



Parsons College E-News

Volume 7, No. 5

Winter 2013-2014

The Civil War and Gettysburg's 150th Anniversary stir memories of our founder...General Lewis B. Parsons

(With the 150th Anniversary and commemoration of the battle of Gettysburg in 2013, John Braidwood '68 has reached into the history books and reminds us of the impact our beloved founder Lewis Baldwin Parsons had on the Civil War)

If you were anything like me, I did not have the foggiest idea who General Lewis Baldwin Parsons was when I ventured off to Parsons College, nor did I necessarily care. I don't recall any mention of him in any of my American History classes, but then what would you expect of a psychology major?

The fact is there is much to be admired about General Parsons... you are going to be surprised at the acclaim this man earned and received during the Civil War.

A graduate of Yale University, Parsons went on to earn a Law Degree from Harvard University and practiced law in St. Louis, Missouri. While affiliated with the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, he later became Chief Executive Officer of the railroad.

As the Civil War approached, he offered his services to Major General George McClellan of the Union Army. McClellan subsequently appointed him head of rail and water transportation for the Northern Army from Pittsburgh, west to Montana and south to New Orleans.

Parsons became known and admired for his amazing feats of moving men, mounts and weapons in the shortest amount of time, often making the difference between victory or defeat for the Union Army.

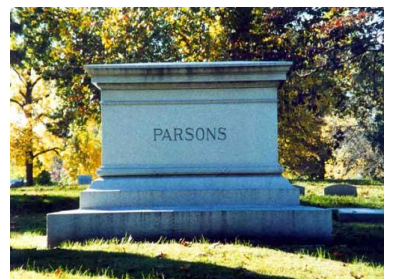
His many tactical successes eventually earned him the rank of Brigadier General and he was later brevetted Major General on the day he left the army. He had the honor of having been lauded by President Abraham Lincoln, General Ulysses S. Grant, and Secretary of War Edwin W. Stanton for his brilliance and extraordinary accomplishments. Clearly he made a difference.

General Parsons consistently dazzled his superiors. Secretary Stanton summed it up, saying, "General Parsons was without parallel in the history of moving men and armament". It is noteworthy to consider that without the involvement and leadership of General Parsons, the South may have emerged victorious!

(Lewis Baldwin Parsons spend the next 20+ years of his life as the director of several railroads in the metro St. Louis area and was the President of a St. Louis bank.)



General Parsons (1818-1907) was born in Perry, New York, died in Flora, IL and is buried in the Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, MO.



"The Pride of Parsons"



New freshman - Just arrived from Creston, IA



A Delta Zeta pledge



President - Delta Zeta



Outstanding Actress - 1963-64



Starring in 'Brigadoon'



1964 - The Graduate

***A Photo Tribute
to the late
Marcia Wallace PC'64***



*Member of the elite
Green Key Society*



*Early 1970's working the
Off-Broadway theaters*



*Starring with the Pat O'Brien's
in 'Holiday for Lovers'*



*A regular on a number of game
shows including 'The Match Game'*



*Carol Kester, Bob Newhart's
zany but loveable receptionist.*



*Accepting her nomination to the
Parsons College Wall of Honor*



*'The Simpson's' Emmy Award winning voice of
Bart's teacher, the now retired Edna Krabappel*



*MARCIA as we will always
remember her... "Talented,
smart and extremely funny."
(SEE OBITUARY)*

Fairfield Celebrates Lee Gobble's 99th Birthday...

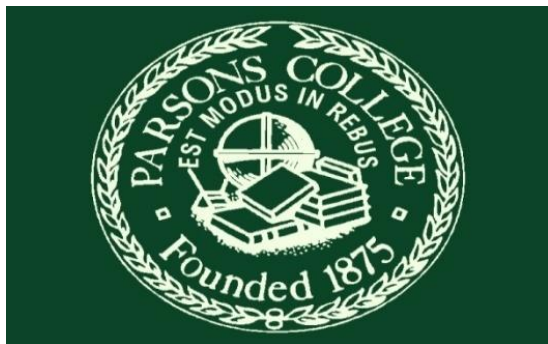


Truly a Haberdasher Extraordinaire...Nobody did it Better!

When he belts out, "This Turkey Ain't Done Yet," he means it. Lee Gobble, PC'37, the haberdasher extraordinaire, who played a role in so many of the lives of Parsons College students celebrated his 99th birthday, December 15, 2013 in the grandest of fashion. The entire city of Fairfield was invited to sign the huge community birthday card displayed at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. Scores of locals stepped up to express their congratulations and well wishes to the man who for the better part of his life clothed the city, housed a portion of the city and employed a good many others along the way. His love for Parsons was off the charts. His love for selling merchandise, whether out of the store, out of his garage, or out of the trunk of his car was equally immeasurable. Over 30 well-wishers showed up at the Park View Care Center to partake in the celebration of his 99 years of longevity. Photos above show birthday card and an earlier photo of Lee doing what he did best...selling Parsons College merchandise. "Keep on keepin' on, Lee!"

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+ shipping. (See page 17 for more PC memorabilia)



We want to know...What's Happening?

If we've heard it once, we've heard it a dozen times, "Why isn't there more news from my college years and era?" Once again, the answer is relatively simple. It's because the students and alumni of your era are not submitting any information to E-News. If most of what you're reading is from the 1960's, it conclusively related to those people who are uncovering and reporting the information and news to us. We'd love to hear some of the great stories from the 1940's, the 1950's and the early 1970's, and we promise we'll do our best to edit, print, and make them as interesting and entertaining as possible. But 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!!!

PCFF is taking WOH nominations..

The Parsons College Foundation Fund has announced it is now taking nominations for the Class of 2014 Wall of Honorees. Nominations will be accepted through March 1. The selection committee will then meet and the inductees of the 6th Class of 10 will be announced in the Summer issue of the E-Newsletter.

Nominations forms may be obtained by contacting PCFF President **Dave Neff** at: 641-919-4640 or by email: neffacres@lisco.com. We recommend you supplement the form with written information, further highlighting the distinguished career and achievements of your nominee.



Ray Stolarczyk, a 2013 inductee to the Wall of Honor, pauses to admire the plaques of the many distinguished honorees in Parsons Alumni Hall..

Currently there are 49 honorees on the Wall of Honor. We intend to increase the total to 100, as initially committed. The ideal candidates, much like the current members, should have recorded a distinguished career, regarded as outstanding in their field, been recognized, and having made a difference. They may also have impacted their community, and others, in a number of ways - through hard work, leadership, taking charge and making things happen.

“The annual Wall of Honor program has gained immense popularity. We, the committee, share major excitement with the city of Fairfield each October as we bring back these distinguished Parsons College students/alumni. And we look forward to hearing their success stories (and challenges) and the role that Parsons College played in the preparation of their individual pursuits of excellence and ultimate success,” Neff said.

“As I review each of the biographies of the current honorees, I find myself repeatedly standing back and sayingOH WOW!!! We can’t wait to meet the Wall of Honor Class of 2014,” Neff concluded...

Help US locate Janice Holt, PC’67

We’re looking for Janice Holt, who resided in Dorm 114 during April of 1967. We have a surprise for her. If you know her whereabouts please contact **Dave Neff** at: neffacres@lisco.com or 641-919-4640.

PCAA has accumulated over 3000 Names and addresses of former Parsons Students

Over the past several years the Parsons College Alumni Association has accumulated over 3000 student/alumni names and contact information, some complete, while others are missing key information, such as email addresses.

This is a direct result of the determination and perseverance of PCAA President **Nancy Wirtanen**. Nancy started with just a handful of names and has searched, found, and used a number of resources. Recently she cracked the 3000 barrier of student/alumni names and now has her sights set on 4000.

Ironically, the 3000th name added to her registry was that of the popular Dean Roussos, a professor in the Business Department during the 1960’s.

Mystery Quiz – The Question

Your Winter Mystery Quiz: Hiding coyly behind this mysterious object below is recent Wall of Honor inductee Narda Simonsen Murphy. Your assignment is to tell E-News what she is holding. We will NOT do the normal multiple choices, but we will tell you what it is **NOT**. As usual, the answer will appear in the next issue (SPRING) of the E-News.



> **IT IS NOT A PIECE OF INSULATION FROM THE OLD AXD HOUSE.**

> **IT IS NOT A LARGE FANTAIL SCHRIMP FROM THE UNION.**

> **IT IS NOT AN OLD WRINKLED UP AND BATTERED TEST FROM DR. TREE’S U.S. HISTORY CLASS.**

> **IT IS NOT THE PRIMARY INGREDIENT OF A BRAIN SANDWICH.**

> **IT IS NOT ONE OF THE COW PADDIES MS. PEASLEY USED TO TEE-UP HER GOLF BALL AT THE COUNTRY CLUB.**

>>> **SO TELL US WHAT IT IS!!!!**

Remember When... by Doug Marion '70

The Parsons College life as we remember it a half century ago will always be fondly remembered. Many of the students grew up in small, rural Midwest communities – where intersection stoplights didn't exist.

Nor did drive-in eateries, pizza parlors, large, commercially-owned food stores, indoor movie theatres and even paid police and fire departments. Fairfield offered all this. It also had some of the grandest architecture of any Midwest community around. I think that's one solid reason why so many today live in Fairfield and the town itself receives genuine plaudits – covering its all-year-long community heartbeat.

Since 1970, I've lived on the west coast where you can drive 150 miles and never leave cement and civilization. My week-long return to Fairfield last year saw one-half of my time driving throughout the entire community soaking up all the grand visuals. They truly don't make buildings and homes like they used to.

Fairfield residents have done well with the upkeep of their homes and commercial buildings. "Pride" oozes everywhere, from the Square on to many of the surrounding blocks. Much of the town looked even better than it did 50-plus years ago. The preservation of the beauty and ongoing refurbishing of the buildings is one grand expression of pride, pride in the community they call home.

Some, including me, had never seen mailbox art before returning to Fairfield. I have now...and it speaks volumes of what's happening today. Hope to see ya'all next October...



Larger than life outdoor mural painted on the west side of the FA&CC depicts kids enjoying life together in Fairfield. Plaudits to the creators.



Located at the center of the north side of the square – all 3 floors looked to "possibly be" available for occupancy. Love the vintage facia.



I wonder who first built/lived in this majestic home on Broadway, a block north of Burlington, grandeur everywhere and love the porch.



Town Square apartment flower boxes – accented in color. I'm not a flower-power guy but they grabbed my attention for their beauty.



Back in the day, much of the town square featured very affordable upstairs apartments and looks like they still do. Having a car, or roommate with a car, was a must to get to class on time.



No, this is not a corner fruit stand... it's called mail box ART. Only in Fairfield.

Next E-News Deadline - March 1, 2014

Parsons College Alumni Website

Check out our **FREE 3-DAY** trial viewing of the Parsons College Alumni Association website at: www.parsonscollegealumni.com.

It's a WINNER!!

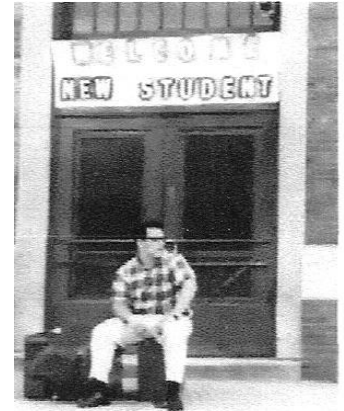
Where Are They Now???

(Editor's Note: We know where Midwestern College is today (closed) and now we know the whereabouts of Rob Schwoeble who attended Parsons briefly prior to transferring to Midwestern in Denison, Iowa. He became captain of the Midwestern Packers football team and led them to a perfect inaugural season. You'll recall Midwestern was one of several Parsons College satellite schools planted throughout the Midwest. However, none of the schools remained open past the mid-1970's and Midwestern, which opened in 1965, was the first to close in 1970. Schwoeble initially came to Parsons from the football hotbed of Western Pennsylvania (Turtle Creek) where he resides today (West Mifflin). Here are his recollections.)

I pledged Phi Sigma Epsilon in the fall of 1964 and the spring of 1965. The late **Roger Bachman** was my Big Brother. I was from Turtle Creek, PA and close friends with **Jim Usher** of nearby Wilkinsburg. I played on the 1964 Parsons football team with **Bill Larkin** and several other Phi Sigs. Upon leaving to become Athletic Director at Midwestern College in Denison, Iowa in 1965, **Roger Nielsen** invited me to come along. So, I transferred and enrolled at Midwestern with 600 students and graduated in December 1968. The college opened in 1965 and that was also the first year of our football program. I was fortunate to have been named captain of that team. For what little time and resources we had, we had an incredible season. Our Midwestern Packers posted an undefeated season, 6-0, which still today, ranks as the **ONLY** football program in the country ever to win all of its games in its first year of existence. On September 21 of last year, 27 players from that first team were invited to attend a University of Iowa football game (versus Western Michigan) in Iowa City. We were recognized at halftime, and on the big screen, for our accomplishment of nearly 50 years ago. I guess everybody has a few seconds of fame and those 15 seconds will go down as ours... Not that this is anything great, but I thought I'd pass along the story from a guy who also attended Parsons and almost became a Phi Sig... **Rob Schwoeble, PC'64-'65**



**MIDWESTERN
COLLEGE**



No, this is not Rob Schwoeble. We're not sure whether this student is coming or going but the nearly illegible WELCOME NEW STUDENT sign gives us a clue...

The Mystery Quiz... What in the world?? The ANSWER!



YOUR FALL MYSTERY QUIZ: "What in the world" are these people doing? If you guessed complying with PC tradition you're **RIGHT ON!** Beanie wearing freshmen were compelled to place their finger on the beanie cap and chant "Beat ____" (whomever Parsons was playing in football that particular week). Is this harassment or tradition? In today's day and age, you be the judge.

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

GOOoooooo WILDCATS!!

Greek and Social News...

TKE's and Friends heading To Arizona Reunion May 1-4

The TKE's and friends are planning a big May Reunion at the 'Talking Stick Resort and Casino' in Scottsdale, AZ May 1st thru May 4th. **Gary Ratkin, John Matthews** and **Barth Holohan** are working diligently to organize the affair. They've extended an open invitation to all to reunite with classmates, friends, fraternity brothers, sorority sisters and teammates. Here are the instructions and contact information to pre-register.

- Individual attendees commit with their own credit card (30 days out to cancel from May 1).

- Commitments as early as possible to secure space and rate with credit card to hotel. Reservations should be made through **Debra Heidemann**, Group Sales Manager, of 'Talking Stick Resort' by referencing the Parsons College Reunion; Phone: (480) 850-7712; Fax (480) 302-6438.

- Please provide either affirmative or negative response through **Gary Ratkin** or **John Matthews** so we know where we stand.

- To see the quality of 'Talking Stick Resort' which has golf, spa and casino, view the website:
<http://www.talkingstickresort.com>.

- Room rate for single/double room is \$119 per night and you are welcome to bring your spouse or significant other.

- Check airfares, lowest fares Tuesday.

- Alternative activities include golf, Talliesin (Frank Lloyd Wright) and numerous others. The MLB Diamondbacks are not in town.

- Anyone can invite additional people, this is a TKE's and friends reunion. Those already attending: **PD Phillips, Dick Vitolo, Jim Nield, Bill Atkins, Steve Harms, Fred Kmetz, Phil Como, Lou Schwarz, John Logan, Don Hartman, Jon Williams, Ken**

Alpha Xi Delta sisters from recent PC Reunion



In addition to the Alpha Gamm's and the DZs, the ladies of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority also returned to the October All-Class Reunion and WOH ceremonies. The Alpha Xi's ramped it up from the time they arrived until they left, and rallied in full support of Narda Simonsen Murphy, a past president, who was being inducted to the Parsons Alumni Wall of Honor. L to R: Marilynne Wepsala, Diane Pigeon, Narda Simonsen Murphy, Stephanie Beestrup, Sandy Hermel, Tina Turney, Ellen Barbaro and Cheryl Peasley.

Rice, Mickey Taliaferro, Joe Drakes, Cary Dockery, Jon Eisenhour, Bill Jordan, Bill Larkin, Bob Off, Hank Trenkle, Alan Paul, Kent McGlincy, Wayne Elias, Bob Smith, Ron Lang, Barth Holohan, John Matthews and Gary Ratkin. Others attending but not staying at resort: Jim Rose, Tom Lolos, Chris Adams, Larry Blixt, Chuck McKelvey, Kirk Armstrong, Steve Gilliat, Hank Brenner and Gary Myers.

For more info and updates contact:

Gary Ratkin – gsrat4211@gmail.com , 480-661-9982 (H), 602-692-6090 (C);

John Matthews – jmatthews88@comcast.net, 616-4580905 (H), 616-471-8953 (C);

Barth Holohan - bholohan@holohangroup.com, 314-822-0676 (H), 314-378-6450 (C);

Ken Rice – KFarms12@aol.com

Updates: www.parsonscollegealumni.com
Facebook: PCA & PCAA web pages

TKE's Jerry Staton wins 'Coach of the Year' Honors..again!

Coach Jerry Staton of Albia High School has been selected by the Iowa Football Coaches Association as Class 2A 'Coach of the Year' for 2013. Staton guided his Blue Demons to an undefeated regular season and appeared in the semi-finals of the state playoffs. This is his second time receiving this honor, the first coming as coach of Class 3A Oskaloosa High. Staton played football for Ottumwa High and also was a starting guard for four years at Parsons College from 1960-63. He will be honored at the Iowa State University Football Clinic in April...

(Continued on page 8)

PIKE'S travel to Virginia in support of 'Craig's Clan Cares' annual event...

The Parsons Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity has stepped up on behalf of one of their own. On a clear blue Sunday morning in October, over 100 friends, family, business leaders, former students, and classmates gathered at the track at Robinson Secondary High School in Fairfax, Virginia. They spent the morning with PIKE bro **Craig Munro** and his wife, Kay, to take part in the annual 'Craig's Clan Cares' event. This annual walk, now in its eighth year, is a means for the Munro's to inspire friends and family to get involved in ALS research, a cause that is near and dear to their hearts.



Craig Munro, PC/PKA and wife Kay

Craig was diagnosed with ALS seven years ago, and together with his wife, they've created their walk to raise money to support ALS research. "We are trying to do our small part to raise awareness of this terrible disease and to support research efforts to find causes, treatments, and an eventual cure," Kay said. "Craig wants desperately for future generations to not have to endure the severe lifestyle limitations that he has faced," she concluded.



This year's event was highlighted with a reunion of Craig's Parsons College fraternity brothers, many whom Craig has not seen in almost 47 years. Members of the PKA fraternity from Parsons which was located in Fairfield, Iowa, made their way to Northern Virginia to support the 'Craig's Clan Cares' event. In addition to an evening celebration, his PKA brothers and their wives donned their red shirts and attended the walk Sunday morning.

Craig, as usual, led the annual walk in his power wheelchair with his Clan following close behind. Together they raised close to \$28,000 for the Packard Center. The brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha have already begun making plans and are looking forward to reuniting again in 2014 in support of 'Craig's Clan Cares' ALS walk...



Photo (top) PKA fraternity brothers reunion in support of bro Craig Munro's 'Craig's Clan Cares' battle against ALS. Photo (bottom) Craig (in wheelchair) leads the walk.

Lambda Chi's Heading South for March Reunion

The Parsons Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and friends are having a reunion in St. Petersburg, Florida. Time is marching forward but there's still time to jump aboard. The reunion dates are March 3 – 4, 2014. **Ron Long, PC'63** reports, "Last year several of us got together in Ft. Myers. We had such a great time we decided we HAD to do it again." We'll look forward to viewing the post-reunion photos. For information and details contact: **Ron Long** at v83756@comcast.net or **Bill Winger** at wewinger@msn.com ...

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*Editor'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 Newline, or George Jordan III.*

The Alumni Write...

REMEMBERING MARCIA WALLACE

Ann Johnson Tash, PC'64 – anntash@verizon.net writes....My friend Charlie and I attended Marcia's memorial service last night (November 16). Second only to her wedding, this was yet another star-studded event. It was invitation only, I'm guessing 250-300 of Marcia's closest friends. It was a huge event in a gorgeous tennis club in the Hollywood Hills, sit down dinner, open bar, and a lovely tribute to Marcia. **Bob Newhart** gave one of the eulogies, Marcia's sister and son were very entertaining and shared funny stories about her unorthodox parenting and family life. **The Simpsons** folks were there along with the (surviving) members of the Newhart cast, as well as **Valerie Harper** and **Joanne Worley**. So many others whose names escape me. It was a true Hollywood event. In fact, as we were leaving, I told Sherry (Marcia's sister) that it was such a beautiful, uplifting occasion, to which she replied, "Yeah, except for the dead sister part!"... As we walked into the foyer at this club, there was a huge, I mean huge picture of Marcia, maybe 4' x 6' on a large easel. Next to it was the beautiful basket of flowers from the **Parsons College Alumni Association**. It was the perfect compliment to the photograph and the **ONLY** flowers at the event. When it was time for the eulogies and the video of some of Marcia's best television moments, the flowers had been moved next to the podium and the video screen. Then as we were leaving, someone had moved them back beside the photograph. I know Sherry and Mikey (Marcia's son) were so appreciative of the generosity on behalf of Parsons College... I joined three of Marcia's Parsons Delta Zeta Sorority sisters – **Nancy Rinehart Reitsma, Kay Sobaski Richardson** and **Pam Sheatsley** – the four of us represented the college. As sad as the occasion may have been, it was upbeat and entertaining. Marcia would have loved it...

MEMORIES FROM THE 1950'S

Juanita Case Dunn, PC'51 - (juanitatd@q.com) writes... I just want to tell you that I enjoyed the fall edition of the Parsons College E-News. I graduated in 1951 so I knew a few of those who were honored and sadly I knew some of those who were in the section of "In Memoriam..." One of those who was listed in that section was **Carl Watts** and I believe you have the wrong year when he graduated. I presume this is the same Carl Watts whom I knew and he graduated the next year after I graduated which would be 1952. The reason I presume it is the same person is because the article said he was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon and that fraternity did not become Tau Kappa Epsilon until the 1950-1951 school year. Before that they were Alpha Kappa Chi. The sororities were still local when I was there and I was an Elzevir. Also in another section, **Charley Kunzman** was listed as a '51 graduate, but he graduated in 1950. I knew Charley well. Back in our freshman year, my date (who later became my husband) and I doubled dated with him and his former girl friend. All four of us squeezed into his little Model-A Coupe on many occasions. It was interesting to read about the fancy cars on campus in the 1960's. During the years when I was there, girls who lived on campus could not have cars. When I was doing my student teaching at Fairfield High I had to get special permission to have my car there so I could get back to classes in the afternoon. I have many fond memories of Parsons College and when I go back to Fairfield now I do not go out to the campus because they have torn down the buildings of my memories and I want to remember it as it was "in the good old days. I now live in Ames Iowa where we came to retire. My husband, **Robert Dunn**, passed away in 2005... (*Editor's Note: Ms. Dunn – Thank you for submitting the corrections*)

(Continued on page 10)

Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors

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1958 PEIRA ROYALTY: THE QUEEN AND KING - STILL A COUPLE OF FRIENDS...



And still LOOKING GOOD... Recent photo of your 1958 Peira Queen Roberta Hirschler and King John Whitted recanting the Peira of that wonderful year. Below: as they were in 1958.



ROBERTA HIRSCHLER
1958 PEIRA QUEEN



JOHN WHITTED
1958 PEIRA KING

and Jean had become fast friends so a double-date was arranged. The date was a memorable affair since it involved a trip to Luther College for a Conference football Championship game in which snow had to be removed from the field, and on their return trip, John's 1957 VW ran out of gas in Amish country south of Iowa City late at night. John and Jean were married in 1960. Flash forward a couple years and Roberta, after attending graduate school, visits John and Jean, who have moved to California where both began fledging careers in education and social work respectively. Even though the local school year had started, John's high school was still looking for someone to fill an English teaching position. Voilà, the English major as house guest becomes John's colleague, teaching English at Lodi High School. Subsequently Roberta meets another colleague, P.E. teacher and **Coach Roger Palmer**. Roberta and Roger will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2014. Thus the trio of friends was expanded to a cadre of four. Over the 50+ years, though separated geographically between northern and southern California, the two couples have managed to visit each other at fairly regular intervals and on several occasions have enjoyed shared vacations and family gatherings. And it all started at Parsons College. Who-da thunk? (Editor's Note: The Queen and King photos from the 1958 Peira yearbook were too good to pass up. Editor's decision to include.)

John Whitted, PC'60 writes... First, allow me to express my admiration for the quality newsletter I have enjoyed since its inception. Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of Parsons Alumni. I have finally gotten around to executing an idea I have harbored since your first year of publication. The result is an article accompanied by photos which I have attached above. My hope is that at some point in time it (or some version of it) might be useful to you. I should also add that the article and the photos (to the left) are a collaborative between Roberta and myself. Again, thanks to you, and what looks like a group of very competent, dedicated cohorts for a job consistently well done.

As the photo (top left) suggests, Peira 1958 Queen and King, **Roberta Hirschler and John Whitted**, are still a couple of friends. It's a friendship buttressed by a Parsons College history dating back to the 1930 graduating class which included Roberta's father, **Sherman Hirschler**, and John's mother, **Gertrude Taylor**. In addition, John's Grandmother, **Laura R Taylor**, had been "Resident Halls Manager" (Ballard Hall housemother) in the 20ies until her sudden death the summer of 1928. John and Roberta's friendship began in 1956 as Parsons freshmen. At the beginning of their sophomore year he asked his friend Roberta if she had spotted any good looking freshman girls. Indeed she had, and introduced John to **Jean Johnson '61**. Roberta

(Continued on page 11)

A DRIVE THROUGH MEMORY LANE...

Phil Glicker, '66-'70 – flipper7897@hotmail.com writes... This past July I made a cross-country trip to Rhode Island and was on my way back home to Arizona and I just had to stop in Fairfield. It was on a Thursday morning, beautiful day, around 7:30-8 AM (I had spent the previous night in Burlington) and I just wanted to tell you, there is a sense of peace that envelops me about Fairfield that affects me like nowhere else, it's hard to explain. I drove around the square a couple of times, I assume the convention center is by the square but for some odd reason I couldn't find it and the town was so quiet, nobody at work yet, that there was no one to ask. I did drive over to the campus, I know it's changed a lot but it was nice to see the 2-story dorm on the left side of Highway 1 (Howard dorm?), and the grove of trees and a few old buildings were still in the center of the campus. I loved seeing that. The student union was still there, and from a distance I thought I saw the old gym building, whatever it was called (Fry-Thomas), where I remember seeing concerts with **Neil Diamond, Linda Ronstadt**, and I think **Gladys Knight and the Pips**, during Homecomings. Man, the memories. I love road trips so maybe I can get back there again in the next couple of years. My health is still good at 66, thank heaven. Keep in mind, I grew up in NY City...and Iowa changed me forever. I graduated in 1970, I still hear from a few classmates (**Brad Carlos** and **Bob and Raneé Egee** come to mind). Those four years were a blast for me, I wish I could have stayed longer this past July but it's a long haul home to Arizona. Best wishes, please keep these newsletters coming!!

PARSONS RECORDS STOWED AWAY IN IOWA CITY

John Myers, PC/mid-late '60's – jmyers@catchasail.com writes... Just got off the phone with University of Iowa people... Thank you so much for the info on where Parsons records are stored!! I have one piece of general news for future use, if needed ... the records are housed in the **"Verifications Department"** - 319-335-0238. I spoke with a very helpful young lady, Jodi, and she was able to give me two more pieces of information regarding **Dave Johnson**. He was born in 1945 and lived in Ridgewood, NJ. As soon as I heard the name of the city I smacked myself on the head and thought, "How did I forget?" There were records for two Dave Johnson's ... but the other was younger than me and was not from NJ. So... if you think this info can help you, help me, to find Dave... let me know what you come up with. I am going to do some searching right away... here is a photo of the jacket Dave left at Parsons and the one I'm trying to return to him. As soon as I got the above info, I snapped this photo, and fittingly, two Sandhill Cranes (in the background) were down at our pond feeding on grub worms...



John Myers is attempting to locate Dave Johnson, the owner of this letter jacket and return it to him. They were roommates in the late '60's. If you know the whereabouts of Dave, please notify John Myers.

MY FIRST EXPERIENCE FAR FROM HOME...

Anne Burgher Graham, PC'67-'69 - abraham113@gmail.com writes... I wanted to drop you a line and tell you how much I appreciate the efforts of all who contribute to the E-Newsletter. It feels good to hear from others who understand and value the educational experience Parsons provided. I was one of those students whose college years encompassed the upheaval of our society in the tumultuous 60's. I took a plane, train and a school cab to arrive at Parsons as a freshman from Rochester NY in September 1967. I arrived after seeing an interview on television. My parents never saw the campus, nor I, until arriving that first day. I remember making friends with my future roommate **Stephanie Futterwite** (sp?), on the train. We went through housing together and because she was so pretty, and it was the fraternity boys handing out housing assignments, she and I ended up living in one of the octagons. Girls on one side and fraternity guys on the other. My father had a heart attack when I called home and told him I was living in a fraternity house. I had to do some fast backtracking. I have attended several other colleges and universities but the best professors I ever encountered were at Parsons. I seem to recall very large Western Civilization classes, but all others were modest in size. It was my first experience living far from home and it was great. In the past year I have reconnected with some friends from my two years at Parsons. The newsletter and finding old friends have brought back and connected me again to a very turbulent time in our country, as well as for me personally. I look back and cherish the time I spent there. It gladdens me to see others speaking out publicly and proudly about Parsons. It got a bad rap and the positive side never got the press that the accusations did. I had no trouble transferring to William Smith College and graduating, nor going on to earn my MS, CAS and MHC credential. Thanks again for providing a venue for us far flung alums to gather, even if only on line, and share our memories of a unique place and time...

Letters to the Editor...

Thanks again for the wonderful newsletter and PC updates. I always enjoy reading the newsletter.

Len Finkowski PC'70 - leonard60@comcast.net

Thank you so much for keeping me in the loop. I attended Parsons 1965-66 and it was one of the most memorable years of my life. When in school, my name was **Linda Horton**, but I went by the nickname of Nikki. Pretty funny isn't it? Have a great day.

Linda Horton Javier '65-'66 - ljavier@rwglaw.net

Certainly good to see some of the guys. **Phil Suarez** looks like a movie star, the hair transplants and those five or six face lifts did him justice. Hope to see you guys soon. Let me know who has committed to attend the reunion. I'll see what my schedule looks like at that time.

Dennis Edwards PC'64 - dennisedwards08@comcast.net

Thanks! **Ralph Camagano** and his wife just stopped by the house unannounced. I told him that if he did NOT join the alumnae assoc, he would NEVER have sex again. Ralph played basketball when I was there and we just told "old stories" again and again. THANKS for all that you do and allowing me to be part of it.

Frankie Challant PC'65-'68 - fchallant@aol.com

Yes it was a wonderful weekend and in conjunction with our 'First Friday Art Walk' and "Octoberfest". We have this event every year in October, only this year meant much more with the reunion. It was a great weekend and another one is planned in two years. **Dave Neff** heads it up and does a great job. Good to hear from you again. Look forward to visiting with you in two years.

Kenny (LEE) Norton PC'62-'66 - norti@iowatelecom.net

In 1959, when we "Packs of Freshman" traveled from one building to another, it was hard to avoid the packs of upper-class jocks hunting us. We had to comply to PC Tradition and touch the buttons at the top of our green beanies and recite, "Beat Buena Vista! Beat Buena Vista! Beat Buena Vista!" or which ever opponent was coming up.

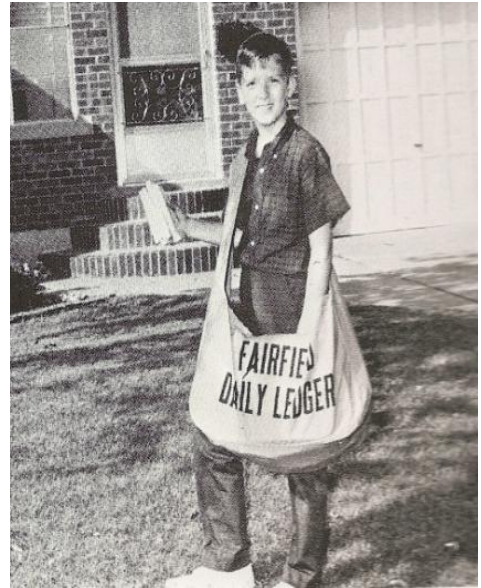
Ron and Liz (Findlay) Long PC'63 - v83756@comcast.net

Great newsletter. I knew **Marcia Wallace** in college. She was a close friend of **Janet Knab** and a Delta Zeta. I always liked them. As for **Dr. Bartl**, he changed my life, thanks for the bio. You do a great job!

Robin Wilkins PC'63 - robinwilkins@me.com

What a great...sweet...newsletter! Thank you all! The reunion sounds like it was as much fun as last year's (2013 was hard to beat) and well done. Hearing about **Marcia Wallace's** passing is sadly another marker of time to be sure. I wish love, luck, health, wealth and wisdom to us all!

Meredith James McCarty PC'67 - meredith@healingcuisine.com



Next E-News Deadline - March 1, 2014

In Memoriam...



Jim Rey, PC'65

James Rey, PC'65... The E-News has just learned Jim passed away in Portland, Maine, following a short bout with cancer on July 18, 2013. Jim, a popular Lambda Chi Alpha brother and friend, will also be remembered for his extraordinary trumpet talents and playing in several bands including, the Parsons Rhythm-Aires. Following graduation, Jim entered the U.S. Navy, highlighted by running a radio station with the USO, where he personally interviewed **Bob Hope, Raquel Welch, Ann-Margaret, Barbara McNair** and many others. His outgoing personality and love for people led him to a 30+ years career as a sales and marketing executive for a number of companies. Jim, who was born in Lockport, NY, sold everything from toys to wine to biodegradable cleaning products. Upon retirement, he and wife Janice moved to Standish, Maine, where she became a college professor. Jim thoroughly enjoyed retirement and filled the days by joining four bands, sailing, taking gourmet cooking classes, working out and entertaining family and friends. He is survived by his wife, one daughter and a number of relatives. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's College and the funeral arrangements were handled by Dolby Funeral Chapel in Standish... (*Editor's Note: This information was supplied by Ron Long, PC'63*)

Marcia Wallace, PC'64 of Los Angeles, California died October 25, 2013 of pneumonia at her home, surrounded by family and friends. Marcia, 70, a star of stage and screen, had been in failing health for several months but had been recently cleared of breast cancer. Upon graduating from Parsons in 1964, she headed off to New York with barely enough money to last a month. Initially she took whatever side jobs she could get and worked her way into the Off-Broadway theater scene, signing up with an improvisational group called – *The Fourth Wall*. Along the way she met and became friends with **Merv Griffin**, who had her appear on his show frequently. Her sense of humor and comical ways earned the attention of **Bob Newhart** and the role of **Carol Kester**, the zany receptionist, on the *Bob Newhart Show*. As her popularity grew, she also became a guest on a number of game shows including, *Hollywood Squares*, *The \$25,000 Pyramid* and *The Match Game*, as well as appearing on several popular sitcoms. In addition to a rocky childhood in Creston, Iowa, and dealing with her weight, Marcia had a number of other speed bumps to overcome during her mid-life years. She was stricken with breast cancer, her house burned down, and her husband died of cancer at an early age, but Marcia never wavered. She fought back, beat the breast cancer and became an active spokes-person for the battle against breast cancer. Marcia wrote a book which chronicles her life and the ups and downs she endured along the way. The name of the book: “*Don't Look Back, We're Not Going That Way*,” headlines a clever title for a very uniquely clever individual. But most will remember Marcia for her recent role with the popular TV show, *The Simpsons*. She played the part of **Edna Krabappel**, the chain-smoking school teacher who was often driven to frustration by **Bart Simpson**. In 1992 Marcia won an Emmy for her voice-over work on that long running show. A recent episode, following her passing included a tribute, and the executive producer of *The Simpsons* officially announced that her character – Edna Krabappel – will be retired. Marcia was preceded in death by her husband, **Dennis Hawley**, and is survived by her son Michael, a sister and a brother...

(Editor's Note: For more information on Marcia, go to the photo tribute page, and The Alumni Write section in this edition of E-News and checkout the entry by Ann Johnson Tash)

(Continued on page 14)

**Next Issue – Spring 2014
News Deadline is March 1, 2014**

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

*If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen
nwirtanen@yahoo.com*

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

Chloe Ruggles Andeway, PC'late-50's of Richland, Iowa passed away January 1, 2014 at SunnyBrook Living Care Center in Fairfield. Chloe, 78, was born in Putnam County, Missouri, married Richard Fritchen, who died in 1988, then remarried Leonard Andeway in 1991. She graduated from Pleasant Plain High School and later from Parsons in the late 1950's. Chloe taught school in Pekin and Ollie for over 30 years before she and her husband began wintering in Texas. She was a member of the Ollie Eastern Star, Ollie Baptist Church, Retired Teachers Association, Jefferson County Reading Association, Iowa Reading Association & National Education Association and Ollie Baptist Women's church group. Chloe is survived by her husband, Leonard, four sons, three daughters and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Fremont Funeral Chapel in Fremont and a service was held at the Ollie Baptist Church...



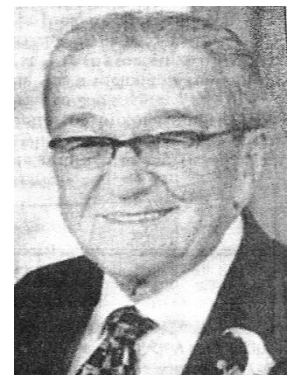
*Chloe Ruggles Andeway,
PC'late-50's*



Aileen Keplet Emry, PC'n/a

Aileen Keplet Emry, PC'n/a, passed away September 14, 2013 at Parkview Care Center in Fairfield. She was 91. Aileen graduated from Fairfield High School and later from Parsons with a bachelor's degree in education and married Laird Emry in 1944. Mr. Emry passed away in 2006. Aileen spent a number of years teaching home economics and business courses in Batavia, Eldon, Agency and Cardinal. But her priorities were always taking care of her beloved husband and family. Aileen is survived by three daughters (and families), eight grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, three step-great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held at Grace Funeral Care in Batavia...

James "Poge" Pogemiller, PC'early-1960's, 72, formerly of Omaha, Nebraska, died December 22, 2013 at Jefferson County Health Center in Fairfield. James was born in Fairfield, graduated Fairfield High and attended Parsons. He married Beverly Palm, was later divorced and remarried Sharon Scull, who preceded him in death in 2012. James worked at JC Penney, the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant and Perry Clothing. He was a professional men's clothier and ran the Dad and Lad Shop in Fairfield with the assistance of fellow Parsons colleague Roger Gillaspie. After moving to Omaha he became proprietor of J. Poge's Menswear, Poge's Rothchilds and recently retired from Lindley Clothing. James was a member of Kiwanis, Lions and Omaha Business Breakfast clubs. Survivors include, a daughter, a son, three step-children, six grand children, 23 step-grandchildren, four step-great-grandchildren. A celebration of life was held at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center...



*James "Poge" Pogemiller,
PC'early-1960's*

Russell Schafer, PC'late-1940's... E-News has learned that Russell, 89, passed away December 23, 2012 at his home in Fairfield. He was born in Fairfield, attended the local high school and received a B.A. in Botany from Parsons. Russell served in the U.S. Army's 1st Calvary Division during World War II in the South Pacific and was wounded in the Admiralty Islands. He later returned to Fairfield, became Captain for the Fairfield Police Department and owned a construction company. Russell was a past Commander of VFW Post 2271 and past President of Walton Club. He is survived by two children, two step-children, seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Behner Funeral Home in Fairfield... (Continued on page 15)

Dean Johnson, PC'58 passed away peacefully October 12, 2013 at Ridgewood Care Facility in Ottumwa, Iowa. He was 84. Dean graduated from Fairfield High School in 1946 and immediately joined Company D of the State Guard. He played the tuba since his early days in high school and was recruited to the reorganized Guard band in 1947. Dean's career with the National Guard lasted 39 years and he retired as a Master Sergeant. Upon returning home, Dean



Dean Johnson

1958 Parsons Graduate

Recently - The Musician

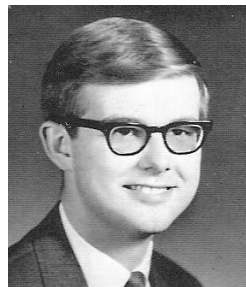
enrolled at Parsons, majored in Physical Education and graduated with a B.A. Degree. Along the way, while at Parsons, he pledged Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, and served as Business Manager of the Peira yearbook. Dean taught at Pence School before taking on a series of other jobs which included, working for the Soil Conservation Service, Gobbles Clothing Store, Bowes Sealfast, while working his way to becoming a State Farm Insurance Agent. Music dominated his interest and he was a member of the National Guard's 34th Army Band, the Wapello

Chiefs Barbershop Group, Fairfield Community Summer Band, the Tarnished Brass Band in Van Buren County and the Iowa Military Veterans Band. In addition, Dean was a member of the Lions Club International, Golf Club Makers Association, Weekend Camping Club, Walton Club, Fairfield Country Club, Fairfield Rifle Club, the Fairfield City Council and he was a lifetime member of the NRA. However, his favorite group of all...the Howard Johnson Coffee Club. He received numerous awards for his volunteer work with the Boy Scouts Troop 64, the Lions Club, Fairfield High School and was twice named "Man of the Year" at Walton Club where he scored a "Hole-in-One" in 2003. Dean enjoyed his affiliation with the Tubaist Universal Brotherhood Association which enabled him to tour and play Christmas concerts across the country. When not on the music scene he could be found working in his small golf repair and shop in his home. Dean is survived by Beatrice (Hoegren), his wife of over 60 years, two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The family was assisted by the Behner Funeral Home of Fairfield...

Emor Ballou, PC'early-50's... Mr. Bellou of Ashland, Nebraska died December 25, 2013 at Brookestone Meadows in Elkhorn, Nebraska. He was 79. Emor graduated from Fairfield High School in 1952 and attended Parsons College for two years prior to moving to Lincoln, Nebraska and graduating from the Lincoln School of Commerce. He worked for the Burlington Railroad in Lincoln, Chicago and Detroit. Emor later partnered in a travel agency in Chicago and Detroit which opened the door allowing him to travel the world. After returning to Fairfield to care for his mother, Emor worked at Jefferson Motor Company until retiring in 2002. He was confirmed at the Ashland Congregational Church and was a life-long member of the First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield. Emor left Fairfield in 2005 and moved back to Ashland where he lived with his sister. A service was to be scheduled at a later date...

(Continued on page 16)

PARSONS FOREVER!!!



Ron Wade, PC'67

Ron Wade, PC'67 of Midland, Texas passed away December 24, 2013. He was 68. Ron was born in Fairfield and married Carol Biles in 1966. He graduated from Fairfield High School and Parsons College, where he received a degree in accounting . Ron served with the Iowa National Guard 34th Army Band prior to starting his career with Hy-Vee Food Stores in Chariton, Iowa and became Divisional Controller. He purchased an accounting practice in Midland, Iowa, passed the CPA exam and was licensed in 1993. Ron was a Mason and a Shriner with Abu Bekr Temple. He is survived by his wife, Carol, one son, one daughter and two grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland...

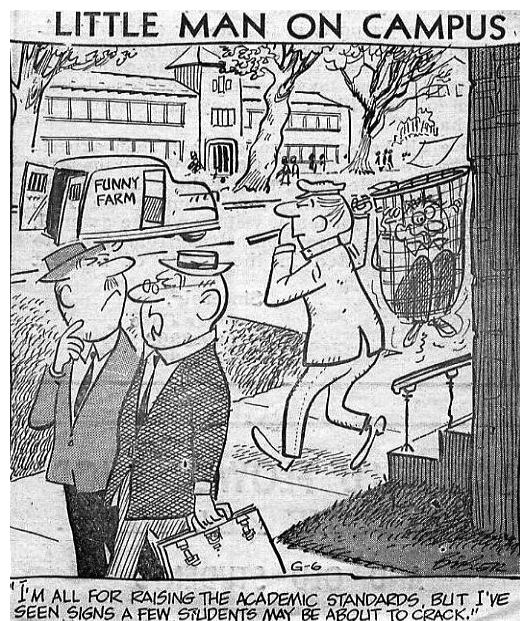
Clara Mae Johnston Whitcanack, PC'mid'40's, of Keosauqua died January 1, 2014 at the Good Samaritan Society-Van Buren. Clara, 89, married Rex Whitcanack in 1943. She graduated from Cantril High School and later from Parsons. Clara worked many years in the Story County Treasurer's office in Nevada, Iowa. She is survived by two sons, one daughter, two grandsons, three great-grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and six step-great grandchildren. The funeral was held at Pedrick Funeral Home and burial was in Lebanon Cemetery, near Keosauqua...



Clara Johnston Whitcanack, PC'mid-40's

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