund, which purchased a state-of-the-art video camera and streaming box. The <a href="https://www.fairfieldmediacenter.com">www.fairfieldmediacenter.com</a>, followed by a click onto the Parsons "WOH" tab, and you were live at the Stephen Sondheim Auditorium. Initial feedback tells us 262 viewers watched, most with little to no difficulty logging on. NOTE: The entire ceremony will be available to view this weekend on the above mentioned link.

#### THE GRAND OLD LADY

The grand old lady of green and white.
I sometimes think of her into the night.
I think of the opportunities and friendships during my stay.
But of all these things that came my way,
the most important, she gave us hope for another day.

David Harding, 2013

#### **Parsons Logo Mat Available**



The Iris City Cleaners in Mt Pleasant, Iowa has created a Parsons logo mat. The decorative mat is 3' x 4' and made of nylon pile fabric with cleated nitrile rubber backing. If interested in purchasing this piece of memorabilia, contact Ed Longanecker via email at: emlong2@iowatelecom.net, fax at 319-385-9707, or call 888 485 9707. The price is \$62.95 plus shipping.



DZ's, family and friends rally around Vera Young at the reunion luncheon at the Fairfield Golf and Country Club.

# Parsons College Reunion-WOH Photos



Parsons Wall of Honor – home of the distinguished and those who gave back to their communities.



Rice accepts for Suarez



The mystique of Alumni Hall

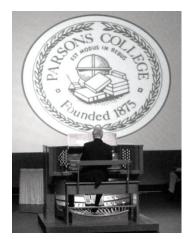


Hermel presents Simonsen





PCAA board meeting - Longanecker, Challant and McPherson-Ferguson.



Werner Elmker playing the Parsons Alma Mater on the Barhydt organ.



Blackstock presents Suarez



Nancy Wirtanen (4<sup>th</sup> from right) bids farewell to her new friends at Sunday's Farewell Breakfast.



Oooh really! - Dan & Shirley Parker



Litwin never lost his beanie



It's a pretty good crowd for a Saturday, as the crowd shuffles in...



AGDs Lucia, Ann and Sue doin' lunch at the Club!

# Dean Roussos retired and living in Youngstown, OH

Thanks to a tip from **Dave Dillingham** of Ft. Worth, TX, E-News has located **Dean Roussos**, a popular member of the faculty from 1960-70. Dean is currently living in Youngstown, OH and caring for his wife who has medical issues. If you were a business major, it's a good bet you attended one of his marketing or statistics classes. After obtaining his PhD from University of Iowa, thanks in part to some assistance from Dr. Tree, he unfortunately had to leave Parsons. Dean went on to Youngstown State University and had a lengthy career. It was evident throughout our conversation that he was sad to leave Parsons and still holds many positive memories. We invited Dean to join our efforts to perpetuate the memory of Parsons and, if he wishes, share some of his good memories...

#### Like it or not, YOU are OUR news!!

You send it, we'll print it. A number of former students and alumni have inquired, asking, "Why isn't there more news from my college years and era?" The answer is relatively simple. It's because the students and alumni of your era are not submitting any information or news to E-News. If most of what you're reading is from the 1960's, that's telling you those are the people uncovering and reporting the information and news. We'd love to hear some of the great stories from the 1940's, the 1950's and we'll do our best to edit them, print them, and make them as interesting and entertaining as possible. somebody has got to dig up the news and the stories. And those "some-bodies," I must tell you, are - YOU - the former students/alumni of our once great Parsons College. We look forward to hearing from YOU!!!

GOOooooo WILDCATS!!

# Fairfield honors its' own LOCAL "MUSIC MAN"





Ron Prill, PC'50 (above) honored in Fairfield with the Central Park Bandstand being named in his honor. Ron (below), leads band concert for the last time. He passed away 10 days later.

Ronald Louis Prill, 81, of Fairfield, passed away September 9, 2013, but not before Mayor Ed Malloy and the City of Fairfield had a chance to thank Ron for dedicating his life to bringing music to the community. Ten days prior to Ron's passing, he was honored at a special ceremony at the Stephen Sondheim Auditorium, as the Central Park Bandstand was dedicated to him and will carry his name – The Ronald Louis Prill Bandstand. Following the ceremony, Ron, who was not in good health, was asked to direct the Fairfield Municipal Band one more time. He complied. Ron graduated from Fairfield High, and Parsons College in 1950. He was a member of Zeta Theta Gamma (Sig Eps) and was married in 1955 to Betty Lou Bipes in Ottumwa. By 1962 he had earned his Master's Degree from the University of Iowa and was well on his way to spending over 60 years teaching, directing and playing/directing music in Fairfield and the surrounding area.

Fifty of those years were focused on insuring Fairfield had a summer Band Concert program. Actually, Ron joined the Iowa Army National Guard Band in 1948 as a trombonist. He eventually was named Director and Company Commander of the 34<sup>th</sup> Army Band, a position he held for 20 years. When the Army Band expanded throughout the state, Ron stayed local and organized the Fairfield Municipal Band, remaining active until June, 2013, when he became ill. In addition to teaching vocal and instrumental classes and directing the marching band at Fairfield High School for many of those years, he played in several small music groups locally, was one of the original members of the Fairfield Dixieland Band and sang in the Community Chorus. Ron was a Jefferson County Energy Management Coordinator for a period of time, belonged to the Lions Club and a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Choir. He is survived by two daughters (families), five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. The family was assisted by Raymond Funeral Home and a memorial service, with full military honors, was held at Evergreen Cemetery...

# Remember When... by Doug Marion '70

(Editor's note: This month Doug Marion takes us back for a glimpse at a few of the PC CO-ED COOL RIDES. During Parsons "Golden Years" there were no shortages of new, neat and cool automobiles on campus.)

Parsons College was second to none in co-ed "cool rides". The hottest machine in the late '60s was a Ford Cobra (owner currently unknown). There were plenty of Corvettes too. So many in fact that a PC Sports Car Club was formed. Now and then a group of 'Vettes' would travel the drag races at Cordova Dragway in Illinois or in Kahoka, Missouri. One weekend in Spring '63, Parsons 'Vettes' took Class Winner laurels at Cordova in three of four classes.



(Top left) Patti Eckert's 1962 fuel injected Corvette, which she still owns; (Bottom left) Ron Long's 1953 Ford Victoria did many trips from Fairfield to Long Island; (Top right) -Silver '61 Corvette with red & white racing stripes wins B/Sports class at Cordova; (Bottom right) - Chip Werstein and buddies (L/R) Wendell, Fatty and Boomer heading off to Ft. Lauderdale in his 1964 Pontiac GTO.





Back on campus, who could forget Monmouth, Illinois' **Marta Mounce** in her red Stingray convertible. **Patti Eckert** enrolled in 1965 driving a maroon, 1962, fuel-injected Corvette. She graduated in 1968 (yes, three years) and was a popular member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. Unbelievably, Patti still owns it today! Fellow classmate, **Chip Werstein** also arrived in 1965 in a slick, 1964 Pontiac GTO. Chip, a PSE social member, supplied the photo of he and three pals heading off to Ft. Lauderdale for Spring Break '68 with a trunk full of beer — courtesy of "The Den". He fondly remembers returning with way more money!

There were plenty of neat Fords on campus too. One of the all-time coolest was **Bryce Hume's** red '57 Thunderbird. A popular WTBA, his 'Bird' featured chrome reverse wheels and a 300 hp 390 cid Galaxie engine linked to a four-speed transmission. Lambda Chi's **Ron Long** had a rare '53 Ford Victoria that made countless trips between Long Island, NY and Fairfield. He's still a car-guy today and Minnesota is home.

PC's athletes had neat cars, too. Basketball captain and Phi Sig **Dennis Edwards** drove in style in his black, '63 four-speed Chevy 409 Impala SS. Everyone called him "Slick" for his dunking and jump-shot hoop skills but nothing was "slicker" than his Chevy Impala.

Also cool were the dozens of motorcycles. Scrambles races at Duke's Cycle Ranch west of town on Grimes Avenue saw hundreds of students participating or spectating at every competition. Today, those events are nil, but Duke's is still going strong. More to come...

# Where Are They Now???

Old basketball buddies don't die, they just go to.......GOLF COURSES! With the years rushing by, many of us desire to meet again with old pals from the past. In this case, old Parsons basketball players. Thus, on the date of Tuesday, August 27, 2013, Mickey Taliaferro, John Mathews and yours truly, Hank Trenkle, arranged to meet at a location equidistant from where all of us live. Mickey located a golf course in the area of Kalamazoo, Michigan, as he was driving from Ohio, John from Grand Rapids and myself from the Chicago area.



Parsons grads gather in Kalamazoo, MI to share the memories of Parsons basketball and play a little golf. L/R: Hank Trenkle, John Mathews and MickeyTaliaferro

It is just wonderful to get together with old pals, especially old Parsons pals. The golf was fun but the conversation and reminiscing was much better. Mickey and John were exceptional basketball players. Mickey was an All-American high school basketball player from New Jersey and John was All-State from Michigan. The conversation revolved around the Parsons basketball teams of the early sixties and our coach, **O.B. Nelson**, a very colorful character. The games discussed in great detail were: a loss to Upper Iowa in the conference final of 1963 and the game against Indiana State at Kansas City in the NAIA Small College Tournament of the same year. At this tournament were: Lucious Jackson from Pan American and later the Baltimore Bullets, and Willis Reed from Grambling and later the N.Y. Knicks. Oh yeah, the golf was fun as well. (Submitted by Hank Trenkle: hatrenkle@aol.com)

# The Mystery Quiz... What in the world?????



What in the world are these people doing? Take a guess! A number of strange things happened at Parsons College. This is an example. Is this harassment or tradition? Does the snap shot (left) bring back any memories? If so, let us know! Your guess choices are to the right. Answer will appear in Winter E-Newsletter...

- A Testing helicopter hats?
- B Singing the alma mater?
- *C Preparing for final exams?*
- D Chanting "Craddock, MVP"
- E Complying to PC tradition

#### Parsons College Alumni Website

Check out our FREE 3-DAY trial viewing of the Parsons College Alumni Association website at: <a href="https://www.parsonscollegealumni.com">www.parsonscollegealumni.com</a>.

#### It's a WINNER!!

# Greek and Social News...

## Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority returns to Fairfield in numbers...

If there was an attendance prize, which there wasn't, the ladies of Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority would have won it hands down. The Alpha Gamm's participated in all the activities and, courtesy of **Betty** Blough Downey, were even treated to a special tour of the city which, of course, included an extensive run through Maharishi University of Management. Following the tour, the Alpha Gamm's reconvened at Walton Club for the Saturday night festivities. Those AGD sorority sisters attending, to the best of our records, also included: Ann Johnson, Sue Weatherly, Mary Pearl, Karen Abnour, Lucia Campbell, Paula Chomka, Kathy Weld, Sara Lippett, Elizabeth Barker, Andrea McFarland, Elaine



The sorority sisters of Alpha Gamma Delta arriving at the beautiful Walton Club following their city/MUM bus tour of Fairfield and surrounding areas. They are greeted by the "Welcome Parsons Alumni" banner as they prepare to head on to the Saturday night Happy Hour party.

**Bjorkman, Kathy Gamrath, Carol Atkins,** and **Chris Miller**.
Initially, there were plans to hold their sorority reunion in eastern Pennsylvania but they switched to Fairfield so they could join the re

reunion and Wall of Honor ceremony. Many of the AGD's had not be back to Fairfield since their college days. They represented the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority well...

# Delta Zeta's and Alpha Xi's well represented in Fairfield

A number of Greek and Social Clubs were represented at the All-Classes Reunion and Wall of Honor festivities over the weekend of October 4-6. The Delta Zeta's had the second most attendees, followed by the Alpha Xi's. Both sororities had members inducted to the Wall of Honor. DZ's included Marlene Thompson, Faye and Kaye Saboski, Patti Winfrey, Sally Rinehart, Carolyn Leech, Kay Ferguson, Dorothy Dalton, Judy Williams, Phyllis Williams and honoree, Vera Young. The Alpha, Xi's, led by inductee Narda

Simonsen saw the following returnees, Marilynne Wepsala, Sandy Hermel, Stephanie Beestrum, Cheryl Peasley, Diane Pigeon, and Ellen Barbaro. Other groups represented were, the Phi Sigs (who parlayed their Every 3-Year Reunion with the All-Class gathering), the Tekes, Sig Eps, Pikes, Lambda Chi, Theta Chi, Alpha Chi Rho, the WTBAs and the Rummers. Attendance at the Wall of Honor ceremony was estimated at nearly 200. Preliminary results indicated reunion numbers, including those registered and walk-ups, to be nearly 150.

# The Alumni Write...

Jim and Jeanne Wainscott PC'50's, Fresno, CA (wainscottjj@comcast.net) writes...We must keep up the news from us old guys from the 50's!! Jeanne and I connected recently with Bob Pedrick PC'55, Charley Kunzman PC'51 and Shirley Owens Kunzman PC'54-'55 before starting her teaching career. I continue my sports and last October won a gold medals in both the tennis singles (80's) and pickleball singles at the Huntsman World Senior Games. In November, we drove to Buckeye, AZ for the Pickleball National Tournament and I won another gold medal. Next, we're off to the Huntsman Senior Games in Utah and plan to go back to Arizona in November to defend my title there. We enjoyed a great evening visiting Ron Long PC'63 in Palm Springs, CA. His sister Peg Long Calhoon PC'56, Jeanne's sorority sister now living in Omaha, NE, was visiting and it was a fun time. We're enjoying great health and great travels and our two sons and families also live in Fresno...

Rothschild PC'69. Rochester. NY(Ahrnormal@aol.com) writes...Due to previous commitments my being at the reunion is impossible but thanks for the reminder. I hope everyone has fun. I do think the work you all have done to keep us in contact and focus is wonderful. Time goes by so quickly and so many wonderful memories get lost. I recently connected with Jack Oswald who played the organ and lead guitar in Revision Volume 3...the improved version of our band. He was a very talented musician and did a lot of our song selections. Out of the four members of the band, three of us are in touch. Joe Langford passed away last year. I had hoped to get the guys together for a week of rehearsal and then play, but sadly, none of them play anymore. I thought it would be fun to do this event (reunion) but they all said no. In some ways I want to come back to Fairfield, but in other ways I do not. I want my memories of the town (which I loved so much) to be frozen where they are....Gobbles, Maynes, the Den, George's Pizza, etc., etc.. A few years ago I was speaking in Quincy, IL to a broadcasters convention. I thought about renting a car and driving to Fairfield, but then decided not to do that. Actually, I did come back in 1970 to get a former roommate out of trouble. Don't know that my being there helped but I did drive out. Anyway, regards to all and have a wonderful event (reunion)... (Continued on page 9)



George's Pizza



The Den

#### **Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors**

President: Nancy Wirtanen <a href="mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com">nwirtanen@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President/Treasurer: Dave Neff <a href="mailto:neffacres@lisco.com">nwirtanen@yahoo.com</a>

John Blackstock <u>iblackstock@prodigy.net</u>
Bill Burger <u>billwburger@mchsi.com</u>
Dixie Hogan Hoekman <u>WJH50@aol.com</u>
Ed Longanecker <u>emlong2@iowatelecom.net</u>

John Braidwood jab parsons@yahoo.com
Frank Challant FChallant@aol.com
Richard Ivins rgivins1945@gmail.com
Kay McPherson Ferguson KFerg2@cox.net

Clarence Gary, PC'n/a - ceg1201@verizon.net wrote... I tried "for the life of me" to activate the video live (streaming) broadcast of the Parsons (Wall of Honor) celebration Saturday, October 5, but to no avail. But after listing myself as a "Livestream follower," they emailed me a video feed to the ceremony. After about 8 minutes of difficulty, the show aired "live" and I found it to be awesome. I watched about an hour and a half - thru about 7 of the 10 honorees. I truly loved what I've seen thus far and it brought back many memories including, the professors, preceptors, tutors, 60 hours of required subjects, landing at O'Hare Airport in Chicago and taking the train to Fairfield (I believe the train fare was \$7 and change) and leaving my trunk at the train station and having it picked up by the college and taken to my housing at CusterIII. I remember seeing fields of corn, having my first milk shake, being introduced to Heinz57 sauces (while working in the cafeteria where the football players dined). They ate steak three times a day, so much that they deplored beef. I learned to play 'hearts' and 'spades', card games that we played deep into the early morning. Surprisingly, I earned (my way to) the 'Dean's List', and I remember Lake Louise (named fondly after President Roberts wife, who I believe taught humanities). Of all the colleges I've attended, Parsons College is the most dear to me. In fact, I hope to make a contribution in the future...

If you arrived at Parson by train from Chicago your first introduction would have been the "Welcome" sign at the Fairfield train station. In this photo (at left) students and luggage await transportation by college officials to their designated housing unit.



Carolyn Peacock, PC'54-'56, '73 – carolynpeacock@hughes.net writes...I attended Parsons College from 1954-1956. I had gone back to Parsons during some summers and was set to graduate the summer of 1973 when it closed. I was able to attend Iowa Wesleyan College and still be considered a Parsons graduate. My paternal grandmother had been one of the earlier students at Parsons and I was one of the last. Also (for the record), the classes I took at Parsons were more difficult than any at Iowa Wesleyan...

James R. Jenness, Jr., PC'42-'45 - jrj8@juno.com writes... October reunion? Wish I could be there but I can't. For those of you who might remember me, here's a brief bio of what happening in my world. Currently I'm retired since 1996 after 20 years at Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory. At a young age I lived in a number of different states and locations. My dad was a physics instructor and mother an actress and teacher of drama and literature. Dad attended Parsons in 1940, long before the "rise and fall" of the college. Throughout grade school, high school and with the community bands, I played the tuba and the trombone. The Parsons choir director attempted to lure me into majoring in music but my dad suggested a degree in physics would be a better major. So, in 1945 with a B.S. in Physics in hand, I was off to a good start and way ahead of my father who grew up on a farm and graduated only a few years ahead of me. After teaching high school in nearby Birmingham, Iowa and a graduate assistantship in physics at the University of Iowa, I went to work for NASA as a physicist in Virginia, calibrating instruments and working on high speed sensors. I sang in the choir of the Presbyterian church, was infatuated with the organist, Anne Platt, and married her a year later. I taught graduate physics at U.S. Naval Development Center in Philadelphia and earned my Master's Degree. After several other jobs, I earned my PhD in Solid State Sciences in 1972 at Penn State University, and in 1976 ended up at Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory. Anne and I have two children (and families), enjoy their visits and still live in the same house we build in the woods of Pennsylvania back in 1962...

## Letters to the Editor...

What a great newsletter. It really is good! Here's a question. Do any of you remember the chef's name from the Olde South Room at the Student Union? I talked to him for the Parsons College radio show at KMCD and admired what he did for so many students.

Larry Litwin '67 - larry@larrylitwin.com

(Editor's Note: The chef's name you're looking for is John Bailey. The maker of the "best French Onion soup" in the Midwest went to the Elks Lodge after Parsons, then moved to Florida where he opened his own restaurant, of which, we do not know the name or location.)

I just read the newsletter piece and have to tell you I'm thrilled. Great job! Enjoy the reunion and give my love and good wishes to all my fellow travelers. Bests!

Phil Suarez '65 – bodega7@aol.com

Thanks for a terrific newsletter. The honoring of Vera Young reminded me of the European Overseas Study Program that I participated in the Spring of 1961. I think Parsons only did the program for 2 years, 1961-62. Vera Young and her husband, Tib, were faculty members and helped chaperone the trip. We were overseas for three months. I know for Vera, with two very young girls at home, it had to be a long time to be away. Many times during the study program the group was split into groups and I always considered it my good fortune to be assigned with the "Young's group" which was station in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Ed Miksch '62 - edmitsch@yahoo.com

What an interesting E-News. The accomplishments of the inductees amazed me...and made me proud, too! Thanks for the newsletter and have a wonderful time at the reunion...can't wait to hear about it.

JoAnna Chicko '64 - jchicko@comcast.net

Have just finished reading the Special Edition. Wow, what a group of inductees for the Wall of Honor. I think any college or university would be very proud to claim them as graduates, but they are Parsons College graduates. Perhaps Phil Suarez would consider opening a restaurant in Fairfield?

Bob Tree, PC/faculty - rtree@lisco.com



I am so proud of the Parsons College newsletter team. I just finished reading it for the second time and I believe that it's the best issue ever! Thanks for sending it to me. I plan on attending the reunion in October. In closing, is there a directory still available? Have a great week.

Betty Webber '65-'68 - webber7133@gmail.com'65-'68

(Editor's Note: A directory may be accessed through the alumni website: <a href="www.parsonscollegealumni.com">www.parsonscollegealumni.com</a>, or obtained by contacting Nancy Wirtanen: <a href="www.parsonscollegealumni.com">Nwirtanen@yahoo.com</a>)

Thank you so much for all you do. I'm in contact with quite a few friends from Parsons. Just this past year I lost one of the best, **Chris Cassatt** passed away this spring. He did not graduate from Parsons, but was there for 2 1/2 years and went on to being a national cartoonist. Chris did the 'SHOE' cartoon series. I am also in touch with a few of the folks I did theatre with, including **Belinda Balaski**, who has starred in quite a few films in LA. I am hoping to get her to NH for a screening of 'The Howling' that she starred in. Again, thanks for the good work

Van McLeod PC/late '60s - v.mcleod@comcast.net

#### Next E-News Deadline - December 1, 2013

# In Memoriam...

Dr. Charles Bartl, PC/faculty'58-'61... It's been reported by Pat Gilpin '61 that Dr. Bartl, a popular professor of speech, psychology and debate in the late 1950's – early 1960's, passed away August 22, 2013 in Sun City, FL. He was 84. Charles was born in Sacramento and spent time in Lake Tahoe. He served his country as a U.S. Marine Intelligence Officer during the Korean War. Following his return, Charles met and married his first wife, Brigitte Kniesel and they had four children. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Nevada where he was on the boxing team, won the middleweight boxing title in 1949 and helped coach the team. After graduation he did his post-graduate studies in psychology at Stanford University, received an M.A. Degree from Sacramento State and his PhD in psychology and communications from the University of Denver. Charles came to Parsons in 1958 and made a



Dr. Charles Bartl

lasting impression on Mr. Gilpin. "I credit him, along with Professors (Robert) Tree, (Lewis) Wheelock, O.B. Nelson, and other Parsons faculty with much of whatever success I have had in life. I have good memories of Dr. Bartl," Gilpin said. "Mrs. Bartl told me that he spoke often and in the positive about his Parsons experience. In her words, he: 'loved Parsons'," Gilpin concluded. After his departure from Parsons, Charles taught at Portland State University and Arizona State University and was a professional motivational speaker. His desire to return to the Lake Tahoe area brought him back to the University of Nevada in 1966 where he taught until retiring in 1984. Charles met Mary Kay Burgess in 1992, they were married in 2000 and moved to Sun City in 2001. He is survived by his wife, former wife Brigitte Zuger, four children (families) and three grandchildren...

Michael Dean Bush, PC/early'60's of Ankeny, IA died July 12, 2013 at The Unity Point Hospital in Des Moines. Mike was born in Alhambra, CA, but grew up in Fairfield and graduated from Fairfield High School and Parsons College. He was employed by the American Can Company in Des Moines. Mike's passion for bicycling led to his cofounding the local Lake Country Cyclists Club formed in 1992. He particularly enjoyed cycling with family and friends on organized rides. Mike is survived by his wife, Karen, of 44 years, a daughter and two grandchildren. A celebration of life was held at the Ankeny Funeral Home and Crematory...

Roger W. duBois, PC'63-'67, of Minneapolis, MN passed away June 28, 2012. Roger attended Parsons during the "Golden Years of Millard G. Roberts" and was a frequent contributor to the E-Newsletter. Prior to his death he was employed as a telemarketer in computer supplies. Roger is survived by wife, Doris, two daughters and two grandsons. A memorial service was held at the Holy Cross Lutheran church in Minneapolis...

(Continued on page 12)

#### **Publication Information**

Publisher/Editor: John Blackstock '64 jblackstock@prodigy.net - 636-926-7881

Advisor: Doug Marion '70 dougmarion@aol.com - 949-212-7758

E-News Dues (July to July): \$5.00 /year; donations accepted. Mail to:

Dave Neff '69 c/o Parsons College Alumni Association P.O. Box 1010 Fairfield, IA 52556.

Reditor's Note: To submit Greek, social, or personal news, send request to Nancy Wirtanen at:

nwirtanen@yahoo.com for consideration. E-News reserves the right to edit all material and downsize due to limited space. Opinions expressed by writers do not necessarily represent those of E-News or the PCAA. The Parsons College Alumni E-News is not affiliated with the Parsons Newsline, or George Jordan III.



Sydney "Syd" Gussman

Sydney Gussman, PC'71-'73, passed away of breast cancer September 22, 2013 at the Lantern Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Coralville, IA. Sydney was 60 years old. She focused on relationships and living in the "here and now." Sydney spent the last winter of her life in Florida with her beloved aunt, frequenting oyster bars, entertaining friends, working on her tan and adjusting to retirement from her job at the University of Iowa Main Library. She loved giving more than receiving and carried dog treats in her purse in exchange for doggy kisses. Sydney appreciated and treasured the simple things in life, but loving family and friends and being loved back were her favorites. A celebration of Syd's life is to be scheduled at a later date...

Andy Mark, PC/late'60's...passed away on March 6, 2013 at The University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, following a lengthy battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis. Andy, 64, lived in Tiffin, IA. He was born in Boston, MA, and after growing up in Los Angeles, CA and graduating from Buckley Schools in Sherman Oaks, Andy attended Parsons and was a member of WTBA. He went on to attend the University of Iowa where he earned his Masters in Educational Psychology. Andy then returned to Los Angeles switched career paths and began a career as a Real Estate Developer. Years later he moved his family back to Iowa. Andy was a brilliant man, not only passionate about his work but also his family. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl, daughter Sammantha and Kristen, a step-daughter. Funeral arrangements were handled by Lensing Funeral and Cremation Service...

William Freeman "Bill" Jerome, PC'51, died August 6, 2013 in Ft. Madison, IA. Bill graduated from Centerville High School and Parsons College where he had an outstanding athletic career. He was a respected teacher and a beloved coach, who taught in the Centerville Community School District briefly before moving on to the Ft. Madison School system where he taught and coached for 30 more years until his 1989 retirement. Among his many hobbies and interests, which included membership to the Elks Lodge and being of Baptist faith, Bill was most proud of his annual crop of home grown tomatoes. Bill, brother of Lloyd Jerome, also a Parsons graduate, is survived by his wife Dolores of 62 years, one son, two daughters (and families), six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held at the Barr Memorial Chapel in Ft. Madison...



William "Bill" Jerome

Aletha Buckingham Hay, PC/early'40's, a former Fairfield reside who was living in Burlington, IA, passed away August 4, 2013. Aletha, 90, graduated from Fairfield High School and Parsons College. She married John Woodruff Hay in 1942 and taught school for many years in Burlington. Aletha was also an accomplished weaver and taught many people the craft. She is survived by a daughter, two sons and a host of siblings. A private memorial service was to be arranged...

(Continued on page 13)

#### PARSONS FOREVER!!!

# Next Issue - Winter, 2013 News Deadline is December 1, 2013

Your news and photographs are needed.
Please submit as a jpg and provide information
about the photo

If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen <a href="mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com">nwirtanen@yahoo.com</a>

Getting a new email address? Receiving multiple issues? If so, please notify Nancy of address change and any duplication.

WE DON'T WANT YOU TO MISS AN ISSUE!!



Daniel Hinson

Daniel D. Hinson, PC/early'50's, 82, died August 24, 2013 in Des Moines, IA. Dan was born in Fairfield and did his pre-graduate work Cornell College (Mt. Vernon, IA) and Parsons. He graduated from Northern Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago then served in the Medical Service Corps of the U.S. Army Medical Hospital in San Antonio, TX. Dan married Ann Peterson of Ottumwa in 1953 and they returned to Des Moines where he began a 41-year career in Optometry in pediatrics as a partner at Vision Park Family Eye Care of Urbandale and West Des Moines. He loved sports and was a lifelong fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and the Green Bay Packers. "Dr. Dan," as he was affectionately called by many of his patients, was remarried to Nicky Wynne and is survived by five daughters (and families), 10 grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and two stepsons. Arrangements were handled by Iles Funeral Homes of Des Moines...

Bruce E. Linder, PC'68, an optician and longtime member of the Bel Air, MD business community, passed away July 21, 2013 at his Bel Air home. Bruce, 68, owned and operated Linder Opticians in Bel Air. He loved his customers, took an interest in their lives and was an active member of the community. Bruce was born in Rochester, NY, grew up in Paoli, PA and after graduating from Parsons where he was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon, he taught high school biology in Millville, NJ. He later received his optical training through the former Benson Optical Company at the Wilmer Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Bruce is survived by wife Cynthia, a son, daughter, step-daughter and five grandchildren. The family was assisted by the McComas Funeral Home of Abington, MD...



Bruce Linder

Carl A. Watts, PC'41, of Florida, formerly of Iowa, died December 26, 2012. Carl was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon and graduated from Parsons in 1941. He was employed by the Dexter Company and Ford Motor Company and, while living in Fairfield, Carl served in the Iowa Army National Guard for 15 years, playing in the 34<sup>th</sup> Army Band of Fairfield. He was born in Bonaparte, IA, married Janice Nadine Teller in 1954. Following Janice's death in 2008, he was remarried to Ginny Swickard. Carl was a member of First Presbyterian Church, the Elks Lodge, the Walton Club and the Howard Johnson Coffee Club in Fairfield. He is survived by his wife, two sons (and families), six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. A memorial service was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield...

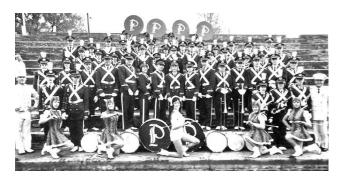


John Reed

John W. Reed, PC'n/a, 101, passed away July 12, 2013, at the Jefferson County Health Center in Fairfield. John is the brother of Charles Reed, who was inducted to the Parsons Wall of Honor in 2011, and lived in rural Libertyville. He was married to Ella "Smitty" Smith in 1938 and served with the U.S. Army Corps in Italy during World War II. John was one of the founders of the Iowa National Guard in Fairfield. Over the years, he farmed in Jefferson County, worked at Louden Machinery Company and Parsons College. John was a member of Mt Zion Community Church in Libertyville and had been a Mason and a Legionnaire. He is survived by numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives. Arrangements were handled by Pedrick Funeral Home of Keosauqua...

(Continued on page 14)

Ken Carpenter, PC/faculty '60's, a popular music teacher and director of the Parsons College Marching Band in the early 1960's passed away September 25, 2013. He was 95. Ken grew up in Mayville, MO and later attended Roosevelt High School in Des Moines. His interest in music was spawned at a very young age and he was playing saxophone in a local dance band before he entered high school. Ken earned his Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree and met his wife while attending Drake University. He later obtained his PhD in music from the University of Iowa. He served in World War II and while doing so directed U.S. Army Air Corps bands all over the



The late Ken Carpenter (right, dressed in white) directed the Parsons College Wildcats Marching Band and was instrumental in the development and expansion of the band in the early-mid 1960's.

world. Ken was a highly respected teacher and educator and many of his students went on to becoming teachers and professional musicians. Ken and his wife, Helen, have spent most of their retirement years living in Marble Falls, TX after a stint in Highland Lakes, where he organized and started up a big band which he named the 'Flashbacks'. They played music from the 1930's and 40's. Recently the Carpenter's moved to a retirement home in Wichita Falls. Ken is survived by his wife, two daughters, two sons (and families), 10 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.



Wayne Zimmerman

Wayne Zimmerman, 65, of Bettendorf, IA, pass away September 6, 2013 at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics in Iowa City. He had just retired from a career with ALCOA. Wayne graduated from the

Fairfield High School and attended Parsons College during the 1960's. He served in the US Army from 1968-71 and earned a Business Administration Degree from St. Ambrose College in Davenport. Wayne was born in Chicago, Illinois and married the love of his life, Renee, in Fairfield in 1970. He was a loving husband, father and friend to many, who loved the outdoors, his dog Ozzie, the Chicago White Sox and the Iowa Hawkeyes. Wayne is survived by his wife, three sons and their families. Funeral arrangements were handled by McGinnis-Chambers of Bettendorf...

#### Don't wait... Call a Friend!!!

# Etch your name in Parsons College History! DR. FIDVO & LAURA VON DHLEN ZILPHA GROOMS PARSONS - 1950 DELTA ZETA SALLY DENNEY PARSONS - 1971 DELTA ZETA JIM. HOOVER WITH LOVE MATT & ANN Help support our mission to preserve the memory of Parsons College — BUY A BRICK! For details and information call Dave Neff at 641-919-4640 or email at neffacres@lisco.com

#### THE PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA SHOP...

#### YOU'VE TOLD US, LOUD AND CLEAR, THAT YOU WANT PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA.

We have no choice but to comply. Not only have we complied but we've expanded Lee Gobble's offering and set up NEW ordering and shipping procedures with the actual producers of this memorabilia, which is FAIRFIELD LINE, INC, located in Fairfield. The photo items shown below will now be available in ALL sizes (S through 3X), and in both green and white. So if you've ever thought about, or contemplated, owning a piece of Parsons College memorabilia, there's no time like the present. You can now own that Parsons College T-shirt, golf shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie, hat or visor, and at a reasonable price. Here's how to order: (SEE BELOW)



#### **ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS:**

Go to <a href="www.fairfieldlineinc.com">www.fairfieldlineinc.com</a> - CLICK ON THE PARSONS TAB - FOLLOW THE SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS. MAKE SIZE, COLOR AND QUANTITY CHOICES, SELECT METHOD OF PAYMENT AND YOUR ORDER IS COMPLETE. SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES WILL APPLY TO ALL ORDERS. Fairfield Line accepts checks and most credit cards. As this is a new procedure, if there are any difficulties or problems with the ordering process, contact Dave Neff at: <a href="mailto:neffacres@lisco.com">neffacres@lisco.com</a>.