

# Parsons College E-News

Volume 7, No. 2

**Summer 2014** 

# Addition of 10 distinguished Parsons Student/Alumni to the College Wall of Honor brings the total to 59...

It's hard to believe but on October 4, 2014, the Parsons College Foundation will host another 10 distinguished Student/Alumni and families to the celebrated Wall of Honor in Parsons Alumni Hall at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center in Fairfield. A weekend of events is being planned and will be reported in the Fall E-News. The Class of 2014 will become the 6<sup>th</sup> to be honored in what has become an annual event. Co-founder of the wall, John Blackstock reports, "The search will continue to uncover the student/alumni of Parsons College who have posted outstanding and distinguished careers and successes in their fields of endeavor, and/or contributed significantly to their communities. We want to honor those student/alumni and put them on the Wall of Honor forever."

Hulbert "Hobie" Bannister, PC'64 – Clive, Iowa... Hobie started his career in insurance, switched to financial planning and now manages \$50.6 billion in investments. The average account balance of his clients is \$325,632. He's spent over 40 years in wealth management and is presently Branch Manager and Senior Financial Advisor at RBC Wealth Management. Hobie serves on a number of committees and boards in the metro Des Moines area and was President of the Des Moines Golf & Country Club which hosted a Senior U.S. Open Golf Tournament...

Don Butterbaugh, PC'61 – Marion, Iowa...Don was a coach, teacher, counselor and administrator in both high school and college. He was head football coach at Huron College (South Dakota) and Upper Iowa University (Fayette, Iowa). Don obtained certification in Administration Education from Drake University and excelled as a High School Activities Director. He was selected Interscholastic Athletic Administration Association Region-Eight Athletic Director of the Year and further honored with induction to the South Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Hall of Fame...

Denny Chalupa, PC'66 (posthumously)... Denny was a highly respected and distinguished attorney who became the President of the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association (ITLA). He earned his law degree at University of Iowa and spent his career and life helping the less fortunate. Denny launched that career as Jasper County Attorney while also engaging in private practice, representing plaintiff's personal injury, worker's compensation, business transactions and litigation. He enhanced his reputation by gaining Board Certification in Civil Trial Advocacy and was admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court...



Eugene "Gene" Copeland, PC'61 – Fairfield, Iowa... After earning a Law Degree at University of Iowa, Gene moved to Colorado, joined the life insurance company, ING and became their top U.S. General Counsel. Working domestically and internationally for the 7<sup>th</sup> largest company in the world, he was considered by many to be the top reinsurance attorney in the nation. Gene wrote numerous publications and books including, a book on Insurance Law that became a manual for insurers operations. His real estate expertise, developed with his role as counsel for ING's real estate development operations, led to lecturing in China and at the University of Peking Law School. Gene retired to the largest ING retirement event ever in the United States and the Mayor of Denver made a Proclamation declaring it, "Eugene Copeland Day."...

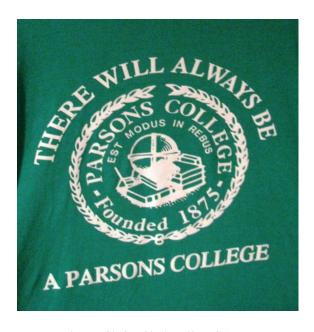
Linda Frizzell, PC'72 – LaPorte, MN... Linda lists her occupation as Consultant. Her list of licenses, certifications and degrees is longer than your arm. Linda has been a college professor, coach, personal trainer, CPR instructor, auto mechanic, leisure professional, grant and transportation security administrator, and mental retardation director. At Parsons, she was a national and state champion in track & field and qualified

(Continued on page 2)

#### FRIZZELL - (cont'd)

for the Olympic Trials. Linda devoted her life to assisting the American Indian, rural elderly, minorities, disabled and the needy. Dr. Frizzell's presently teaches at North Dakota State, is working on a visiting scholar appointment at Portland State and servicing the northwest Portland area Indian Health Board...

John Greenlee, PC'26-'27 (posthumously)... John graduated high school at age 15. That was his first step on a journey to becoming President of California State University. From Parsons, John went to University of Iowa and University of Chicago. He was a high school principal, taught science and was dean of a community college. John served three years in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was awarded a Bronze Star. John joined Cal State as VP of Academic affairs before commencing 13 years as President. He is a member of numerous national organizations and honor societies...



Doug Marion, PC'70 – Simi Valley, CA... Jay Leno refers to Doug as "his Chevy man." Doug's love for cars, photography and journalism came together following Parsons and he became Founding Editor of Super Chevy Magazine. He also became the Editor of Popular Hot Rodding Magazine and wrote a 225-page all inclusive book on Chevy II / Nova. Prior to those career dominating duties, Doug wrote speeches for Los Angeles, California Mayor, Sam Yorty. He continues to freelance for Super Chevy Magazine and is a member of the National Nova Club Hall of Fame, National Chevelle Owners Association Hall of Fame and Who's Who in America...

Jack & Marty Crowl Taylor, PC'51 (posthumously)...
Jack and Marty formed a tandem that fed, employed, befriended and touched every Parsons student, one way or another. They leased the Fairfield Country Club (oldest west of the Mississippi) prior to taking over the Broadway Grill which later closed and reopened as Taylor's Off-Broadway Grill, a meeting place for returning alumni. Over the years the popular couple hosted and fed countless students and their families. They befriended everybody, put paychecks into the pockets of many others and were active in the community...

George Vogel, PC'70 – Midlothian, VA... From Parsons, George attended Roosevelt University in Chicago, acquired a degree in Career Guidance & Counseling, joined the Waukegan, Illinois School System and shortly after was named "Illinois Teacher of the Year." His community service contributions earned him Waukegan's "Distinguished Service Award." George moved onto Virginia where, in addition to teaching/coaching middle/high school, he taught Social Studies in the Virginia Department of Juvenile Correctional Education Program and was named "Employee of the Year." After several years dabbling in real estate, George owned and operated an advertising agency and political consulting firm...

Richard Wright, PC'63 (posthumously)... Dick did it all in Fairfield – worked at Gobble's, founded Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, taught and coached at Fairfield High School and became a Parsons recruiter. He then relocated to Houston, Texas, and founded the Academy of Continuating Education. That was just a prelude to founding a family printing business, teaching printing at the American Association of Publishing, overcoming some major physical setbacks, while developing and expanding the Wright's Reprints business to national prominence under the name of Wright Media...

### Next Issue - FALL, 2014 News Deadline is September 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

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!!

# A Drive Through Memory Lane... with Dr. Bob Tree

Parsons College of Fairfield, Iowa in its 98-year history, with the arrival of **Dr. Millard G. Roberts**, had a decade from the mid 1950's through the mid 1960's, where it's name was known around Iowa, the mid-west and the nation for culture, athletics and academics. When the college lost its accreditation with the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities in the late 1960's the enrollment dropped and a number of the top professors moved on to other institutions of higher learning. During the rise of Parsons, the History Department had one of the top academic curriculums in the college, based upon the number of students enrolled as a major course of study. The Parsons academic areas had a very well paid faculty. This allowed the professors to focus on the students and not become involved in the "publish or perish" formula for many larger universities.

The year was 1954, doctoral candidates **Ralph Sayer** and **Lewis Wheelock** were the two professors of history at Parsons College. In addition to teaching, Sayer was assistant to then president, **Tom Shearer**. Shearer jumped on an opportunity to move to Caldwell College in Idaho as its president in 1954. While the college was looking for a new president, Ralph was the acting president. Sayer completed his undergraduate work at Grinnell College and later his graduate degree was from Columbia University. Wheelock was a Fairfield native and was doing additional research at the Newberry Library in Chicago when he made the acquaintance of **Robert L. Tree.** Tree was just completing his doctoral research at Northwestern University after completing his undergraduate work at Grinnell College. The two gentleman were doing similar research and struck up a friendship, strong enough for Wheelock to invite Tree to Fairfield for a meal the first weekend of November.

Saturday evening a small dinner party was being hosted by the Wheelocks at their home on East Burlington Avenue. **Mr. and Mrs. Sayer** were also present. As the evening progressed, a phone call was received at the Wheelock residence for Mr. Sayer. It was from one of the Parsons trustees who had extended an invitation to **Dr. Millard G. Roberts**, a Presbyterian minister from upstate New York, to become the next president of Parsons College, effective July 1, 1955.

Sayer continued as acting president until Roberts arrived. When Roberts was inaugurated Sayer took a leave of absence to complete his doctoral study at Columbia University. While at Columbia, he was invited to join Tom Shearer, in Idaho, and become the Dean of Caldwell College and he accepted. **Dr. Keith Goltry** was Dean of Parsons at that time and remained so until his retirement. As Wheelock returned to Parsons after his leave of absence, he told Tree that there might be an opening at Parsons in 1955, in the history department. In the spring of 1955, an invitation was extended to Tree to come to the college for an interview at which time Sayer and Goltry offered the history position to Dr. Tree. This provided the opportunity for Drs. Tree and Wheelock to cover the teaching duties in the history department at the college. Wheelock was responsible for the Western Civilization courses and some American History, and Tree for American History and American, State and Local Government classes. As the college grew so did the history department faculty.

Following are the professors, all PhD's, who formed what was regarded as one of the top History Departments of any college or university in the United States, the order of their hiring and the years served at Parsons:



Lewis F. Wheelock, PhD 1953-1962 University of Iowa



Robert F. Tree, PhD 1955-1973 Northwestern University



Robert Elkin, PhD 1959-1970 University of Illinois



Richard H. Barton, PhD 1963-1973 Michigan State University



J. Wilson Ferguson, PhD 1963 Princeton University

(Continued on page 4)



Jack W. Hines, PhD 1963-1973 University of Kansas



William B. Munson, PhD 1965-1973 University of Illinois



Edwin C. Blackburn, PhD 1966-1972 University of Michigan



Thomas C. Duffey, PhD 1966-1969 Clark University



Benjamin Rogers, PhD 1966-1973 University of Minnesota

Dr. William B. Munson moved from the teaching staff to administration as Vice President of Academic Affairs and to acting president when Roberts finished his responsibilities with the college. Dr. Robert L. Tree also moved to administration as the Dean of the College at that time when Dr. Jack Brown, the former dean moved back to teaching biology and returned to a school in the southern United States.

Prior to the arrival of Dr. Roberts as president, the college had eight PhD's on the 33-member faculty. Parsons always had a rich tradition of quality professors in all departments. Roberts, being from the east coast, knew where there were more students than class space at the eastern schools and also knew a number of the professors, who he felt would embellish the already rich academic tradition of Parsons College. The history department grew dramatically along with other academic disciplines which had significant growth under the guidance of Dr. Roberts.

The entire college had tremendous depth in the area of preceptors and tutors. In addition to the professors listed above, there was a support staff of eight individuals, not including the preceptors, who provided additional services to the history department. There were a great number of history majors at Parsons because of this strong faculty. The professors were hired to teach and provide face time with the student at Parsons and they very much enjoyed having the students around them between lectures. There was great diversity in the teaching style of each of these professors. They were devoted to their students as individuals. The professors were very enthusiastic about the Roberts program and worked very hard to assist and bring along students who requested assistance. The history department was one of the largest majors on campus when Parsons was at the top of its game in the mid 1960's.

The preceptors were a very important part of the department. As part of the Roberts "Parsons Plan" each student would have three hours per week of lecture with a full professor with a PhD and two hours a week with a preceptor who had their masters degree in that discipline as a required discussion class. Only if the student had a "B" average or better could they be exempted from the discussion section. That is a total of five hours of contact per week with each class taken, significantly more than other colleges and universities of that time. Those individuals serving as preceptors were: Neil White, Vaughan Camp, Harry Dahleimer, John Davies, Evan Garrett, John Giavaras, Frosty Schwengels, Arnold Kramer, Gerald Polinsky, O. B. Nelson and Lillian Waugh. Lillian was a Preceptor in History and a graduate of Colby College class of 1963. She was indeed, very bright and very attractive. Quite a number of male students were attracted to her discussion classes. Lillian handled them quite well and did not seem to be bothered by the attention. She was young, but mature. (Continued on page 5)

## 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!!

The tutorial department was for those students who still were not able to grasp the subject matter during the five hours of classroom contact each week. The tutors were available for one-on-one contact with the students, at no additional cost from the standard tuition. Linda Bicknell, Glenn S. Dickson, Georgena Duncan, David Hubler, Gerald Newborg, Evelyn Soblotne, Gertrude Solheim and Rein Talman were the tutors for the history department. Dr. Tree shared the following sidelight about the tutoring staff. Gertrude Solheim raised her two children from childhood through graduation at Parsons. She had received a two-year degree and was teaching in the elementary schools in Fairfield when the Iowa Department of Education passed the requirement that a four-year degree was required if a teacher wished to continue in that role. Gertrude came back to Parsons to complete her degree and the staff liked her so much that she was asked to continue and work as a tutor at the college. Many times a meandering college student needed a jump start with a "kick in the butt" to get them motivated and they got it, compliments of Gertrude Solheim.

In retrospect, **Dr. Robert L. Tree**, who still resides in Fairfield, Iowa, feels that the quality and depth of this history department made it one of the strongest in the college and could compete with similar undergraduate departments in other schools in America. The great universities of higher education represented by these professors provided extremely deep insight for the students who were history majors at Parsons College.

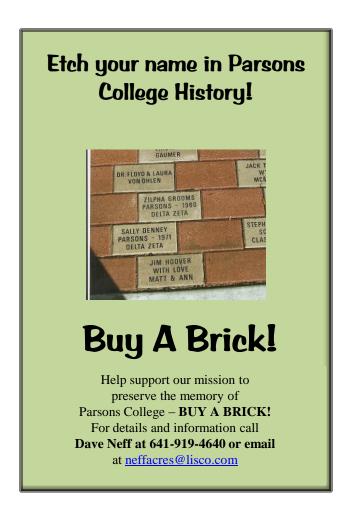
Editor's note: The body of this press release was obtained in a personal interview with Dr. Robert L. Tree on Tuesday, May 7, 2014, at his home in Fairfield, Iowa by David Neff, President of the Parsons College Foundation Fund.

# Oboe and Organ Concert Planned for WOH Weekend

**REMINDER:** The 2014 Wall of Honor weekend has added a another touch of class. Parsons Foundation Fund President **Dave Neff** told E-News there will be a special Barhydt Organ presentation on Friday night, October 3, 2014. This will be held in conjunction with the dedication of the Barhydt Chapel Windows lighting project.

Scott Bell, the son of 2013 Wall of Honor inductee, Dorothy Bell, and his colleague, Larry Allen, will be providing an Oboe and Organ concert in the Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts. Scott is the principal oboe with the Pittsburgh Symphony and Larry is a guest performer with the symphony when the program calls for a pipe organ.

"The time is perfect and this would be a wonderful opportunity for all music focused alumni to enjoy the Barhydt organ with 21 ranks of pipes in concert with two very talented performers Friday night prior to the 2014 Wall of Honor Ceremony," Neff said. "Truly a special event for our Parsons alumni and the city of Fairfield," he concluded.



# Parsons "Cagerettes" of the 1940's - The Early Years!!!

In 1944, a girl's basketball team was formed at Parsons College, the second time in the history of the college, and one of the few college girl's teams in the State of Iowa.

**Professor Paul Selz** coached the co-eds whose basketball experience ranged from none at all to the occupation of a roster spot on teams which won recognition in the Iowa State High School Girl's Championship Tournaments. Iowa was one of the few states enjoying a high school inter-varsity basketball program.

In their second year, 1945, the team continued with an expanded schedule of independent, college and high school teams. Win or lose, the girls had fun. The team was a spirited bunch. They fought hard and gave it their all. **Vera Price**, who became a Parsons Faculty Member, played on these first teams and also became the coach.

In 1949, her second year at the helm, Coach Young's team posted a 13-2 mark. Girls, or rather, women's basketball continued each year until 1955, when Dr. Roberts arrived on campus. There were many changes in store for the co-eds and the dropping of women's basketball was one of the early areas to be cut when budgets were redistributed.

Basketball has always been a popular sport in Iowa. The evolution of women's basketball went from playing confined to one of three courts, to one of two courts, to playing the whole court like the men's game. This was a battle going from "six on six" to "five on five" and a musical was produced in Iowa on the struggle in 2009. On court "five on five" won out everywhere and that is the game which is played today...

(This information was researched and submitted by Vera Price Young, PC'44)

## PARSONS PRIDE!!!



Some of the notable members of the 1944 team were: Eunice Fricke, Toshai Harada, Martha Lee Hoenshel, Mary Leech, Margaret Pease, Julia Porter and Vera Price.

The members of the 1945
"Cagerettes" included: Row 1
- Everett, Moncrief, Mrs.
Ford, Hoenshel, Wickliff and
Evans; Row 2 - Martin,
Jerrel, Van De Voorde,
Litton, Thomas and Price;
Row 3 - Kunzman, Johnson,
Dahl, Simmons, Buckingham,
and Coach Paul Selz.





The 1949 team which posted a 13-2-1 record: L to R – Augspurger, Pilmer, Wolf, Gorman, Lepper, Shirkey, Douglas, Shaw, Gantz, Smith, Graber, Hornbaker and Clark. Missing: Coach Vera Young.



Forwards: Augspurger, Wolf and Smith.



Guards: Shaw, Pilmer and Shirkey.

# Remember When... by Doug Marion '70

Every Parsons College Reunion in Fairfield has essentially been a major success. We've wondered if sororities have self-communicated and reunion-ized on their own. Well, over the last few years, we didn't have to beat the bushes to find out. The participation has been excellent and the 2013 Reunion and Wall of Honor weekend was no exception. The Alpha Gamma Delta's came in numbers, as did the Delta Zeta's and the Alpha Xi Delta's, all arriving in Fairfield virtually in-force.

The Alpha Gams numbered 14 at last October's Fairfield gala and won the sorority attendance prize. By my research and count, most were Actives during the 1963-1968 period and included: Anne Johnson, Sue Weatherly, Mary Pearl, Karen Abnour, Lucia Campbell, Paula Chomka, Kathy Weld, Sarah Lippett, Elizabeth Barker, Andrea McFarland, Kathy Gamrath and Chris Miller. Carol Atkins and Elaine Bjorkman dates not known.

The Delta Zetas numbered 10 in Fairfield last October ranging from 1946 to 1968. And then six ventured to Phoenix last May. The Fairfield returnees included, Marlene Thompson, Fay and Kay Saboski, Patti Winfrey, Sally Rinehart, Carolyn Leech, Kay McPherson, Dorothy Dalton, Judy Williams, Phyllis Williams and Vera Young. Of that group, Carolyn Leech was the only one to attend the Phoenix reunion.

For the record, at last year's Fairfield Reunion 6 of the 7 Alpha Xi Delta sisters attending were "Active" members, circa 1963 including: Narda Simonsen, Marilynne Wepsala, Sandy Hermel, Cheryl Peasley, Diane Pidgeon and Ellen Barbaro. Stephanie Beestrom was a Pledge.

With everything going on in everyone's lives, we truly give two thumbs up to all of Parsons finest for their continued support and togetherness in remembering our great alma-mater and their sororities.

### ...The sororities have not forgotten Parsons!!







Alpha Gams return: L/R S. Lippett, Ann Johnson, and Kathy Weld





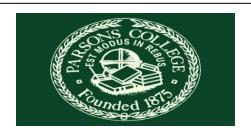




Delta Zeta Reunion-Goers: L/R: Patty Winfrey, Phillis Williams, Marlene Thompson and Carolyn Leech



1963 Alpha Xi Delta Actives. Six sorority sisters from this group attended the 2013 Fairfield Reunion.



#### **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)

# Yesssssssss!!!! It's time to LIGHT UP the Barhydt Chapel window!!

Dedication to be held on October 3, 2014

The Barhydt Window Project: Thank you, thank you!! Thanks to your generosity, the Barhydt Chapel Windows, which are now installed in the Parsons College Alumni Hall at the south end of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center, will be shining brightly.

Through donations received from the Fairfield community and the students – faculty - alumni of Parsons College, we've reached our goal, and the installation of the lighting will commence.

For generations to come, the community and returning Parsons students/alumni will now be able to see the lighting from both the inside and outside, so viewing after dark can be enjoyed by all as well.

The purchase and installation of the lights is being handle by MUSCO Lighting of Oskaloosa and should be completed by the end of August. The official dedication will be held in conjunction with the Parsons Wall of Honor weekend which is the first full weekend in October. We are hopeful this may bring some alums into town a day early.

"Getting Old is for Old People!"

### What time is it? It's T-Shirt time!!!

For the perfect summer gift for your Parsons relative or friend, check out the selection of T-Shirts, golf shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, caps and visors on page 16 (last page E-Newsletter) and follow the quick and easy ordering instructions...

Retiring?? Downsizing? Moving?
Great!! Send us your NEW E-Mail
We need you to take a minute and send us your
NEW e-mail address. Changing addresses, new
phone number, great, send those along to Nancy
Wirtanen at: <a href="mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com">nwirtanen@yahoo.com</a>. PLEASE
KEEP US IN YOUR LOOP AND YOU WON'T
MISS A SINGLE ISSUE OF THE ALUMNI ENEWSLETTER.

## WANTED: GREAT STORIES FROM THE GOOD OLD PARSONS DAYS!

If most of those stories you're reading are from the 1960's, It is conclusively related to those people who are uncovering and reporting those stories 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 prefer not to become JUST the quarterly obituary sheet, so contact us, we're easy to find...

## The Mystery Quiz - THE ANSWER!!



You're looking at the hillside on campus just west of Trustee Gym watching campus crew and student volunteers do a thorough raking and spring cleaning of the campus grounds. The correct answer is 3. Judging by current standards, our meticulous work on campus upkeep and lawn care does not appear to be a priority in today's day and age.

- 1 Students digging for precious metals?
- 2 Destroying pesky ant hills?
- 3 Raking the campus grounds back into shape?
- 4 Burying wayward, disobedient freshmen?
- 5 Preparing for a Spring Fling bonfire?

# Greek and Social News...

## TKE's head-up Parsons Scottsdale, AZ reunion at "Talking Stick Resort & Casino"

A Parsons reunion was held in Scottsdale, Arizona during the early part of May, 2014. It would be hard to discern whether it was a full scale Parsons and friends reunion, a TKE reunion, a DZ reunion, or a Parsons lettermen's reunion. Parsons students came from all over and from various clubs and organizations. There were TKE's, DZ's, Alpha Xi's, WTBA's, Sig Eps, Phi Sigs, Lambda Chi's and Pikes. But if there is credit to be passed out it must go to Gary Ratkin, Johnny Matthews and Barth Holohan of Tau Kappa Epsilon. These gentlemen planted the seed that mushroomed into a gathering of nearly 80 Parsons students/alumni and friends. The reunion was centered in and around the famous 'Talking Stick Resort & Casino' and it is believed a good time was had by all who attended. (Editor's Note: See Alumni Writes – Hank Trenkle comments)



The Boys are Back! Standing L to R: Claude Ervin, Hank Trenkle, John Matthews, Bill Larkin, Joe Drakes. Kneeling: Jon Williams...



The "Boss Man" – Gary Ratkin, lead reunion organizer.



Delta Zeta's Carol Pressick (L) and Suzanne Patteson (R). DZ's had the most attendees of the sororities.

## STILL TIME...Sig Eps heading to Nashville

The Sig Eps/Zeta'a are going to Nashville, TN and there's still time to sign-up. Reunion dates are, October 23-26, 2014, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in the heart of downtown Nashville. Positive responses have been received from the following Brothers: Paul Gustafson, Dave Pierce, Gary Wilgocki, Bill MacFarland, Bob Habetler, Herbie Weiss, Greg Mountsier, Dave Neff, Don Palmer, Fred Ramlow, Fred Ortiz, Steve Gilliat, Larry Blixt, Gary Olson, Ron Langner, Jim Cornick, Kirk Armstrong, John Connor, Mike Gilpin, Jon Loeb, Lynn Banta, Pat Kurz and yours truly, Larry Marino, PC'66. If you would like more information and to sign-up, please contact Larry Marino at: Lmarino313@yahoo.com.

## LXA at the drawing board for 2015 reunion

The LXA's have already hit the drawing board for a third repeat. For 2015 reunion information, contact, **Ron Long**, v83756@comcast.net and/or **Bill Winger**, wewinger@msn.com.

(Continued on page 10)

### **Publication Information**

Publisher/Editor: John Blackstock '64 <u>iblackstock@prodigy.net</u> - 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.

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 Newsline, or George Jordan III.

#### GREEK/SOCIAL-(cont'd)



Russ Marino, Don Hartmann



Claude Ervin, Cary Dockery, Bill Atkins, Ms. Dockery



Kenny Rice



Tom Lolos, Jon Eisenhaur

# ...More from Arizona Reunion



John Blackstock, Kent McGlincy, Lou Schwarz III



Barth Holohan



Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Matthews



Larry Richards



"Big Bill" Atkins



Joe Drakes



Jim Ostrander, Ken Rice



Cary Dockery



Delta Zeta's: L to R: Jennifer Conforti, Suzanne Patteson, Mary Peterson and Carolyn Leech

## The Alumni Write...

#### ... Living a dream in the Quads!

*Henrietta Godich Bishop*, *PC'67* – bishop944@sbcglobal.net writes...Thank you for the info on the quads. When I came to Parsons in 1966, I was assigned to the ZBT dorm on the end of campus. I knew that I'd never make it to class on time if I lived in that dorm as I am not an early morning riser. So I was lucky to get into Green quad. The girls I lived with there were the greatest and I made some lifelong friends. However, Green was a freshman and transfer student dorm and after the first semester, you had to move out so, I went to Jenkins and spent the rest of my time there. Again I met great girls and still correspond with them. We are all over the country but I have been to see them. I thought the quads were neat. A great idea and Mom Smith our housemother was the greatest. I lived in her quad. She used to play bridge with the girls and guys. I was only at Parsons for a year as I had 3 years of college before I attended Parsons. The year I graduated we lost accreditation but I was able to get into Indiana University and get my masters degree in Elementary Education. I wish Parsons could have lived on and offered other kids a second chance just like it offered me. Years later, I went back and saw what the Maharishi did to Parsons. Broke my heart! I have not been back since...



Those wonderfully mysterious and intriguing college dormitories which we called the Ouads...

#### ... Girl's sports – what a welcomed addition!!

Dr. Bob Tree, PC/Faculty – <a href="mailto:rice">rtree@lisco.com</a> writes...Since my first reading of the Wildkitten article, the more I have been impressed with the impact that Parsons and its women's basketball program had on women's athletics in this country. Particularly when one considers that it was for only three years and then the college closed. I have always remembered the look on friend Dan Breen's face when I called him into Fry-Thomas field house to see the new basketball team. He was just back from vacation and did not know about the addition until that moment. At first he was surprised, then he looked amazed and then admiration, for he recognized talent when he saw it and he became a supporter of the newcomers all season long. Indeed, O.B. Nelson, until passing away in 1969, and his successor, Bill Carlyle, were supportive of Coach Bob Spencer and his girl's team, and the guys (men's team) took their cues from O.B and Bill. When the men had a game, the women were there to cheer them on, and when the women played, the fellows were there. Fortunately, both teams had winning seasons and that helped keep the field house full (in the early 1970's). Today the Sports Section of the Des Moines Register newspaper is full of information about women's sports. There's hardly a high school, college, or university in the US that doesn't have a women's sports program. I suppose it would be really presumptuous to give all the credit to Parsons, but as pointed out, PC was certainly in there at the beginning in academic circles as well as sports. As I look back to my high school and college days, I do not recall that there was much opportunity for the girls participating in sports. Things have really changed and, in this case, for the better!

(Continued on page 12)

#### **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">neffacres@lisco.com</a>

John Blackstock <u>jblackstock@prodigy.net</u>
Bill Burger <u>billb1956@gmail.com</u>
Dixie Hogan Hoekman <u>WJH50@aol.com</u>
Ed Longanecker emlong2@iowatelecom.net

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

#### ... Let the "good times" reunion roll!

Hank Trenkle, PC'65 – <a href="mailto:hatrenkle@yahoo.com">hatrenkle@yahoo.com</a> writes... What a great time (at Arizona reunion). So glad I was able to get there! Good to see Parsons people again! Great, great. Good to see Joe Zucht after 45 years, good to see John Mathews, Jon Williams, Rat, Claude, and Joe Drake again. Sad I was not able to see Denny Edwards after all these years. Thanks to Gary Ratkin for all the hard work he did. I did not know a lot of people there but I

thought, so what, they are Parsons people so I knew it would be all good. Nice to meet Fred and Don for the first time. Learned a lot of golf from old pal Joe. Good to see Nancy again and thanks for all the hard work she does to keep us all together. I have a new "hero." **Larry Hilton**, the 73 year old boxer who started boxing for the first time in his 60's. Wow! So much fun! The initial get together, seeing old pals, making friends with Parsons people I had never met, appreciating the "downplay golf talk" of Fred, the Merryweather fight and taking five shots to get out of a sand trap. Let's do it again next year and what better place than "Talking Stick Resort." I bought a cap and love wearing it. If everyone works on recruiting, we can top our (attendance) numbers in future years. It was "all good," Hank



Hank Trenkle (C) with Carol Pressick (L) and Nancy Wirtanen (R) reports the Parsons Arizona reunion was a smashing success...

### ... Looking for Jay Burry

Ed Webber, PC'65-'68 – webber7133@gmail.com writes...I was re-reading the latest PC newsletter and was wondering if by any chance you have come across the street address, phone #, or e-mail address for a Mr. Jay Burry? He attended Parsons in the mid to late 60's. I got drafted and that was the end of any contact I had with Jay. If you have it would you please send it to me, or possibly put my request in the Parsons College newsletter? Perhaps someone else may know of his whereabouts. Sincerely... (Editor's Note: Should you have contact information on Jay Burry please e-mail Ed Webber at the above listed address.)

# The Fall Mystery Quiz - THE QUESTION!!

Well, well, well, what do we have here? Could it be a historical site, a monument, or a grave marker? And who does it belong to? Where's it located, what's the story? Let's start with a name like, what famous person is it connected to? We're dealing with "John's" here and we're not talking "Johnny-on-the-spots". Your clues as to who this relates to are at the right. As usual, the answer and the story will appear in the next issue of E-News...



A – Johnny Carson

B – John Armstrong

C – Johnny Appleseed

D – John Wayne

E – Johnny Weissmueller

F – All of the above

G – None of the above

# "Do something you've never done before!"

(65'nWise)

## Letters to the Editor...

I remember the quads, I lived in one when they were brand new in 1963. I moved from the main dorm building. I remember them looking better than in this photo on the outside though. The rooms were small...

Linda Mayer Hiesermann, PC'63-'64 - Lindahsrman@aol.com

Wow! This was just after I had transferred to Drake University. But, I had driven there to visit old friends (**Jeff Cunningham** and others) and spent the weekend at Parsons. Previously we were in either the Sigma Pi Fraternity house, or one of the neighboring dorm buildings.

Gary Rusk, PC'63-'67 - grusk14@gmail.com

Wow! Just wanted to thank you for the photos of the Quads. I lived in Quad 130C the last year Parsons was open (1973). They brought back many fond memories. And the pictures and news of the women's basketball team brought back memories too. Thanks a bunch. I played baseball and basketball that year and am originally from Bonaparte. I now reside in Pagosa Springs, CO.

Randy Cocherell, PC'72-'73 - satori@ftitel.net

Very interesting story. Did not know all the history to the Quads. I lived in them 1970 to 1971. They were neat to live in. **Lois Stuflick Johnson**, **PC'69-'73** - lojo1949@hotmail.com

Love this article on the Quads. I remember when fraternities would have cherry bomb wars between the Quads. They would light the cherry bomb and another person would hit it with a tennis racket. Also, remember raiding the kitchen on the lower level and taking crates of eggs and bacon. Thanks for sharing the memories. *Whit Shoenfelt*, *PC'65-'68* - moorlyn@aol.com

This edition of the Alumni Newsletter was outstanding - a wealth of information that brought back many memories, all good. I loved the picture of **Denny Edwards** being carried off the court in '62. You are doing a great job keeping everyone up-to-date, and everyone appreciates the effort (I certainly do...). It's got to be fun, too. Parsons was a good school, and I'm still glad I went there... **John LeRoux**, **PC/PSE'65** - [mailto:johnfleroux@hotmail.com]



I just read the Parson E-Newsletter and your article about the 'Quads'. Exactly as I remember them and such a fun place to live or visit. In my case, since I lived in town (I was a 'TOWNIE'), I did not have the opportunity to really enjoy the building. I do remember 'Hell Week' and standing at attention waiting for our next command. Can you imagine if students/pledges had to go through that today. They would be screaming bloody murder and suing everyone and everything in sight. I still live in Fairfield and am ashamed of our beloved campus today, and the people who inhabit the place. In most cases they are self serving and live for themselves only. They do not take care of any housing, let the weeds grow high, thinking they are wild flowers, and in general, they think it is someone else's place to do the work. They are beneath manual labor. Anyway I really liked the article. Just to let you know, I am now up and walking again and able to drive and get out. Thank God this (bout with cancer) is almost over.

Ken Norton, PC/LXA/late'60's - norti@iowatelecom.net

Can you determine what was the graduation date for the Class of '64? It was in June, but I can't remember the exact date. Let me know if you can clarify. Thanks for all you do for the alumni association. I know it is appreciated by all.

Joe Zucht, PC'64 - joebzii@gmail.com (Editor's Note: If you can supply this information please email JoeZ directly)

# Next E-News Deadline - September 1, 2014

## In Memoriam...

*Philip Willson, PC'early 40's...* age 90, of Omaha, Nebraska, passed away on May 8, 2014, at Hospice House in Omaha. Phil was born in Morning Sun, Iowa and raised in Fairfield. He received his undergraduate degree from Parsons College and J.D. from Yale University in 1949. Phil served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He co-authored Iowa Practice,



Philip Willson

Vestal & Willson, 1975, and was a co-founding partner of the law firm Willson and Pechacek, P.L.C. Phil received many honors and recognitions during his lifetime: The Iowa State Bar Association Award of Merit; Iowa Southwest Bar Association Award for 50 years; Iowa State Bar Association Community Service Award; Iowa State Bar Association President's Award; the Iowa Defense Counsel Association Lifetime Member Award, and Council Bluffs Heritage Award. He was a member of a number of bar associations and legal organizations. Phil's community service contributions included, membership on a number of board of directors and committees, the Opera Omaha, Joslyn Art Museum Board of Governors, Committee on Collection and Chairman of the Contemporary Art Committee. He was past president of Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce, YMCA Board of Directors and Council Bluffs Public Library. Phil is survived by a brother and a number of grandchildren, step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Josyln Art Museum in Omaha, NE...

**Dennis Chalupa, PC'66...** Dennis died December 28, 2013 at Mercy Hospice – Johnston, Iowa, while courageously battling lung cancer. He was 69. Dennis was born in Fairfield and graduated Fairfield High and Parsons College and was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity. He went onto University of Iowa and graduated from Law School and

served in the Army National Guard. Prior to attending Law School he worked briefly with the Bendix Corporation in New Jersey. Dennis served as Jasper County District Attorney while also engaging in private practice. In 1971 he became a partner at Brierly Law firm in Newton, Iowa. That name was later changed to Caldwell, Brierly, Chalupa and Nuzum. Dennis' focus was in the area of litigation but he devoted most of his time to plaintiff's personal injury, worker's compensation, business transactions and family litigation. Dennis became board certified in Civil Trial Advocacy in 2001 and served as President of the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association in 2005-2006. He was an active outdoorsman, enjoying fishing in Canada, golfing, biking, walking, skiing and tennis. Dennis is survived by his wife, Roberta, a son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter and a host of grandchildren. A memorial service was to have been scheduled at a later date...



Dennis Chalupa

*Robert "Bob" Davis, PC'62-'64...* Bob, 69, of Watsonville, CA, died unexpectedly January 20, 2014. He was born in Holyoke, MA where his father was stationed in the US Army. Because his father was a College English Professor, Bob spent a good portion of his childhood in small towns with small liberal arts colleges in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Iowa. He



**Bob Davis** 

graduated from Columbian High School in Tiffin, Ohio, and attended Parsons from 1962-64. Bob was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity prior leaving Parsons and enrolling at Occidental College in 1966; and the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in 1970, where he met his future wife, Caroline Malmgren. In 1972, Bob and Caroline moved to Watsonville where he practiced dentistry for 34 years. He had a unique talent for turning a patient into a friend. Bob also took great pleasure as a teacher of dentistry, helping both other dentists and assistants improve their skills. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Caroline, his three daughters: Heather (Raymond) Desrocher of Naples, FL; Autumn (Chris) Moran of Marblehead, MA; Lauren (Justin) Taylor of Aptos, CA; and a son, Brian Davis. He is also survived by five grandchildren; and his brother, Charlie Davis of Burlingame, CA. A memorial will be held this coming summer.

(Continued on page 15)

**Peter W. Fink, PC'mid-60's...** Pete, of Indian Land, South Carolina, and a long time resident of Killingworth, Connecticut, lost his courageous battle with cancer May 22, 2014 at the Matthews Presbyterian Hospice. He was surrounded by his loving family. Pete was born in Burlington, New Jersey. He met his loving wife, Tina (Carlson), while attending Parsons. He was a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity where a number of lifelong friendships were made. In addition to his wife Tina, he is survived by his four sons, Tom, Jamie, Steve and Peter. He is also survived by a number of relatives plus 11 grandchildren. A memorial service was held at McEwen Funeral Services, Pineville, North Carolina, followed by a Celebration of Life gathering...



Peter W. Fink

*John R. Snyder*, *PC/early'60's...* John passed away from a massive heart attack on June 15, 2014, at the Culbertson Memorial Hospital in Rushville, Illinois. He was 72. John grew up on the family farm in Hersman, Illinois and graduated Brown County High School. He attended Culver-Stockton College and played football prior to moving on to Parsons, where he was one of the original members of the Parsons Sharpchuters Parachute Team and a member of



John Snyder

WTBA. John enlisted with the US Army during the Vietnam War and was stationed at Ft. Rucker. It was there he earned his pilot's license and air traffic controller certification. John became a member of the Golden Knights parachute team and participated in numerous demonstrations and competitions, domestically and internationally. Over the years, he logged over 2000 jumps and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for breaking many parachuting records. That led to his participation in the Military Olympics in 1968. John later earned a pilot's license for commercial multi-engine and instrumental ratings. Following the service he dabbled in insurance sales briefly before being recruited by his mother to run the family nursing home business in Rushville. John became owner and administrator and worked there until his untimely death. Other interests led him to become a licensed plumber, electrician and HVAC technician. John was a founding member of the Rushville Flying Club. He was also a board member and past president of the Illinois Health Care Association and co-founder of the Illinois Nursing Home Administrators Association. John is survived by his wife Dianne (Busen) who

he married in 1967, two sons and families. A Celebration of Life Service was held at First Christian Church, Rushville. The family was assisted by the Wood Funeral Home and Worthington Funeral home of Rushville...

William "Bill" Stern, PC'69 of Washington, DC... Bill passed away on July 7, 2014. He was 69 and died following a long battle with cancer. Bill was a native of South Orange, New Jersey. While at Parsons, he was a member of Sigma Pi

Fraternity. In 1974, Bill came to Baltimore, Maryland to help his sister start a catering and restaurant business. In 1978 he left to join Image Dynamics, a regional advertising agency and public relations firm and became Vice President. In 1982, Bill was the executive producer of the live news feeds to WBAL-AM radio from the Royal Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. He joined MCI Communications Corporation in 1983 and worked in a number of positions. In 1995, Bill co-founded Media Resource Group, a nationwide media relations consulting firm. The group's client base included Lockheed-Martin. When Lockheed spun off its Communications Industry Services division, Bill was invited to join the company, where for the next 11 years he served as Media Relations & Public Relations Director, Global Director of Internal Communications and Director of Corporate Events and Conferences. Bill is survived by his adored friends, family and extended family...



Bill Stern

John "Jack" Regan, PC'66-'67, Winston-Salem, NC... Jack died July 11, 2014. He was 67. He grew up in Pittsburgh, graduated from South Hills Catholic High School and attended Bloomsburg College prior to Parsons. Jack was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity. He joined the US Army and served in Vietnam. In 1970 Jack joined the R.J. Reynolds Tabacco Company and launched a lifelong career which led to becoming the National Vending Sales Manager based out of Winston-Salem. He is survived by a daughter, son and five grandchildren. A Celebration of Life gathering is to be planned in the near future. No further information is available at this time...

"Time is our most precious commodity, spend it wisely"

(65'nWise)

## 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>.