

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

**HAPPY
HANUKKAH**

Sheri Neff

Bill Burger

Ken Rice

John Blackstock

Mark Shafer

Rustin Lippincott

Nancy Wirtanen

May you have the most wonderful

HOLIDAY SEASON

Warm wishes from your Parsons College
E-NEWS, PCFF and PCAA friends

Suzan Bates Kessel

Marion Jennings

John Braidwood

Doug Marion

Dr. Biff Kummer

Eddie Longanecker

Dr. Kay Ferguson

Ray Ham, Jr

Dave Neff

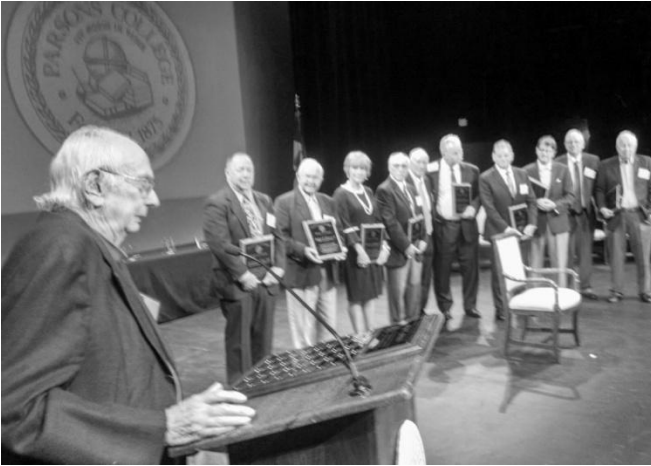
Dr. Bob Tree

**HAPPY NEW
YEAR**

Richard Ivins



Dr. Bob Tree Graciously Accepts The 'Parsons Wildcats Spirit Award'



Dr. Tree stands tall at the podium expressing his thanks and appreciation while receiving the Parsons College Wildcats Spirit Award at the conclusion of the 9th Annual Wall of Honor ceremony, held at the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts in the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. Looking on with respect and admiration of a great man are the 10 honorees of the Wall of Honor Class of 2017...

Wall Of Honor Weekend Highlighted By Unveiling Of The Lee T. Gobble Statue

"The Wall of Honor weekends seem to get better and better," said **John Blackstock**, Co-Founder and Co-Chairman. "Add the unveiling of the legendary **Lee T. Gobble** statue to the program, the awarding of the 'Parsons College Spirit Awards' and we had a bonanza of a weekend in Fairfield," he added.

Nine of the 10 honorees traveled to Fairfield to receive their Wall of Honor plaques. The presenter intros and acceptance speeches flowed with gratitude, humility and interesting stories of the past. An estimated 130-150 well-wishers attended the Saturday ceremony, which was followed by a Maid-Rite and Breaded Pork Tenderloin luncheon at the Elks Lodge, and a late afternoon tour of the Carnegie Historical Museum.

Following Friday's registration and happy hour at the Fairfield Country Club, the Parsons group joined a huge throng of townsfolk at the FA&CC for the dedication and unveiling of the Gobble statue. Despite the inclement weather which forced the official ceremony inside, several hundred friends of Mr. Gobble braved the elements to participate and witness the unveiling...

Tree, Braidwood Lead Select Group Of Five Wildcats Spirit Award Recipients

Dr. Bob Tree has spent the majority of his life giving to others. Outside of thank you (s) and perhaps letters of appreciation, it's rare that Dr. Tree received anything. Yes, the Green Room in the FA&CC carries his name, displays a beautiful portrait, and he has the satisfaction of seeing the growth and evolution of the Cultural Arts in Fairfield come to fruition.

But on October 9, 2017, the Parsons College Foundation Fund (PCFF) took another step, passing on their thanks by presenting Dr. Tree the Wildcats Spirit Award plaque, which will forever commemorate our thanks for all of his support, advice and participation in our efforts to preserve the legacy and memorabilia of Parsons College.

Tree and **John Braidwood, PC'68** and PCFF and PCAA board member, led the cast of five Wildcats Spirit honorees. Braidwood, along with **Susan Bates Kessel** (FA&CC Volunteer Director); **Rustin Lippincott** (FA&CC Manager/Director) and **Mark Shafer** (Carnegie Historical Museum Curator), were honored and presented their plaques Friday evening at the unveiling ceremony of the **Lee T. Gobble** statue.

The Spirit Award was founded in October of 2015. The sole purpose is to acknowledge, recognize and give major thanks to those special people who have gone over and above, unselfishly giving their time, resources, energy and enthusiasm to our projects in the spirit and name of Parsons College. Previous recipients were **Nancy Wirtanen, PC'73** (2015) and **Ray Ham PC'73** (2016).

The Wall of Honor program was initiated in 2009 and initiated to recognize those Parsons Students/Alums who have excelled in their careers, lives, communities, and brought recognition back to Parsons College. This 10 year program will conclude in October, 2018 with 100 members. (2017 nomination information included in this newsletter.)

The Wildcats Spirit Award was introduced as a means of recognizing those people behind the scenes, whether they be student/alumni, faculty, or independent of the college. This program will continue forward annually and/or in conjunction with our PC Reunions, and have no definitive ending date...

2017 Wall of Honor Memories

Photos by Werner Elmker



Suiting UP!



"Biff's Parsons Store" - Open for Business!!



Neff offers Congratulations



Mayor Ed Malloy



Dr. Tree



Honorees gather at Alumni Hall



Dick Barton



Mike Brouwer



Frank Repass



Jack Sullivan



Arnie Rothschild



Bill Winger



Tony Demacio



Sandy Konrad McCullough



CLASS OF 2017



David Switzer



Chuck Downey



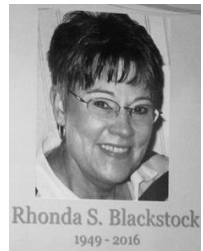
Wildcats Spirit Award



Our Chief!



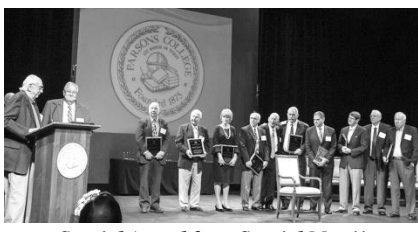
The Distinguished Table of Honor



Rhonda S. Blackstock
1949 - 2016
A Moment of Silence



Darcy Mellen-Sullivan



Special Award for a Special Man!!



Don Samuelson



Larry Litwin



Talent!!!!

PARSONS COLLEGE WALL OF HONOR - NOMINATING INFORMATION

Parsons College Foundation, 2272 Glasgow Road, Fairfield, IA 52556

neffacres@lisco.com
PH 641-919-4640

We welcome your nomination of a candidate to the Wall of Honor.

The Parsons College Foundation established the Parsons College Wall of Honor to recognize students/alumni who have taken their talents, education, and successes, to a level of excellence.

Ideal candidates will have fostered a distinguished career in their field of endeavor, made a contributing impact on their community, and achieved role model status, thus bringing pride and recognition to the name and memory of Parsons College.

The first full weekend of each October has been designated Parsons College Students/Alumni Wall of Honor Weekend. In addition to family and friends of the inductees, an OPEN INVITATION exists to all students, alumni and friends to return, celebrate, and reunion in Fairfield.

The Nomination period will be open from December through March of each year. This is the official announcement, which appears in the Fall/Winter PC E-Newsletter. The names of those selected to the Wall of Honor will be published and revealed in the Summer PC E-Newsletter.

Please use a separate piece of paper to submit your application for the nomination of a Wall of Honor Candidate.

MAIL your nomination package to David Neff at the above address.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL APPLICATIONS WILL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME OF NOMINEE

CONTACT INFORMATION

PHOTOGRAPH OF NOMINEE (minimal 5x7 – prefer bust pose)

ACTIVITIES AT PARSONS

YEARS ATTENDED PARSONS

YEAR OF GRADUATION

POST GRADUATE EDUCATION

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS/RECOGNITION

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

DISTINGUISHED ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FAMILY INFORMATION

NAME/CONTACT INFORMATION OF NOMINATOR

We, thank you for your time, consideration and nomination...

'MR. FAIRFIELD': *Memories Of A Legend!!!* By John Blackstock '64



The Legend of Lee T. Gobble will live on through rain, sleet, snow and sunshine, in the form of this beautiful bronze statue which was sculpted by a team of Fairfield artists. Lee was responsible for the (structural) erection of the steeple atop the Jefferson County Courthouse.

I was one of the fortunates from Parsons College to have enjoyed a friendship with **Mr. Lee T. Gobble** for over 50 years. I'm honored to have wished him Happy 100th Birthday in person and visited him frequently.

I first met Lee in the fall of 1960. I needed a white shirt and heard that Gobble's Store was the place to shop. I found Mr. Gobble to be a snappy dresser and having all the characteristics of a suave and debonair middle-aged gentleman with a wry sense of humor. He sold me a Gant, button down oxford cloth shirt for \$7.50, and introduced me to my first pair of bleeding Madras Bermuda shorts.

I also learned this co-ed college fashion store had been in the Gobble family in southeastern Iowa since 1853 (Abington, IA), moved to Fairfield in 1898, and was passed down from generation to generation. Lee's mother, Mary, and father, Bruce, met and developed their courtship as students at Parsons in the early 1900's.

Lee graduated Fairfield High School in 1933 and attended Parsons but did not graduate. When asked why, he said, "because they asked me to leave...they told me I was having an adverse effect on the college's grade point average." It was then he smartly joined the family business and later became owner/manager.

Several years ago Lee was awarded an honorary Parsons College diploma to which he snidely asked, "is this legit?" He was placed on the Parsons Student/Alumni Wall of Honor by the Parsons College Foundation Fund committee in 2009. At the ceremony, Lee lit up the stage wearing his outlandish pink trousers and purple sports jacket, accented with one of his over 1000 colorful ties.

He also loved his black and gold Iowa Hawkeyes. In 1958, the Hawkeyes football team was named National Champions and invited to play in the 45th Rose Bowl game. On January 1, 1959, the Pasadena, CA game attendance was announced at 98,297. Actually that number should have been 98,298, but there was one Hawkeye fan who slipped in between the cracks, so to speak. Lee decided he would suit up as a hot dog vendor. He purchased a vendors box with strap, a white jacket, a white garrison paper hat, and cleverly marched into the Rose Bowl through the vendors gate. He paid nothing. Once successfully in the stadium for FREE, Lee pitched his hot dog vendor disguise, joined the Iowa fans, and rooted the team on to a 38-12 victory over the University of California.

There was no disguising Lee's role as the consummate 24/7 businessman and flirt. He could sell merchandise from high atop the city's water tower. I once watched him negotiate the sale of six Parsons T-shirts in the men's room at the McDonald's restaurant. Flag him down on the highway, he'd pull over, flip open his trunk and there, low and behold, was a full brimming inventory of Parsons memorabilia.

I was snooping through his garage one day, opened the doors of this huge storage cabinet. I should have expected it...it was a warehouse of Parsons merchandise, each and every shelf literally stuffed, sized, sorted, labeled and ready for market. He could have suited up the city of Fairfield out of his garage.

If there was a bigger flirt than Lee Gobble we'd have no idea who it would be. He was married twice, had an uncountable plethora of lady friends, and always had his antenna up looking for another. His favorite trick to attract the ladies, which many of you are familiar, was to purposely leave his collar tip unbuttoned. I once reached over to button it for him. He slapped my hand away and whispered, "no, that's for the ladies to do!" When one of the ladies would step up and accomplish the task, if he liked her, he would start a conversation. If not, Lee would sneak around the corner and unbutton the collar in preparation for the next candidate.

(Continued on page 5)

(GOBBLE – cont'd)

Yes, Lee had many lady friends, maybe 8-10 with whom he hooked up with regularly on Sunday morning at HyVee. This one Sunday in October we're wrapping up a reunion weekend at the store's restaurant. We were expecting Lee to join us. Well...he comes shuffling along with two loaded shopping bags of memorabilia, wearing so much Parsons garb he looked like '**Parsons Bill**' (**Bill LaRue**) minus the stubby cigar. You could see the ladies perk up with excitement upon his arrival. Lee shuffled on by, seemingly ignoring his admirers, but then he stopped abruptly, addressed the group and said, "Sorry ladies, I can't be with you today, can't you see I have out of town visitors?" He continued to shuffle over to our table with his bags of goodies while a cloud of silence dropped down upon Lee's lady friends.

The north side of town square was not known for silence. I'm not sure if Lee owned all the property on the north side, only the Coast to Coast store location, or just the half dozen apartments above. But three roommates, two German Shepherd dogs, and I occupied one of those units for a semester. It was party city. We had this humongous St. Patty's Day party with wall to wall people. There were so many revelers they even spilled out the windows onto the tar paper covered roof tops. The party was loud and rowdy by the standards of the day. The local police were called and that ended the festivities. Lee followed closely on their heels. He called all of his renters together and gave us the patented "you shouldn't do this and that" speech. Lee left, then the door swung back open. It was Lee. He peeked in, and with that mischievous coy grin on his face said, "The next time you have a party...invite me!"

Lee used to call me Big John. I guess anybody in the weight vicinity of Monty Versteeg (325 lbs) has the credentials to be called BIG...maybe that's why he remembered me...BIG. I did not need an invitation, and visited his home frequently. You never knew what to expect. One time he might be dressed like a model out of GQ Magazine. The next might find him racing around in his Jockey shorts, black socks and an unbuttoned and wrinkled shirt. His carpet was literally covered with news clippings, coupons, notes and post-its...only he knew the location and message of each piece. Traversing from one side of the room to the other was a slow and deliberate process, like tiptoeing through a landmine field, carefully watching every step. His house was wall to wall antiques and collectibles. Lee could have started his own museum and I did hear he donated nearly 100 items to the Carnegie Historical Museum several years ago.

But the greatest of Lee Gobble accomplishments and tales was recorded on the grounds of the Jefferson County Courthouse (JCC) in November of 2004. If you knew Lee you'll remember this story well. As the story goes, the steeple atop the JCC was destroyed by a storm in 1949. His dad made him promise he would have the steeple restored before he died. Fifty-five years later, and after successfully raising the needed \$50,000, Lee completed the task. When asked if his father would be pleased, he replied, "Yes, but he would want to know....what took me so long?" At the dedication ceremony, Lee, then 89-years-old, brought mixed reaction and rolling eyes from the crowd with his comments. While pointing to the newly constructed 7 1/2 ton structure, he said, "I never thought I'd participate in another erection in my life!" Amidst a mix of stunned silence and laughter, **Mayor Ed Malloy** jumped in and said, "Lee, did I hear you right...ELECTION?...and that you would never participate in another ELECTION?" That was vintage Lee Gobble!!!

So....as we enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday season how can we ever forget this man... He was our store, our employer, our landlord, our friend, and helping hand to so many. We remember his patented signature - ggg (gobble, gobble, gobble)....and his popular proclamation confirming, "This turkey ain't done yet!" Well, he was right! Through rain, sleet, snow and sunshine, Lee T. Gobble, the statute, will stand forever on the grounds of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. Looking east, wearing his Parsons College sweatshirt beneath his sports jacket, with his right arm held high, pointing to the sky, and to the (structural) erection he created...the legend lives on...we will never forget Lee T. Gobble!!

Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors

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William "Biff" Kummer 1-715-453-2825
Kay McPherson Ferguson KFerg2@cox.net

Ray Ham, Jr. irham@windstream.net

Bet you didn't know?? By John Braidwood '68

As it turns out, Parsons College was not the first college to surface in Fairfield, Iowa. Its predecessors were **Fairfield University**, founded in 1854, and was located where the Elks Lodge is today. Fairfield University closed its doors in 1867 from the lack of student enrollment resulting from the Civil War. A second school, **Fairfield College**, was established under a new charter but also closed its doors. The college went down in 1874 due to financial problems caused by the depression following the Civil War. The very next year **Parsons College** was founded. Parsons, as we all know, prevailed through a myriad of good and difficult times. Sadly and regrettably in 1973 it came to an end, closing its doors two years shy of its 100th year anniversary.

The Parsons story started in Williamstown, Massachusetts in 1793. **Lewis Baldwin Parsons** watched the conception and building of Williams College. He thought to himself if I ever achieve financial success, I would like to build a Presbyterian college under my name. Lewis went on to become a very successful business man. In his will, he stated the following: "I do therefore...give and bequeath the residue of my estate...to be...expended in forwarding and endowing an institution of learning in the State of Iowa." Lewis B. Parsons died in 1855 and the subsequent years of the Civil War postponed his wishes. But on December 11, 1874, his son and executor, General **Lewis Baldwin Parsons**, agreed to build a college in his fathers name in Fairfield, IA, providing the city could raise \$27,000 (approximately \$760,000 today) in two weeks to match his offer. Miraculously, the residents of Fairfield rallied successfully. And now, you know the rest, or if you choose, the beginning of the story.



H&W Dorm/Commons 1958-61



Carnegie Hall – Dean's Offices



Fry-Thomas Fieldhouse 1958



Howard Dorm Expands 1962-67

The genius of **Millard G. Roberts'** "Parsons Plan" stretched the college to its' limits, his plan included hiring the best college professors possible, paying them well, hiring student recruiters, and a publicity agency, all of which ultimately brought in students so fast that college dorms split at the seams causing college officials to go door to door looking for housing. While students flocked in, more buildings went up: the **Fry-Thomas Field House** in 1958; the **Horner-Weissenburger Dormitory & Commons**, 1958-61; the **Madeline Wright Memorial Library** and **William G. Wright Science Complex**, 1963; **Hinkhouse Hall of Social Sciences**, in 1964; the **James M. Camp Student Center** in 1965; and living quarters varying from the enlarged **Howard Dormitory**, 1953-1962-1966, to **The Quads** 1963-1967. The old bible building (Parsons Hall) became offices for the President. The old library, renamed **Carnegie Hall**, was remodeled into Deans' offices. **Fairfield, Ballard** and **Ewing Halls**, all or in part, turned into faculty offices. Amazingly, by 1966, Parsons enrollment had reached a pinnacle of 5,200 students.

Among the printed media that carried the Parsons story triumphantly were: the "Rotarian", "The College that Pays its Way" (Oct. 1960), "Better House & Gardens", "Small Town College With Big Ideas" (Nov. 1960), "Campus USA" (October 1961) and "Time Magazine", "The Academically Average" (August 1960). Robert's was a tireless writer and orator, speaking to audiences throughout the country and promoting his cause. Dr. Robert Tree who accompanied him periodically was increasingly impressed with Robert's energy, enthusiasm, and supreme oratory skills. "When Roberts spoke, people listened!"

Dr. David Boroff of New York University described him as a pudgy, flamboyant, tireless crusader, "Roberts has the glad-handing manner of a Chamber of Commerce president, the force of a bulldozer, and the guile...of a snake oil salesman." The students called him "Doc Bob" and the faculty joked about his elegant office as the "Cloud Room" but they all knew who ran the college. Little authority filtered out of Robert's hands. He would not tolerate opposition or even criticism. He ousted many faculty rather than grant them tenure. Remarkably, by the years 1966-67 only 13 ranked faculty members had been with the college more than five years.

A sobering thought ... this year Parsons College would have been 142 years old!

Memories Of A Local Police Officer - By Dave Neff '69...

Roy Eubanks was an Iowa Highway Patrol Officer during the heyday of Parsons College. He is still very active and on the move as he approaches his 80th birthday this year.

“My State Patrol car was sitting outside on North D Street. The next morning the red light on top was gone. So were the 2 license plates. Years later someone sent me a photo of those 2 items. They were on a Corvette.”

“A Parsons College student by the name of **Ron Cummings** used to ride with me on Patrol and kept me advised of what was going on.

“I was a State Trooper in Fairfield. I had many dealings with the Parsons College students. They were good, fun-loving kids, ornery, but most people are at that age. “I let more off the HOOK than I gave tickets to. Good Times...Good Memories.

“**J. Roy Myers** was with the Fairfield Police Department at this same time. He is still very active in the Fairfield community and recently has been delivering flowers for a local flower shop.

“It was June and Parsons College Graduation had just completed and there were two young men who had just graduated and he chased them in his squad car as they were riding a motorcycle in the nude. The apartment house residents where they started their journey were saying, ‘Which way did they go’? West on Grimes Street and the chase began.

“J. Roy and Norma lived on East Adams at the time. Some college students were trying to evade the law and just happened to choose the Myers residence and drove up their driveway and into the back yard. The Myers garden was freshly planted and this one student’s car got stuck in the garden.



No pine trees from Courtney’s Garage on this float but what a crafty 1st place entry - “The Jolly Green Giant” – by Turner House.

“Homecoming Parade, J. Roy was on duty and he notices all the beautiful pine trees on one of the floats. What a nice display. As soon as the parade was over a call came in from Courtney’s Garage that all of their pine trees from in front of the building were missing.

“Christmas time memory. **Bob Ryder** sold Christmas Trees at his Dairy Queen. The report came into the police department that two students were seen driving north toward campus with a tree tied to the top of their car. J. Roy chased them all the way to the quads.

“**Edd Felgar** was Night Sergeant from 9 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. and related the following memories. Edd can be found at McDonalds with a coffee group every morning around 8:00 a.m.

“There was traffic going 24 hours a day in Fairfield and hardly a night shift went by when something dealing with a Parsons student was not happening.

“My associate, J Roy Myers, told me that the kids in Central Park had gifted me a new name, Fast Eddy. So that night I cruised the square with my windows down and I could hear their chant ‘Fast Eddy, Fast Eddy, Fast Eddy’.

(Continued on page 8)

“If it feels good, do it!”

If you remember, I started out on Parsons security. I remember having to go with the Pizza Hut delivery boys to collect because the girls would remove their tops and meet them at the door to get out of paying. I also remember every Christmas the PD would radio about every night to watch for a car load of stolen trees headed back to campus. When I got on the PD, I remember the drug problems in the last few years. I also remember the St. Patrick's days in New Chicago and all the drunks and fights at the Den



Every day at THE DEN was an exciting adventure. Your might have even confused this bistro on 4th Street as STUDENT UNION #2. It filled early and emptied late. And in our day a PBR beer was ridiculously priced at 25 cents!!!

“Before I joined the police force I sold cars for Boldt Chevrolet. One student, **Biff Kummer**, came in and purchased a Willy’s Jeep. The next day I saw him driving down West Burlington with a keg of beer and a tapper in the back seat of the Jeep.”

The other officers of the Fairfield Police force were **Russell Simmons**, Chief, **Russ Schafer**, Detective and **Tom Baker**, Security and later, Chief of Police in Fairfield...

Next Issue – SPRING – 2018
News Deadline: NO DEADLINE

*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!!

Ray Ham, Jr. Chosen To Serve On Alumni Association Board

Ray Ham '73 has been unanimously selected to serve on the Parsons Alumni Association. He replaces **Dixie Hogan Hoekman**, who recently resigned. Ray arrived in Fairfield in the fall of 1970. Over the years, Ray has been an active supporter of our mission to perpetuate the legacy of Parsons College through



Ray Ham, Jr.

the written word of the Parsons College E-News. His support as a researcher and contributor has proven invaluable.

Plus, Ray’s assistance physically and financially with these annual Wall of Honor ceremonies has been most appreciated. He has virtually been **Dave Neff’s** right hand man. Neff said recently, “Any time it’s time to dig in with one of our projects, I don’t have to look far for help. Ray is always ready, willing and able. It is also a big plus to have another board member living here in Fairfield. A huge plus!”

Ray graduated from high school in York, PA. He started his college career at John F. Kennedy College in Wahoo NE, transferred and graduated from Parsons with the final class of 1973. For a short time he served as assistant women’s basketball coach for the Wildkittens. His professional career actually began as a recruiter for both JFK and Parsons. In recent years, Ray worked with law enforcement and private entities as a polygrapher and is now retired. Ray has also stepped up financially and underwritten the rental of the Sondheim Center for our Wall of Honor events for the last several years. He is the father of three children and, along with his wife Judy, resides in Fairfield. They have six grandchildren. The Parsons College Alumni Association CONGRATULATES Ray and welcomes him to the PCAA board...

Christmas Time And Parsons Go Together Like White On Rice!!!

Yo, everybody, it's the holiday season and time to get off the couch and head to page 21 to begin your Christmas shopping of Parsons College merchandise and memorabilia. As in past years, we have a vast selection of T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Hoodies, the Parsons lightweight jacket, hats, visors and now we even can brag of having the Parsons pennant available. Check out the assortment and follow the instructions on the last page of this E-Newsletter and surprise your relatives or friends with a gift from Parsons College...

Bovard Studio Offers Barhydt Stain Glass Windows To PCFF

The designer and installer of the Barhydt Chapel stained glass windows, Bovard Studios, has offered the excess window panels of the former chapel to the Parsons College Foundation Fund, free of charge.

Owner **Ron Bovard's** original intent was to sell the window panels but the pressing need for additional warehouse space for more important matters caused them to begin cleaning house. The PCFF will store the panels locally in a 10'x 24' storage unit at Norm's Storage on Glasgow Road for a period of time with hopes of selling them on the open market. The window panels would be an excellent buy for a church doing window renovation on a small or large scale, or to anyone with interest in a custom stained glass window. Bovard has promised to deliver the multiple crates to the storage location, and to work closely with the PCFF to help identify a potential buyer.

Each storage case is to have information secured to the outside of the case, or directly inside the case to identify the contents...

The Carnegie Historical Museum Project Moving Forward Slowly

While **Mark Shafer, Dr. Biff Kummer** and **Dr. Kay Ferguson** continue to work diligently, the Carnegie Foundation Museum Board is showing some signs of life.

Some of the topics discussed at their last couple board meetings included, increasing CHM memberships, hiring a PT employee to assist Mark, and to be paid by the city, the CHM future and 5-year plans, and submission of an application for a local option sales tax.

Dave Neff has agreed to draft a letter to the president of Indian Hills Community College in an attempt to learn their future plans for continued residence in the Carnegie building. Neff will also serve as liaison between the board and Parsons work with Winona's **Mark Peterson**. **Ray Ham** has agreed to backup Neff should he be absent...

Carol Sherman, Katherine Ayre Accept Invitations To Join E-News Staff

The PC E-News has invited two former alums to join the staff. **Carol Sherman '61** of Chapel Hill, NC, and **Katherine Ayre '69**, of Woodstock, GA, have expressed interest in coming aboard to assist with proofreading.

We welcome them with open arms and with their expertise in the professional world we are certain that their contributions will help us produce the top-level E-Newsletter our readers expect. "We are fortunate to have these two talented ladies join our staff," editor **John Blackstock** said.

Parsons College Alumni Website

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

(For information as to how to access this site, how to use this site, and how to pay to enroll and become a member, CONTACT KEN RICE at Kfarm12@aol.com

It's a WINNER!!

When two respected and well-known Parsons College alums and Wall of Honor recipients, **Dr. Kay Ferguson** and **Vera Young**, were kind enough to point out to me an historic, leather-bound book at the Jefferson County Library Museum, I mentally jumped right out of my “History Major” shoes! Few knew of its actual existence. It was the official, 1875 - 1907 Parsons College Student Registry. It is on display thanks to Dr. Kay and Museum Curator, **Mark Shafer**.



Virtually none of us beginners knew it existed. Many always wondered how early colleges and businesses kept records. How many students did Parsons College have in its very first class as well as continuing classes? What could be more important to every Parsons College alumnus today than an original list of students who were admitted during Parsons first thirty-two years?

Our honored alma-mater commenced its student/teaching existence under extremely humble circumstances. Other than the unreliable railroad service, personal transportation in 1875 was relegated to horse, horse and buggy/wagon, bicycle and on foot. Dr. Kay was the perfect alumnus to uncover this storied, leather-bound college registration book. She herself hailed from Ollie, Iowa, a small community northwest of Fairfield. Its population is currently listed at 163!

Due to college-related activities and library hours, I was not able to photograph every page of students nor count the enrollment. I plan to in the future. Perhaps it is already listed in the official book, “Parsons - The First 50 years.”

Bless all students and alums who were admitted to Parsons College before us. As you will see, many were from Fairfield plus other Jefferson County towns. The Parsons Registrar listed almost all students alphabetically. FYI: By my tally, the student from the smallest town was student #36, Thomas Chambers of Hopeville, Iowa (situated on the map west of Highway 35 and south of Highway 34. Current approximate population: 30).

Thirty-five students were listed on September 8, 1875, number 36 on September 16 and number 37 on September 20. Will this official book tell any other interesting tales? We'll let you know!

(Note: If a student's first name spelling could not be confirmed, it was substituted herein with first name initial.)

PARSONS COLLEGE - FIRST 37 STUDENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. George Achison, Fairfield | 19. John William McCurdy, Pierceville |
| 2. J. Armstrong, Fairfield | 20. Christian S. McElliniry, Russell |
| 3. David C. Bradley, Centerville | 21. Mary Elizabeth McKee, Fairfield |
| 4. James A. Bradley, Centerville | 22. Nelson Oliver, Chicago |
| 5. Anna M. Campbell, Fairfield | 23. Fritz A. Ratcliff, Fairfield |
| 6. Frank Campbell, Fairfield | 24. Frank Reed, Fairfield |
| 7. Robert Campbell, Fairfield | 25. Anna Mary Rodgers, Merrimac |
| 8. L. R. Church, Fairfield | 26. Thomas C. Ross, Fairfield |
| 9. A. B. Clark, Fairfield | 27. William Graham Ross, Fairfield |
| 10. William Craig, Keokuk | 28. E. F. Simmons, Brookville |
| 11. Mary Ellen Dougherty, Fairfield | 29. Charles Walter Simmons, Brookville |
| 12. Samuel Alonzo Dravo, Fairfield | 30. C. F. Slagh, Fairfield |
| 13. David M. Helfinstin, Wooster | 31. Oscar Snook, Fairfield |
| 14. William Carey Howell, Keokuk | 32. Charles E. Stoner, Fairfield |
| 15. Samuel Light, Fairfield | 33. Ada A. Stoner, Fairfield |
| 16. Robert Loudon, Fairfield | 34. John Quincy Werts, Russell |
| 17. Jennie Mahon, Fairfield | 35. Joseph M. Whitham, Fairfield |
| 18. Eleanor S. McCune, Fairfield | 36. Thomas L. Chambers, Hopeville |
| | 37. Laura Beth Swan, Fairfield |

Parsons Alumni Survey Seeks Responses And Participation

This survey was designed for Alumni of Parsons College intending to field responses to provide guidance for future activity and to improve opportunity for alumni engagement in Association Activities. (*this survey and results were prepared and managed by Ed Longanecker*)

Mission: To promote and further the welfare and interest of the members of this Association; to stimulate and to broaden thought and to crystallize sentiment, to bring together intellectual life and the points of view of members, to encourage, promote, and support an Alumni Association designed to coordinate communication and stimulate interest in reunion affairs, in which they may hold meetings.

At the direction of the board of directors, a 4 page 12 question questionnaire designed to determine interest in expanding involvement in alum activity, including serving on our board was issued to our members. With our current list of 1050 members the survey yielded a 68% response rate with an average time spent completing survey of 5 minutes. While the survey engine, Survey Monkey, one of the lead survey software engine available, provides a great amount of data, we have chosen to simply summarize the results here. Most of our newsletter recipients received the survey and had multiple opportunities to respond. But a word of caution in interpreting these results. While the board felt that the data was of value in planning for our future, one must be careful not to assume that the results are all inclusive because they are not. Many questions were skipped, some foils did not allow for clarity of questions or at least the response desired, so were skipped, but although not published here and of great value were the comment sections. Most questions encouraged a comment or remarks. Some questions were skipped or clicked through, and some sections were avoided. Of interest, because this survey was email and name specific, we were able to examine each respondents comments made which also provided valuable insight. From the 98% that responded to the **leadership involvement question** we were able to contact them for further clarity on their interests.

The survey allowed us to remind respondents to start and complete the questions. Invitations were repeated 6 times both for non-respondents to partial complete respondents. The prompted opportunity enable many respondents to complete the questionnaire.

The sophistication of the survey allowed us to track who responded, to what extent they responded, opted out, and completed the survey. And allowed us to send, reminders to those who needed completion as well as thank you to those who did. (*12 Questions – 4 Pages*)

A MESSAGE FROM NANCY:

"We've all taken different paths in life, but no matter where we have gone, we've taken a little of each other everywhere with us. Please join us in helping to keep the spirit and the memory of Parsons College alive, and the contacts and connections to old and new friendships active and on-going. Remember, a new friend is valuable and old friends are priceless. Please send us the names and contact information of any newly located alumni."

Survey Invitations

- 1,426 opened (64.1%)
 - 397 unopened (17.9%)
 - 180 bounced (8.1%)
 - 1,164 clicked through (52.4%)
 - 220 opted out
 - 686 complete (64.8%)
 - 372 partial (35.2%)
- 1,058 TOTAL RESPONSES**
2,223 TOTAL INVITATIONS (*mailed including reminder repeats*)

(Continued on page 12)

Q1 – A- From the survey it showed that the majority of those responding came from the class year of 1961-'70 with 70%; 1971-'73 with 20%.

Q2 - In which geographic location do you currently reside? A- As one might guess, the most responses came from the northwest, southeast and midwest nearly 70%.

Q3 - While attending Parsons College, did you belong to a sorority, fraternity or, independent group?

A- Respondents indicated 12 % fraternity; 9 % sorority; 39 % no affiliation; 38% independent.

Q4 - I am enthusiastic and supportive of the Parsons College Alumni Association Mission. (Written at top of page): A- 77 % of the respondents answered agree and strongly agree.

Q5 - How well does the Association's activities meet your needs? A- Of the respondents very to somewhat well were the lead responses with a combined 75%; 17% indicating extremely well.

Q6 - Have you ever served on any board of directors? A- Regarding this leadership question 38% had no experience on a board, but 26% are currently serving on a board(s) and 37% indicated combined responses being willing and able and expressed interest in serving.

Q7 - I am interested in sharing my talents and expertise in Parsons' Alumni activities: A- 100% of the respondents agreed with this foil. (n 98)

Q8 - If answering yes to the questions above, which of the areas of involvement would you be interested and willing to provide guidance with: A- While many skipped this question, 98 did not and offered to participate in the categories below. Many of the respondents are retired, some unable to travel, etc. The Board was encouraged with those that did offer to participate and it is from this group that we expect some of our future leadership.

ANSWER CHOICES– (of 98 respondents 24% indicated interest in more that one of the following:

| | |
|--|--------|
| – | 24.49% |
| <i>a. Writing articles or retrieving articles for our newsletter 27%</i> | 24 |
| – | 34.69% |
| <i>b. Planning committee for the reunion 36%</i> | 34 |
| – | 36.73% |
| <i>c. Serve on the Alumni Board of Directors 38%</i> | 36 |
| – | 16.33% |
| <i>d. Serving on a committee to help with the development of our Carnegie Museum Project 18%</i> | 16 |
| – | 14.29% |
| <i>e. Help with communications including email list management 18%</i> | 14 |
| – | 11.22% |
| <i>f. Help with funding projects for the Alumni Association 9%</i> | 11 |
| – | 11.22% |
| <i>g. My area (s) of interest is/are not listed here.17% (Clarified 11 for many of the 17% in their comments and remarks).</i> | |

(Continued on page 13)

(SURVEY – cont'd)

Q9 - How likely are you to recommend the Parsons College Alumni Association and its activities to other Parsons attendees and graduates?

Q10 - Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

Q11 - What is the best way to connect with you regarding your answers to this survey?

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Personal Email</i> | 79.76% (67) |
| <i>Home Phone</i> | 2.38% (2) |
| <i>Cell phone</i> | 22.62% (19) |
| <i>Real Mail</i> | 4.76% (4) |

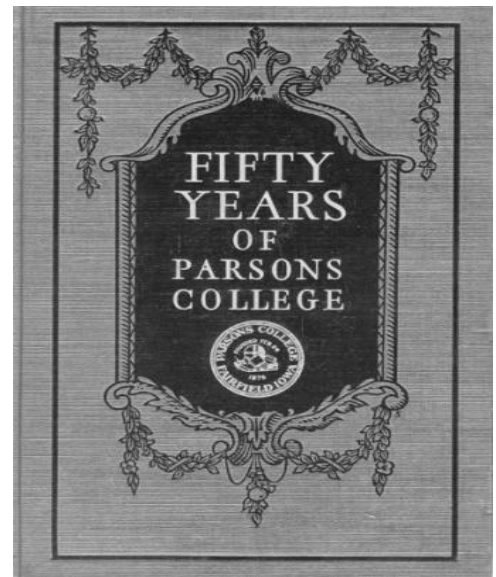


From time to time the Board may decide to use a survey format again. We appreciate all that did contribute and grateful for those who offered to assist in our future activity



Courtesy of Dennis Marandos '69

Now Available on Amazon



This exciting book paints the picture and tells the story of the first 50 Years of Parsons College and was written by Willis Edwards Parsons. At last check it was available on Amazon for \$11.95.

CHRISTMAS GOODWILL

**As We Approach This Holiday Season,
Is There Any Rhyme or Reason**

**Why The Goodwill Shouldn't Abound?
To And Through Us The Whole Year Round**

Lee Kane '55

NEWS YEAR'S CHEER

**Have a Cool Yule, and A Cheer Year.
Toast Each Other With Wine and Beer.**

**Everything Will Be Just Fine.
When We Sing Auld Lang Syne!**

Lee Kane - '55

Traveling Back 2,000 Miles To Visit A Special Friend! By Hank Trenkle '65

We called Frank Schmidt "Otto." Why? Possibly because he drove a little shit wagon known as a Ford Falcon. Or, possibly because of his German heritage. For the rest of this narrative, I shall refer to him as "Otto." He had a ready smile, dark hair, an athletic build and was always ready to help someone in need. He combed his hair back in the style of Fabian Forte, a heartthrob of the early '60s. Early on, he was called, "Fabian" as he possessed the singer's good looks.



L/R: Mickey Tailaferro, Frank "Otto" Schmidt and Hank Trinkle.

My first conversation with him: "Hey Trink, can I borrow your basketball?" I woke from my afternoon slumber, top bunk, Leggett Hotel, room 207, Fairfield, Iowa. "Yea, sure, it is under the bed."

The Leggett Hotel was a "dorm" for Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa, fall 1960. The college enrollment had increased to double the previous semester and was now close to 1,500 students. The college had garnered some hotels and a gymnasium to be used as dorms.

My next encounter with him was on the second floor of the hotel. He had been assigned a broom closet as his "dorm" room. The room was approximately 15 feet long and 8 feet wide. I was in the hallway and apparently, he did not care for this accommodation. He had just returned from the Town and Country saloon and the effects of beer were clearly evident. He punched his fist through the drywall, creating a large hole, the exact circumference of his fist. He then stated, "I have never done anything like this before." He did not seem perturbed as he had a large smile on his face.

Otto loved sports, especially baseball. Growing up in Yonkers, New York, he followed the path of his father and was a diehard Brooklyn Dodger fan. I soon realized I could really "piss him off" criticizing his beloved Dodgers. "Hey Otto, Jackie Robinson does not deserve to be in the Baseball Hall of Fame. His skills are not that great. If he gets in the "hall" it will only be because he is considered to be the first Negro (the idiom used in the early '60s) to play in the big leagues. Even this is a misnomer. The first Negro was Fleetwood Walker who played in the 1890s and used the guise of being an American Indian."

Hearing this, he got "hot," and started quoting statistics and elaborating on Jackie's skills. I succeeded in my mission of creating a fun argument and watching his face turn red with neck veins clearly showing.

I soon learned Otto had excellent baseball skills. His skills were so great that the Milwaukee Braves had offered him a contract. However, his mother sidetracked this possibility by insisting he go to college.

He first attended Springfield College. His grades were "not so hot." His father, from the old country, asked, "What does a "D" mean, dumb?" "Na dad, nothing to worry about was Otto's reply."

(Continued on page 15)

PEIRA YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE

The following yearbooks are available through *Ed Longnecker* at: emlong2@iowatelecom.net

1968, 1967, 1966 (supplement), 1965, 1964, 1960, 1951, 1950, 1948, 1947, 1946, 1944, 1943, 1942, 1941, 1940, 1938, 1930, 1928, 1927, 1924, 1921, 1917, 1914, 1912, 1911, 1909, 1908.

Look back into the early years and history of Parsons with a yearbook from yesteryear!!

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
The 10th Annual & FINAL
WALL OF HONOR
CEREMONY
will be at 10:00AM,
Saturday, October 6, 2018
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center
BE THERE! PLAN NOW!!
DON'T MISS IT!

(TRAVELING – cont'd)

Playing ball with him at the local high school field, he was the pitcher and I the catcher. “Give me a sign!” I gave him a sign, an erect middle finger. “God dammit, give me a sign,” he insisted. To which I replied, “I just did.”

Otto and I lived with 2 others in a “shotgun” house (if you fired a shotgun through the front door, the blast would exit through the back door, a straight line from the front door). This house could best be described as “a dump,” even before we moved in. The house was adjacent to an alley. We loved alleys! From our back door, walking down the alley we could enter the back door of “the hall,” the Elite Billiard Parlor.

Entering the hall one spring day, Otto and Hersh were playing pool. “Hello degenerates,” I stated. “If there are any degenerates here, it is you Trenkle,” was Hersh’s reply.

Otto was wearing some slick dark blue slacks that I coveted. “Hey, Otto, how much for the slacks?” “Five dollars and they are yours.” “Deal.” I wore these slacks until they attained a shine that only older slacks obtain. I don’t know what happened to them. I think they disgusted my mother and she threw them out.

Otto loved Hellmans mayonnaise.

“Hey Trink, as you are going to the store, get me some Hellmans mayonnaise, make sure it is Hellmans, don’t forget, Hellmans.”

“No problem, Otto.”

Of course, I made a special effort to get the Kraft brand.

“God dammit, I told you Hellmans.”

“No Otto, you said Kraft, I wouldn’t forget what you said.”

Hearing my retort, he grabbed the Kraft jar and promptly marched out the back door, down the alley and exchanged the Kraft for Hellmans.

Parson’s baseball coach heard that an outstanding baseball player was on campus. Accordingly, he would occasionally visit our house to ask Otto to join the school’s team. He had no desire to play for the Parsons nine. The reason? He stated he would rather play with his friends on our championship, undefeated softball team, The Rock Island Nine. Why this name? Don’t ask.

The spring semester of 1963 found Otto needing to pass all his courses to graduate and leave school. It was imperative that he leave school immediately. His father had died and he was needed at home to assume control of the family business, The Ornamental Iron Shop. Thus, extreme pressure presented itself to graduate on time. One huge barrier – a course in statistics, a very difficult subject. Otto studied for the final, I did not. Why study when the subject matter would be even more confusing? We arranged for Otto to sit in front of me and I would “scope” (copy) off his paper. When we got to the room to take the test, a huge problem presented itself. The test was ESSAY. Holy shit, now what do we do? It is almost impossible to “scope” off an essay test.

The blue books were handed out for the essay test. I could not see much off Otto’s test booklet so I kept saying, “Otto, Otto, I can’t see what you have written.” Without saying a word and at great risk, Otto turned around, grabbed my test booklet, and began writing. He then turned around and put my test booklet on my desk. I received a passing grade in statistics, a course I knew absolutely nothing about.

The “move” I outline above shows what kind of a guy Otto was and is. If he was caught doing my test, he would not have graduated and would have had to leave campus with no degree as he had to take over the family business. So, when people ask me, was it worth it to drive 2,000 miles round trip in 72 hours to see a great friend for only 1 hour and 45 minutes, I tell them, “Hell yes it was and I would do it all over again.” Otto is a special person, especially to Mickey Taliaferro and myself who made the journey with me. There are few Otto's out there but I had the good fortune to know one of them...

THE ALUMNI WRITE...

Darcy Mellen-Sullivan, PC'72 writes... Several weeks ago I would have been enjoying my Maid-Rite at the Elks Lodge in Fairfield. Not a day has gone by that I haven't reflected on that wonderful Wall of Honor weekend. Thank you so very much. I cannot imagine the hours, emails, phone calls, etc., that you invested to make it all possible, preserving some more of the history. The link to the live stream was great. Jack (my husband) got to show it on our son's big screen TV, and our grandsons thought it was pretty neat seeing Grandma and Grandpa on TV!! Please thank **Sheri Neff** as well. We know it took a village to pull this off...and we appreciate it. Go Wildcats!!!

Sig, PC'69 & Bill Moore, PC'71 write... Well...there are really no words that express how wonderful the Parsons Wall of Honor ceremony was. We were so very impressed with everything!! We had never attended before as we were usually out of town, had my mom, or did not think we would know anyone. The speakers and honorees were all amazing and made us "very proud" to be grads of Parsons. Beyond the great speeches...I am a bit of a detail person and loved the stage setting with the neat chairs, the large Parsons emblem, the emblem on the podium. I felt as though we were at a huge university. We know all the hard work you all put into this and want you to know it, was "over the top" for us!... Thank you!!!

Zilpha Woods Grooms, PC'60 writes... zilpha60@gmail.com> As time goes by fewer and fewer alums are responding from our era. Tom and I loved Parsons and have deeply regretted the problems that created its demise. We had great confidence in Dr. Roberts but he made some real mistakes. We miss the college greatly...

Richard Barton, PC'66 writes... It is with sincere and heartfelt gratitude that I thank the committee members for the unbelievable honor of being selected into the 2017 group of inductees for the "Wall of Honor" for Parsons College. I appreciate the time and effort all of you spend in the decision-making process on behalf of the inductees. I also commend you for your continuing efforts in keeping the memory of Parsons College alive and well for all of us. Thank you very much!!!



Dave Best – Celebrating 90th

Dear Friends and Family of **Dave Best**, my name is **Lois Best-Mercier** and for those of you that don't know me, I am one of Dave's daughters. My Dad turns 90 on December 15th! We are having a celebration/open house at Dave and Ginny's home in The Villages, Florida, on December 16th. We hope that you will join us in making the day memorable by sending a story, memory, and/or any pictures you may have. We will include them in a book we're creating of "Best" memories. Please email anything you want to share to: loismercier@hotmail.com or mail by December 1 to: Lois Best-Mercier, 863 Great Oaks Blvd, Rochester, MI 48307, or call: 248-755-2986. Please let me know if planning to attend...

Larry Litwin'67 (larry@larrylitwin.com) writes... You guys amaze me with all your hard work and dedication. By the way, while all of the honorees are most impressive – as is always the case -- how about Frank Falks (football star, NCAA and NFL coach)? You are correct: WOW! I remember him so well from doing (announcing the football) games. I had no idea of his stellar, post-Parsons career as a NCAA and NFL football coach, and the fact that he was a double-major, including biology. All 10 (Wall of Honorees) were great choices. Thank you!!

Walt Samans'62 (walt@samans.com) writes... You guys are doing a bang-up job! I enjoy reading the comments from our classmates, graduates and faculty. The articles about the history of Parsons are among my favorites as they relate just how Parsons went from a small (broke) school to extra large, to bankrupt, and out of business. It's sad to read the closing articles as I remember how excited I was to be accepted to Parsons and the (great) experiences I had while in Fairfield...

Zeta Theta Gamma (Sig Eps) Brothers “Keep On Keepin’ On!”

For the past few years, a small group of men who attended Parsons College in Fairfield have been meeting for lunch or breakfast on a somewhat regular basis, every month or two. All are fraternity men, having belonged to Zeta Theta Gamma group which later became the Sigma Phi Epsilon National Fraternity. We hail from greater Des Moines area down to Ottumwa. Since Pella is a midway point between the two cities, that location has been the site of most our recent gatherings. All of us graduated during the 1955-1958 time span. As a group we were on various Parsons' athletic teams (football, basketball, baseball, and track). So that gives us an abundance of common subject matter on which to reminisce when we get together. Because all of us are in our 80's, we will likely not continue meeting as regularly as we have but, thus far, health issues have not slowed us down all that much. One thing our group is united in the camaraderie we enjoy with one another. We were good friends 60-65 years ago and we remain close friends today. Our fraternity membership, back in the 1950's bound us together then and those bonds are still strong today. The fellows' names are: **Dan Gullion, Lee Kane, Bob Spencer, George Long, Bob Vanderzyl, and Fred Bankus.** The late **Ron Kester** had also been a member of that group. Written by Fred Bankus and submitted by Lee Kane '55.

Sig Eps Roll Into The Quad Cities For Another Round Of Golf And Good Times!!



The men of Sigma Phi Epsilon are “keepin’ on, keepin’ on!” The annual Sig Ep golf outing which rotates each year to a new and different city location, gathered in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois on August 7-8. The boys spent two days whipping up on the links, sharing good times and enjoying a beverage of two. Sharing those good times were: L/R – **Bob Habetler, Dave Neff, Fred Ortiz, Hobie Bannister, Chuck “Butch” Downey, John Bankus, Jim Dilts and Larry Blixt.**

Lambda Chi’s Gather To Celebrate Bill Winger’s WOH Induction

Several of the Lambda Chi Alpha Brothers from Parsons traveled to Fairfield to help celebrate the Wall of Honor induction of **Bill Winger '64.** Friday evening Bill was joined at the Fairfield Country Club by several of his brothers and their wives and commenced the celebration of his recognition. Attendees included: **Ron Long '63, Don Samuelson '64, Rich Becker '64.** Also present were **Liz Findlay Long '63, Donna Hotaling Winger '64** and **Jeanne Samuelson.**



The Lambda Chi bros rally around WOH inductee Bill Winger. L/R: Ron Long, Winger, Don Samuelson and Rich Becker. Also present but not show were Liz Frindlay Long, Donna Hotaling Winger and Jeanne Samuelson.

(Continued on page 18)

Phi Sigs' Barton, Repass, Take Their Places On The Wall Of Honor



A proud bunch of Phi Sigs salute the Dick Barton and Frank Repass inductions to the Wall of Honor. L/R (sitting): John Blackstock, Dick Barton; (standing) Frank Repass, Eric Duffield and David Thompson. Not pictured: Dean Honnold and Rich Mentzer.

It was like old-home week for the men of Phi Sigma Epsilon who returned to Fairfield in October to witness the Parsons Student/Alumni Wall of Honor induction ceremony. Brothers **Dick Barton '65** and **Frank Repass '72** took their respective places on the Parsons Student/Alumni Wall of Honor, joining the distinguished group of honorees. The entourage of Phi Sig bros convened at the Fairfield Country Club Friday evening at Happy Hour and kicked off the weekend from there. In addition to Barton and Repass, the celebrating group included, **Eric Duffield '72**, **John Blackstock '64**, **Dean Honnold '62**, **Rich "Boomer" Mentzer '67** and **David Thompson '71**. Thompson was previously inducted to the Wall in 2016.

ATTN: GREEKS & SOCIAL CLUBS

We can't write it up and help you promote it if you don't send us the information! Daaaaaah!!!!

YULETIDE THOUGHTS

Here's To YOU During This Holiday Season.
With It's Pretty Sights and People Sneezin.
All the Goodies, and Aromatic Smells.
Sated Taste Buds, As The Appetite Swells.
The Tummy Expands, and The It Adjusts.
To All the Intakes That Become Musts.
Melodic Music Fills The Wintry Air.
As Peoples Feelings Show They Care.
In Action/Words, Linked Like Kind.
Harmony/Unison Aren't Hard To Find.
Yuletide Greetings Especially For You.
In All You Say and All You Do.
STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, INHALE IT ALL.
ENJOY A FESTIVE FREE HOLIDAY BALL.

Lee Kane '55



In Memoriam...



Edwin "Ed" Stater

Edwin "Ed" Stater, PC'58, age 81, of Fairfield, passed on November 8, 2017, at Sunnybrook Assisted Living in Fairfield surrounded by his family. Ed was born in Ottumwa, IA and married Sharon Kay Hudgell at Barhydt Chapel. They celebrated 55 years of marriage before she passed away in 2013. Ed served in the Iowa National Guard and was a 1st Lieutenant when discharged. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Parsons College and was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. Ed owned the John Deere dealership in Fairfield. He was a member of the Fairfield Rotary Club, Kaaba Shriner, Masonic Lodge, Elks and First Presbyterian Church. Ed is survived by his three children, seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and six siblings. A Memorial Service was held at the First Presbyterian Church...

Nancy Hendren Kirby, PC'66, 73, of Ocala, FL, passed away September 16, 2017. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. Nancy moved from Carmel, Indiana to Ocala, Florida in 1994. She attended Parsons College 1962-66 and Indiana University. Nancy was an active volunteer in her community in both Indianapolis and Ocala with Saint Vincent Hospice, Ocala McIntosh users group (Secretary) and Friends of the Freedom Public Library (Treasurer). She also spent much time assisting her husband with his duties in the Friendship Kiwanis Club. Nancy is survived by her loving husband Richard (Dick) Kirby, three stepsons, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A celebration of Nancy's life was held at Bella Cucina, Ocala, FL...

James Reynolds Root, PC'n/a 74, of Superior, IL passed away Aug. 10, 2017, at his home. A resident of Superior for the past year and former resident of Green River and Mount Morris, IL., James had been in ill health for the past eight months. He was born in Oregon, IL, attended the Mount Morris High School and was a graduate with the class of 1961. He also graduated from Parsons with a Bachelor's Degree in education. He married Carolyn Irene Dresden in Oregon, IL. James was employed by Quebecore for 27 years and retired in 2011. His interests included playing music on the guitar and trumpet, and he enjoyed attending church. Survivors include, his wife Carolyn Irene Root of Superior; one son, three daughters and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother. A celebration of his life was held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Green River, IL...

George Popkin, PC'70, of Moss Point, Mississippi passed away on September 26, 2017. George attended Parsons from 1967-'70 and was an active member of the Sigma Pi fraternity. No further information is available at this time...

(Continued on page 20)

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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 News-line, or George C. Jordan III.

Robert D. Brennan PC'68 of Grafton, WI passed away August 28, 2017. He was 73. Bob attended Milwaukee Country Day (University School of Milwaukee) and graduated from Parsons. As First Vice President of Brennan's Insurance Agency, Inc., he formed lasting relationships with his clients. Bob's quick wit and sense of humor will be missed. He is survived by his wife, Diann, one daughter and two granddaughters. A memorial visitation was held at the St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Cedarburg, WI...



Jim Higgins

James Morrow Higgins, PC'Adm, 88, of Fairfield, passed away August 30, 2017 at the Sunnybrook Assisted Living Center in Fairfield. Jim was born in Mt. Pleasant, IA and graduated Mt. Pleasant High School. He immediately joined the U.S. Army which eventually took him overseas to Frankfurt, Germany where he became a Chaplain's Assistant in the 97th General Hospital and met his wife to be, Carol Muscarelli. Jim was discharged in 1955 at the rank of Sergeant. He returned to Mt. Pleasant, worked for Stith & Devinger briefly before accepting a position at Parsons as a purchasing agent. When the college closed, he worked for NAPA and Right Away. Following retirement he began

making deliveries for the HyVee Pharmacy and did so for 20 years. Jim was active at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fairfield Country Club, Elks, American Legion and the Walton Club. His experience as a percussionist with the 421st U.S. Army band provided the base to carry on through retirement. Jim is survived by his five children, 13 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. The family was assisted by the Cranston family Funeral Home in Fairfield...

Elward C. Molley, PC'64-'68, passed away quietly at his home in Laurel, MD on November 11, 2017. Molley graduated with the Parsons Class of 1968. He received his M.A. degree in Math from the University of Michigan. Upon returning to his home in Washington, DC, Molley taught in the Prince Georges County Public School System for 40 years. He retired in 2008. Elward leaves to celebrate his life, two sons, a brother, a devoted ex-spouse, six grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. A memorial service will be held on December 9, 2017, 11:00 am at the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, 3000 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20019...

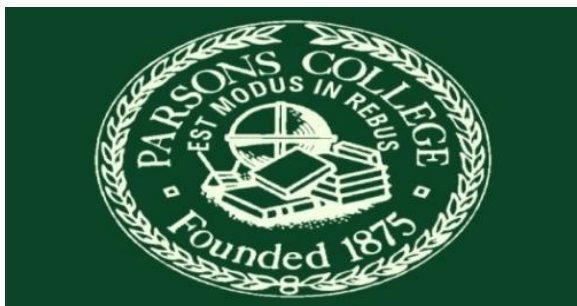


Elward C. Molley



Tim Deiters

Tim L. Deiters, PC'69-'73, of Ottumwa, passed away November 14, 2017 at Hospice House in Ottumwa. He was 65. Tim was born in Ottumwa and graduated Walsh High School where he was a gifted athlete and was later inducted into the Iowa Basketball Hall of Fame. He attended Parsons, played basketball and was named All-American. Tim was a hard working farmer all his life and enjoyed spending time with his friends at Club 41. He is survived by his wife Julia Wiley, with whom he spent the past nine years and was married June 3, 2017. Also surviving are two step-children, a sister a brother and a host of other relatives and friends. The Reece Funeral Home of Ottumwa assisted the family...



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 20 for more PC memorabilia).

THE PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA SHOP...

COLOR US COOL, GREEN & WHITE WITH MERCHANDISE FROM THE MEMORABILIA SHOP...

You've always wanted a **PARSONS COLLEGE PENNANT!** Now here it is!!! We're continuing our offering and ordering and shipping procedures with the actual producer 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 NOW, the NEW PARSONS PENNANT, at a reasonable prices. Here's how to order: **(SEE BELOW)**



\$15.00



\$15.00



\$15.00



\$20.00



\$20.00



\$50.99



\$35.00



All HATS and VISORS \$15.00



\$15.00

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS:

Go to www.fairfieldlineinc.com – 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: neffacres@lisco.com.