



# Parsons College E-News

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Spring 2013

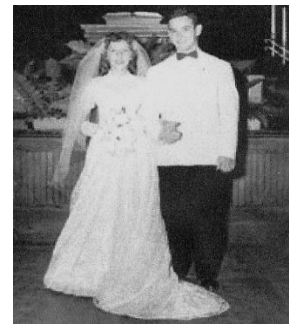
## Dedication ceremony of Barhydt Chapel's stained glass window panels to be held at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, April 28



*This beautiful restored stained glass window featuring two angel figures was originally installed in the Barhydt Chapel on the campus of Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa. The late Gothic-style chapel was given by Theodore W. Barhydt and dedicated in October of 1912. The rippled angel wings are L.C. Tiffany glass, and the delicately painted faces, hands and feet contain multiple glass layers. When the chapel was taken down in 2001, several members of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center board salvaged this window, along with other components, and had their architect design a space to incorporate the piece after the facility was built. The stained glass remained in storage for 11 years at the Bovard Glass Studio. In 2011, this local company was hired for restoration and a state preservation grant was secured for partial payment. Total cost to restore the 168" x 150" section of the original window was \$75,411. Thanks to the generous donations from individuals, including Parsons' alumni, Greater Jefferson County Foundation grant, City of Fairfield's LOST funds, Fairfield Art Association and Iowa's Historical Resource Development Program, the window is now in its' new home at the FACC, in Parsons Alumni Hall...*

### ***Parsons Alumni/Students, Friends invited to celebrate***

Let the celebration begin! Parsons College Alumni/Students and Friends are invited to return to Fairfield to help celebrate the new life of our beautiful 100-year-old window in its new home. The Dedication Ceremony will be held at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center, 200 North Main Street, Fairfield, Iowa. A Barhydt Chapel pipe organ concert will be performed in the Sondheim Auditorium by Dr. Lynda Hakken following the ceremony at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will follow. A Barhydt wedding photo display will be unveiled and you are invited to participate. If you were married in the Barhydt Chapel and would like to share a photo or two and have it included in the wedding photo display, we invite you to scan and email those photos ASAP to Ms. Suzan Bates Kessel at: [suzan1252@aol.com](mailto:suzan1252@aol.com) .



*Robert Moyer, PC'53 and Carol Ramsay met at Parsons College and were married at Barhydt Chapel in the 1950's.*

## **Fairfield has become easy access...especially if you own a jet plane**

Rated 7<sup>th</sup> Best Small U.S. Town to Visit

*(Editor's note: It's happening in Fairfield, Iowa! Fairfield was just listed in Smithsonian Magazine's latest 2013 issue as the "7<sup>th</sup> Best Small Town to Visit in the U.S." Gettysburg, PA topped the list of towns under a population of 15,000. For more information google Smithsonian 2013 Best Small Towns).*

Planning a trip back to Fairfield? Well, if you're thinking of coming by train forget it. That service was discontinued years ago. Considering traveling by bus? No way, too long and your time is too valuable to spend on a bus.

How about an airplane ticket to Des Moines or Cedar Rapids. Sounds cumbersome, right? But it's not. You'll be delighted to know that you can fly into Cedar Rapids and streak to Fairfield via their new four-lane highway system in about an hour and not even incur the disruption of one traffic signal. You can be in Fairfield from Des Moines in just under two hours, zipping along at 70 mph on a four-lane highway and (again) not experience one traffic light.

And if that's not upscale enough, and you're one of the extremely successful alumni/students who own (or has access to) your own plane, you will be delighted to know that since the closing of Parsons, Fairfield has replaced the old cow pasture runway south of town and now offers a very modern airport just north of town.

This new facility features a 5,500 feet long concrete, all weather runway. It can, and does, handle small to medium sized jets. In fact, just recently, Oprah Winfrey flew into Fairfield to do a special show with her entourage in her enormous passenger jet.

Alas, now you can even avoid Cedar Rapids and Des Moines and fly directly into Fairfield on your own agenda. If this tweaks your interest, then great. Airport Manager Robert Lyons, with and advanced phone call, can arrange a rental car and ground transportation upon arrival.

So whether your mode of transportation is car, bus or plane, regardless, Fairfield is easy access. Having said that, we invite you to consider flying in and joining us for the Baryhdt window dedication, April 28, and the All-Class Reunion and Wall of Honor ceremony, October 4-6.



*This once lively and bustling train depot which served as the "getaway" and "drop-off" station for so many Parsons students over the years is now a memory. The California Zephyr passenger train no longer stops at Fairfield, but we understand there is a rumor spreading that a movement is gaining momentum to restore permanent service.*

## **Etch your name in Parsons College History!**



## **Buy A Brick!**

Help support our mission to  
preserve the memory of  
Parsons College – **BUY A BRICK!**  
For details and information call  
Dave Neff at 641-919-4640 or email  
at [neffacres@lisco.com](mailto:neffacres@lisco.com)

## ***Gala Parsons College All-Class "Welcome Back Reunion" Planned for October...Wall of Honor ceremony included...***



### ***Pre-registration is now available... Hope to see you there!***

The Parsons College Foundation Fund (PCFF), in conjunction with the Parsons College Alumni Association (PCAA), has announced plans for a Parsons College Student/Alumni All-Class Reunion to be held in Fairfield, IA, October 4-6, 2013. The Wall of Honor ceremony will highlight a three-day weekend of events. Tickets for all of the weekend activities (Friday night, Saturday lunch and Saturday night will be available upon registration for \$75.00).

Student/alumni registration opens at 3:00 p.m. Friday at the Fairfield Country Club (909 East Harrison), followed by a "Welcome Back to Fairfield" reception with beer, wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Other activities going on in Fairfield, and around the town square include, "1<sup>st</sup> Friday Art Walk" and the kickoff of Oktoberfest, complete with beer, German food and a polka band.

Reunion and Wall of Honor registration will continue Saturday morning at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center (200 N. Main) at 9:00 a.m.. The Wall of Honor ceremony begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Barhydt Chapel organ presentation and the unveiling of the plaques of this year's inductees (10) in Alumni Hall. A luncheon will follow at the Fairfield Country Club at 12:00 noon.

Carnegie Historical Museum Director **Mark Shafer** will throw open the doors to the museum's Parsons College collection (112 S. Court Street - 3rd floor) at 1:30 p.m. There is no charge to tour the museum and this visit is guaranteed to bring back some great memories.

A Saturday evening "Happy Hour", complete with beer, wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres, has been booked at the beautiful Walton Club on Walton Lake (5:30 - 7:30 p.m.). Also, it's highly possible a theater show at the Sondheim Center later that night may be another option.

The final event of the weekend is the optional "Farewell Breakfast" Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Hy-Vee Restaurant (1300 W. Burlington). This traditional gathering is totally informal and everybody is on their own.

If you're interested in attending, step one, call and make reservations at one of the following hotels/motels in Fairfield: (AmericInn - 2104 S. Main - 800.634.3444; Best Western/Fairfield Inn - 2200 W. Burlington - 641.472.2200; Super 8 Motel - 3001 W. Burlington - 641.469.2000; or Landmark Inn (the old Hunt Hotel) - 115 N. Main - 641.472.4152). A block of 25 rooms at \$89.99++ per night has been reserved at the AmericInn under 'Parsons Wall of Honor' for that weekend. Step two, contact **Dave Neff** ([neffacres@lisco.com](mailto:neffacres@lisco.com)) or **Nancy Wirtanen** ([nwirtanen@yahoo.com](mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com)) to obtain a registration form and pre-register now for all activities and events..

### ***Parsons College Alumni Website***

*Check out our FREE 3-DAY trial viewing of the Parsons College Alumni Association website at: [www.parsonscollegealumni.com](http://www.parsonscollegealumni.com).*

**It's a WINNER!!**

## Overseas study program...another Parsons College first!

*“Semester Abroad Program” featured three months of “travel, study and home-stay experiences”*

*Ed Miksch, PC’62*, was part of another Parsons first and he has shared a few photos and details of that experience with E-News. A group of 27 Parsons students and college representatives became the first of any college in the U.S. to venture abroad on a “travel, study and home-stay experimental” Semester Abroad Program. The group sailed out of New York by boat on the Rotterdam in February of 1961 and returned at semester’s end in May.

During their stay they visited 10 countries including, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, France and England. Visiting those European countries was fascinating but most would tell you that perhaps the richest parts of their trip were spending five of those weeks living with families in Switzerland and Germany. In many instances, life long acquaintances and friendships were established.

Naples, Rome, Florence, Zurich, Konstans (Germany), Lausanne, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Cologne, Brussels, Paris and London topped the list of favorite cities.

The group was accompanied by Semester Abroad Program Director *Marty Wearin Rasmussen* and *Tib and Vera Young*. The student roster included, *Miksch, Pam and Pat Allred, John Champlin, Eugene Copeland, Carol Fousch, Carol Henderson, Morris Hilleary, Don Kirkpatrick, Nancy Kortkamp, Jim Mansen Yvonne Mealey, Sue Moffitt, Ruth Moorhead, Judith Norris, Ron Pech, Judith Powell, Agnes Rice, Larry Richards, Judy Smith, Larry Smith, Brian Stemm. Hardy Stewart, Don Stoldt, Bob Williams, Mike Witte and Joyce Wynn.*

The cost of the trip was \$700.00 per student and it’s reported that the college subsidized a portion of other expenses.

In 1962 a second group of students signed on to a very similar format of “travel, study and home-stay” and did a Semester Abroad. That group included Director *Marty Wearin Rasmussen, Foster and Anna Brenneman and Yvonne Mealey*. A few of the participating students who we were able to identify were, *Katinka Maloy, Jeni Baker, Steve Case and Larry Richards*. It is believed, but not confirmed, the program was discontinued after the 1962 trip.



*Above – Parsons students participating in the Semester Abroad Program gather at a lookout post high above the Neckar River in Heidelberg, Germany. Top - shows an 11<sup>th</sup> century Heidelberg’s castle standing in the background.*

**Next Issue – Summer 2013  
News Deadline is June 1, 2013**

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

*If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen  
[nwirtanen@yahoo.com](mailto: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!!***

## All-Class Reunion October 4-6, 2013...Register Now!!

## Parsons Logo Mat Now Available



*The Iris City Cleaners in Mt Pleasant, Iowa created a few of the decorative logo mats, centering Parsons College Logo, and presented them at the last reunion in Fairfield. "There have been several requests for this unique decorative mat and we decided to reproduce it and make it available to all Parsons alumni and friends," said Ed Longanecker, owner of the cleaners. The mat is 3x4 feet in dimension and manufactured of nylon pile fabric with a cleated nitrile rubber backing and a small black border. They are entirely washable and can easily be maintained in home laundry equipment on gentle cycle. They are perfectly suited for indoor entrance protection, a small rug in the den, game room or office. If interested in purchasing this piece of memorabilia you may contact Ed Longanecker via email [emlong2@iowatelecom.net](mailto:emlong2@iowatelecom.net), fax at 319-385-9707, or call 888 485 9707. The price is \$62.95 plus shipping.*

### Publication Information

**Publisher/Editor: John Blackstock '64**

[jblackstock@prodigy.net](mailto:jblackstock@prodigy.net) – 636-926-7881

**Advisor: Doug Marion '70**

[dougmarion@aol.com](mailto: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 your request to Nancy Wirtanen '73 at: [nwirtanen@yahoo.com](mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com) for consideration. E-News reserves the right to edit all material and downsize where necessary due to limited space. Opinions expressed by the writers do not necessarily represent those of E-News or the PCAA. The Parsons College Alumni E-News is not affiliated with the Parsons College Newslines or George Jordan III.*

## **FRANK CHALLANT, PC'68 JOINS PCAA BOARD**

The Parsons College Alumni Association (PCAA) is proud to announce the addition of **Frank Challant, PC'68**, to its board of directors. Frank hails from Winchester, MA, is married (Bonnie), has two children and three grandchildren.

While at Parsons, he was a trainer for the football team and spent much time taping ankles. Frank also was a member of the Alpha Chi Rho fraternity. In the 1970's he became trainer for the NBA Boston Celtics, once again taping ankles and doing physical therapy.



*Frank Challant  
(foreground)*

Along the way he collected two NBA Boston Celtics World Championship rings. He also served as trainer for the Boston Lobsters (World Tennis Association) and was assistant trainer for the New England Patriots.

In 1979 he made a career switch and became VP of Operations and Sales for a 10-store east coast furniture chain. Frank is currently retired and devotes time to the Boy Scouts of American and the Thompson Island Homeward Bound program of Boston. In October of 2012, Frank was inducted onto the Parsons College Student/Alumni Wall of Honor.

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### ***The PCFF will continue to offer Parsons College memorabilia***

A continuous barrage of orders for Parsons T-shirts, golf shirts and sweatshirts has led the Parsons College Foundation Fund to replenish a number of styles and sizes and continue to make these items available. Going forward you will be able to order the shirts via the information on the **ORDERING FORM** on the back page of this newsletter. These Parsons treasures make an excellent keepsake gift for any former Parsons student or alumni...

## Where Are They Now - Llewellyn Berry, PC'69??



Llewellyn "Lew" Berry

In 1968 or thereabouts, Llewellyn "Lew" Berry was News Editor of the 'Portfolio' newspaper. He needed a photographer for a story he was doing on a local boutique in downtown Fairfield. The photographer was unavailable and since he had always been interested in photography and taken pictures since he was 8-years-old, Lew pulled out his trusty Nikkormat FS and made the photos himself. After a quickie tutorial from the staff photographer on developing a roll of film, he was then off on a journey that has lasted 40 plus years.

Lew really enjoyed developing film, making prints and doing news photographs for the paper and began to look at the creative side. His first attempt was with Lee Thorpe, then Editor of the "Portfolio." Lew said, "I liked the sensitivity of the photographs and making visual statements. We walked all over town and it was fantastic. I did a collection I called, "An Alley Thing" which was a number of photos of the various alleys of Fairfield. By the time I left Fairfield and returned to my home in Washington, DC, I was producing photographs all the time.

In 1970, Lew stumbled into a Literary Arts Program job teaching creative photography twice a week. It was a shared time program for high school students who visited a rented Victorian townhouse in downtown Washington, DC. The students came daily from their neighboring high schools to take classes in fiction writing, film making, graphic design and creative photography. Lew said, "This went really well and I loved it. Previously I published a magazine called PanArts, which died a quick, but quiet financial death, so I was pleased to have another chance at publishing." The program was product oriented, meaning the students had to publish a literary magazine with student-written stories, poetry, graphic design and photography. "We made 8mm and 16mm films, submitted them and actually won film festivals," he said.

With journalism and grant writing experience in tow, Lew wrote a grant and created the Urban Journalism Workshop in DC Public Schools. They published a feature magazine similar to Newsweek and Time. This program educated and produced journalists, news writers, photographers, editors and producers of both film, photography and videos over the next 40 years and to this day.

Lew's work has been exhibited in Washington, DC and in Cuba. He's lectured and done exhibits in South Africa. He is currently working on a photo graphic interpretation of the Alexander Calder sculpture, 'Two Disks', which sits at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, DC, and will be preparing five new exhibits over the next two years. For more information regarding Lew's photography and his online fund-raising project, you may contact him at: [photolewie@aol.com](mailto:photolewie@aol.com).

## Mystery Quiz... The Question??

**Any idea as to the names of these two out of control rowdy roustabouts???**

*Here are your selections for this Spring's Mystery Quiz. We're looking for the names of these two seemingly rowdy visitors to Fairfield. Can you name them? As usual, the answer will appear in the next (Summer) issue of E-News...*



- A - Mickey & Roger**
- B - Chet & David**
- C - Phil & Don**
- D - Tom & Dick**
- E - Paul & Art**

## Looking Back... The Rose Bowl with Dr. Bob Tree



*The 1968 coaching staff, which led our Parsons Wildcats football team to play in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA, against Los Angeles State College included, (L to R): Paul Reed, Head Coach Wayne Williamson, Larry Blixt, Frank Falks and Daynor Prince.*

### Parsons played LA State College in Pasadena's legendary Rose Bowl

Yes, Parsons College played in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA. No, they did not play on New Year's Day. And no, they did not compete against the Big Ten or the Pac-8 (as they were known then). Our Parsons Wildcat squad, coached by **Wayne Williamson**, played a regular season game against Los Angeles State College on October 5, 1968. It so happened that the Rose Bowl was LA State's home field. Former marshal of the college, **Dr. Bob Tree**, attended the football game and shared with E-News his experience from that monumental day:

"It is the only time I have ever been in that iconic stadium. I, along with a handful of other Parsons supporters attended the game. With a seating capacity of over 100,000, we had no problem getting good seats. Our seats were excellent. We were right there on the 50-yard line on the visitors side of the field. Flanking both sides of our tiny, but proud group were acres upon acres of empty seats. Seated directly across the field from us were 2,000-3,000 loud and raucous LA State fans. They appeared to be miles away from us, because they too, were surrounded by acres of empty seats. At least when we hosted LA State in Blum Stadium, we had a full house, but weren't looking to fill 100,000 seats. The Rose Bowl encounter was a night game, the lights were on and the temperature was very pleasant. I still have a vivid picture in my mind of all those lights beaming down on that manicured field and those acres of empty seats.

"Earlier we had dinner with a number of our Parsons LA area alums and most of them came out to the game afterward, helping to swell our Wildcats rooting section to a robust gathering of about 50 backers. The team was seated on the field right in front of us. There may have been more Parsons players dressed out for the game than supporters in the stands. I doubt that they could hear any of our cheers, the deafening noise from across the gridiron had to have drowned us out. One cannot really appreciate the vastness of the Rose Bowl when seeing it overflowing with people on New Year's Day. You've got to be there, like I was, when it is nearly empty to understand the enormity of the facility. Some of the Wildcat standouts on that team were, **Rich Pavlisko, QB, Jim McKoy, RB, Vince Viglione, LB, and linemen Jerry Campbell, Mark Schaeffer and Roland Crivellaro.**

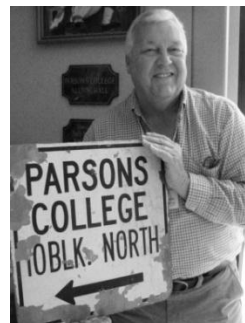
"The game was a good one, well played and hard fought, however, the Wildcats were outgunned, 29-12. But at least Parsons alums and friends can always boast that their football team played in the 'granddaddy' of all the bowls – the Rose Bowl - and there are very few other mid-western colleges that can make that claim. That, of course, was not Parsons last football game. Interestingly, the Wildcats final game ever, was played in Busch Stadium, St. Louis, MO, on a beautiful fall afternoon in the early 1970's. Another story for another issue," **Dr. Tree** concluded...

## Remember When... with Doug Marion '70...

Visiting Fairfield for seven days last October and assisting **John Blackstock, Dave and Sheri Neff, Dr. Robert Tree, Biff Kummer and John Braidwood** in the annual Wall of Honor ceremonies, et al – was great. Always a pragmatist and seeing things as they are, I was not expecting to leave town with anything other than knowing I did what many asked me to do, and that was to salute these super people for their leadership, direction and dedication. With the upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Parsons' closing causing dread among many alums I've talked to or received emails from, well, I say, "it is what it is." Personally, I hope to include another trip this year to Fairfield in my annual budget – to attend the October (4-6) All-Class Reunion, and to again salute the college I owe so much to and to salute the dedicated staff of mentioned people who do so much – on their own – gratis.

I know that the entire staff and committee agrees with me when I say that every Parsons alum has "open-arm, welcome back status" to the town of Fairfield and here in E-News. So if you think you don't matter, think again. You graduated from Parsons College and you do indeed matter....and you will, long into eternity.

I'd guess that many alumni can't return to Fairfield due to economics and/or having too much on their plate, etc. But what truly matters are alums reaching out to their past friends, including sorority sisters, fraternity brothers, social group friends, dorm pals, classroom chums, plus varsity or intramural sports teammates and buddies. We know you have many "Remember When" stories of your own. Some repeatable, some maybe not.



One of the truly grand highlights on my Facebook page and on my website is mentioning I am a Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa graduate. For the record, Parsons was the only undergraduate college I ever attended. Thanks to **O.B. Nelson** in 1968, I overcame being a slow reader with low comprehension and soon made Dean's List four semesters. Keeping my ego in-check, this was nothing compared to the gal I alphabetically sat next to in most of my Business classes. Her name was **Patti Martin**, she was an Alpha Gamma Delta from Pennsylvania who aced every class. I believe Patti graduated second or third in the Class of 1969. If I admitted to trying extra hard just to keep up with both she and her GPA, I'd be right-on. It's usually the small things that often mean a lot. And GEE, that was 45 years ago. Wow!!!

Having attended Parsons for three years, then working three years, then returning to Parsons for two more, I did always enjoyed talking to various faculty and staff members. I liked chatting with the Head of the Economics Department, **Howard Dorsett**, about macro and micro economics. He was a master at defending both and describing the immense ways and means of each. The Head of the History Department, **Ben Rogers**, was a truly magnificent man and lecturer. I always looked forward to his classes and sat in the front row. I know you, too, have a number of "Remember When" stories and memories. How about sending them on to us? What say you?

### Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors

President: Nancy Wirtanen [nwirtanen@yahoo.com](mailto:nwirtanen@yahoo.com)

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Dixie Hogan Hoekman [WJH50@aol.com](mailto:WJH50@aol.com)

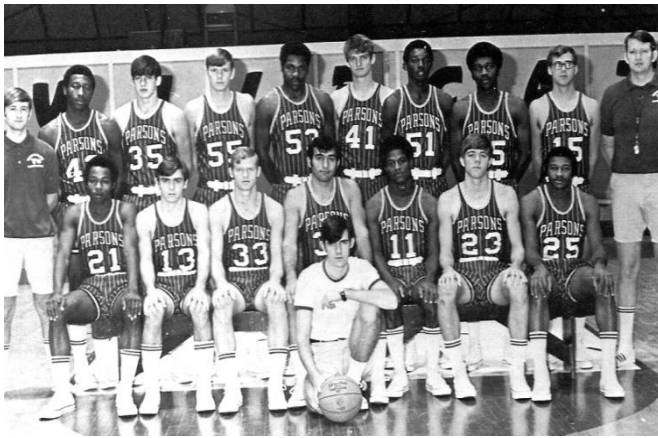
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John Braidwood [jab\\_parsons@yahoo.com](mailto:jab_parsons@yahoo.com)

Frank Challant [FChallant@aol.com](mailto:FChallant@aol.com)

Richard Ivins [rgivins1945@gmail.com](mailto:rgivins1945@gmail.com)





## The Scoreboard Read:

**PARSONS 58**  
**GONZAGA 62**

When you think of Gonzaga you think of top-notch basketball. Those of you digging a little deeper might discover that Gonzaga was the alma mater of famed entertainer Bing Crosby. But to fathom Parsons College taking on the “Zags” and battling them down to the final buzzer? No way, right?

WRONG-O!!! The year was 1970. Coach Bill Carlyle was in the second season at the helm of the Parsons College Wildcats basketball team (*pictured above*). According to the Fairfield Ledger, the following statement set the tone for the upcoming season, "It's hard to tell who's the most enthusiastic about the upcoming basketball season - Coach Carlyle or his Kelly Green squad." The coach added, "I've never coached a team with as much spirit and enthusiasm as this group!"

Their schedule included a December 7, 1970 away game in Spokane, Washington against a little known up and coming team named Gonzaga. Little did we know at the time that this little known and obscure Pacific coast state school would become a top-notch powerhouse team. If you've followed the recent 2013 NCAA March Madness Tournament, although Gonzaga ran into a cement wall against Wichita State, they were ranked number #1 in the country going in and were one of the top four seeds.

Regarding that Parsons vs. Gonzaga encounter, The Fairfield Ledger reported the following on December 8, 1970:

"Upstart Parsons College gave Gonzaga University a run for its' money...here before the Bulldogs pulled out a 62-58 victory. Parsons played their best ball of the season, the Kelly Greens powered a furious finish against a veteran team, which is contending for the Big Sky Conference crown...ace guard Ben Robinson sparked the Greens with 12 goals and three gift shots for 27 points. (Tim) Dieters was next with 13 and Dan Breen, Robinson's running mate, had 12.

"Gonzaga's Coach had warm praise for the Greens after the game. 'If they play like they did this evening, I don't see how they can lose another game the rest of the season,' he told Parsons Bill Carlyle. It was the Greens' hustle and pressing defense and not their shooting ability that kept them in the game. They hit only 34 percent of their shots from the field, while Gonzaga was making 44 percent.

"Gonzaga, fresh from an overtime victory over Washington State, grabbed an early lead and appeared headed for an easy victory. The Bulldogs held a 34-22 halftime edge and were in front by 16 points with three minutes to go. The Greens suddenly seized command at that point, using their press to force eight Gonzaga turnovers in the closing minutes."

"Leading the team were tri-captains, Ben Robinson from Mt. Clemens, MI; Dan Breen, originally from Lorain, OH (currently living in Fairfield); and newcomer transfer from Midwestern College, Lovell Luddell. Two other mainstays on the squad were, Greg DeAth, Veedersburg, IN (currently of Fairfield); and Tim Dieters from Ottumwa (presently living in Ottumwa)."

Parsons and head coach Carlyle ran a very successful program during his four years as head man for the Kelly Greens' during the late 1960's and early 1970's. In two of those four years, Parsons was rated in the top 20 NAIA small college basketball teams in the country...

*(Editor's note: Details of this story were obtained from The Fairfield Ledger dated December 8, 1970)*

***Go Wildcats, Gooooo!!!!***

# The Alumni Write...

**Janet West Friedrich, PC'66 writes...** I thought this story might be of interest to my fellow Parsons classmates of the years 1962-1966. I am married to **Charles William "Bill" Friedrich, PC'66**, and we currently live in Burr Ridge, Illinois, west of Chicago. Last fall, we began a home redecorating project involving paint and wallpaper. We decided to do business with a local store in Westmont, Illinois. I spent several days pouring over dozens of wallpaper books. I developed a nodding acquaintance with one of the clerks. One day I overheard her tell another customer she was going to Fairfield for the weekend! That captured my attention. I realized there are many other Fairfield's in the U.S.A., but there's only one, the one in Iowa, that is near and dear to my heart. So at my first opportunity, I asked if she was talking about Fairfield, Iowa. When she replied, yes, I told her my husband and I are graduates of Parsons College. She then told us, "My mother was the house mother for one of the fraternities there." I asked, "which one?" She said she couldn't remember the name, but it was across the street from the old (Trustee) gym and swimming pool. I asked, "What was your mother's name?" She replied, **Mildred Handy**. That was all it took to send me off down Memory Lane! Mrs. Handy was the much loved housemother for the men of Delta Chi fraternity. She had also become a dear friend to me and several of my Alpha Omicron Pi sorority sisters who dated Delta Chi's. It turned out the clerk I was speaking to was her daughter, Karen. What an unbelievably small world we live in. This may be old news to some, but Karen told me the sad news that her mother, **Mildred Ain Handy Parks**, passed away a year ago last January (*see Memoriam*). I think this goes to show, you never know when or where a Parsons re-connections might be made!

**You know this gentleman???**  
**Of course you do!!!**

He's **Dr. William "Biff" Kummer, PC'68**. His story is one of major success and exemplifies what Parsons College was all about. In his early days "Biff" never missed a party, rode his Honda cycle all over southeastern Iowa and tended bar at one of the local pubs. In his latter years, he buckled down, took advantage of the great education offered, graduated and went to work for the college. **Dr. Harry Burrus**, a Parsons professor paved the way for Kummer to attend the University of Utah, where he earned, not only his Masters Degree, but a PhD in Parks & Recreation. His return to Parsons was voided by the closing of



the school in 1973. After a brief stop at the University of Iowa, former Parsons President **Carl Kreisler** lured him to Western Kentucky University where he taught for 25 years. Dr. Kummer has been inducted to the Kentucky State Parks & Recreation Hall of Fame, has a building named after him, and in 2010 was inducted to the Parsons Wall of Honor.

**"YOU" are the source of our news, stories and our success**

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

**We Need Your News!!**

# Greek & Social Club News...

## Lambda Chi Alpha's reunite for first time in nearly 50 years



Members of the Parsons College Lambda Chi Alpha's gather for their first of what they hope will be many more reunion gatherings. Seated L to R: Donna Holtaling Winger, Joyce Becker, Rich Becker, Don Diogenes, Connie Raid Martin, Bob Martin, Jim Wannacott, Susan Wannacott, Liz Findlay Long, Ron Long and Bill Winger.

It's been nearly 50 years since the boys of Lambda Chi Alpha got together. And when they did, they had such a wonderful March reunion in sunny, warm Ft. Myers, Florida, they're already looking to nail down a date for a repeat in the spring of 2014. The vote was unanimous.

**Ron Long'63** reported how amazed he was that everybody looked the same (yeah, right!). He also added that the highlights were the tales told about those who were there and those who were not there.

Attendees included: **Jim Wonnacott'65** (Susan), **Don Diogenes'63**, **Rich Becker'64** (Joyce), **Bill Winger'64** (Donna Holtaling Winger PC/DZ), **Ron Long'63** (Liz Findlay Long PC/DZ) and **Bob Martin'62** (Connie Raid Martin PC/AGD).

**Long** also reported that it was great to hear from guys who were unable to attend but are determined to make the next reunion.

For further information on future gatherings please contact: **Wonnacott** (208-929-2147), **Winger** ([wewinger@msn.com](mailto:wewinger@msn.com)) or **Long** ([v83756@comcast.net](mailto:v83756@comcast.net)). Your input and ideas are welcome.

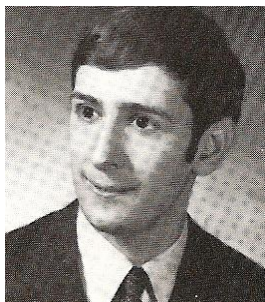
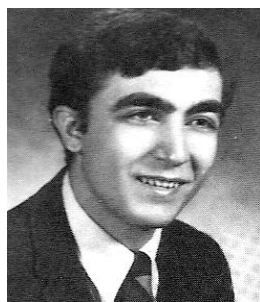
## The boys are back together after 43 years!



*Joe Massotto, PC'70*

*Bill Mandras, PC'70*

*Frank Venezia, PC'71*



How about a little "before and after?" It was 43 years ago Joe, Bill and Frank graduated from Parsons. Do you think they may have changed a bit since graduation over the years? Recently they gathered in Sarasota, FL and had a wonderful day. The boys declared the only thing missing were buddies Russ Rinella and Jeff Innarri – perhaps next time??



# Letters-To-The-Editor...

I really appreciate receiving the updates. Since I am now retired, I have more time to reflect back over the years. It's amazing how many of the past 45 years are now a blur, but I still can remember clearly many of my friends and experiences of my four years at Parsons. Thanks again for the newsletter.

*Jim Usher, PC/PSE'64-'68 - [jimusher1946@aol.com](mailto:jimusher1946@aol.com)*

I just got finished reading the winter copy of the Alumni E-Newsletter- -and as usual, it brought back a lot of good memories. So again thanks for all of your contributions to the ongoing effort of keeping Parsons College alive.

*Mike Prior, PC/PSE'65 - [mikeprior@comcast.net](mailto:mikeprior@comcast.net)*

I'm taking a wild guess that Biff (**Dr. William "Biff" Kummer**) is the mystery man (correct)...how clever of me... I am going to think seriously about coming out there in October 2013....haven't been to Fairfield since 1964. Have a Merry. Merry.....

*Mason Delafield, PC/WTBA'64 - [oneiron33@gmail.com](mailto:oneiron33@gmail.com)*

I have been in the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center about a dozen times and go look at the Barhydt windows each time I am there. One day it was badly overcast, and it looked terrible, the rest were sunny bright, and I too, experienced the beauty of the newly installed windows as not remembered before, Mary and I were married in Barhydt Chapel and, of course, I wasn't really paying attention to the windows then.

*Ed Longanecker, PC'68 - [emlong2@iowatelecom.net](mailto:emlong2@iowatelecom.net)*

*(Editor's Note: Dr. Tree's note to a friend.)* The thing that struck me the first morning after the main (Barhydt stained glass) window had been installed was I had never seen it so beautiful. It occurred to me that it was a north window in Barhydt, now it is a south window (in Parsons Alumni Hall). The light (shining in) on this window is now much better than it ever was in Barhydt! It is well worth a visit.

*Bob Tree, PC/faculty - [rtree@lisco.com](mailto:rtree@lisco.com)*

I was finally able to read the fantastic E-Newsletter through email. I always have mixed emotions upon reading it. I wish I could go back and relive my college days. Such memories. Thank you for your help and the entire staff's efforts to publish such a professional newsletter.

*Paula Chomka McGrath, PC/AGD'62-'65 - [pjmaine@midmaine.com](mailto:pjmaine@midmaine.com)*

Just read the Winter E-News. I especially enjoyed the photos of **Jack Kibbons**, **Jim Ostrander**, and Sig Eps, **Dave Neff** and **Hobie Bannister**. But the old Wildcats (football teammates pictured) took me back, (**Larry Marino**, **John Nair**, **Ernie Eveland** and **Don Butterbaugh**), and brought back memories of a lot of wins. Thanks for staying involved and keeping it alive.

*Dean Honnold, PC/PSE'64 - [d.honnold@mchsi.com](mailto:d.honnold@mchsi.com)*



That was the best newsletter yet! I had time to look it over tonight and I'm so impressed. I remember sitting in Barhydt Chapel, staring at the stained glass panels during Western Civilization class waiting for the lecture to end. I'm incredulous that it cost \$75,000 to complete...what an accomplishment! I'm guessing that is **Biff Kummer** in the photo (correct!), and in the Winter Quiz segment, of course, the girls are shopping at Seifert's (sorry, wrong-O!)

*Ann Johnson Tash, PC/AGD'64 - [anntash@verizon.net](mailto:anntash@verizon.net)*

*(Continued on page 13)*

**Next E-News Deadline - June 1, 2013**

Letters – (cont'd)

Great newsletter.... So newsy! Sounds like **Doug Marion** had a great time visiting Fairfield. Love the stained glass windows, so beautiful. Thanks to all for your hard work.

**Sandra Dexter-Short, PC'68-'71** – [sandra.short123@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.short123@gmail.com)

Got a card regarding stained glass windows, then an email showing them – very nice indeed. Looking forward to seeing them in person next time I drive through Fairfield.

**Ron Staggs, PC/PSE'59** – [rstaggs1@cinci.rr.com](mailto:rstaggs1@cinci.rr.com)

Great edition as usual! Thanks for job well done!  
**Linda Logan Tickel, PC'67-'69** - [Ltickel@aol.com](mailto:Ltickel@aol.com)

Very nice! I am always proud to be a Parsons alumni!

**Dave Coon, PC'71-'73** - [onecoonman@yahoo.com](mailto:onecoonman@yahoo.com)

Beautiful! Stained glass windows bring back precious memories of Parsons College.

**Paul Reed, PC'63-'67** – [pread24@centurylink.net](mailto:pread24@centurylink.net)

I want to take this opportunity to salute and THANK all those who contributed to publishing the latest (Winter '12) E-Newsletter. How many of us appreciated our time, over 40-years ago, on a campus of a GREAT Parsons College in “downtown” Fairfield? Personally, I appreciate the time all of you invest in keeping our VIBRANT Alma Mater alive. Speaking for every Sig Pi, after more than 40-years of the existence of our beloved Gamma-Zeta Alumni Association, that has met for 12 reunions, we know the significance of the brotherhood and friendships which began for ALL of us in the zip code of 52556... Best wishes to each and every one of you.

**Calvin Hill, PC'68** – [calvinhill2000@yahoo.com](mailto:calvinhill2000@yahoo.com)

Hi! I am **Dick Erickson** and I graduated in 1965. Thanks so much for sending this E-Newsletter. The project looks wonderful. Greetings to all!

**Dick Erickson, PC'65** – [derickson@asianhope.org](mailto:derickson@asianhope.org)

## THE WINTER QUIZ – THE ANSWER IS..

*These two lovely Parsons co-ed's are shopping for the latest fashions. Which of the local Fairfield fashion stores would most likely be their store of choice??? And the answer is.....*

## B – Inez Fashions



Thanks for the newsletter, it is such a labor of love greatly appreciated by all. It provides such a flashback to what seems like many lifetimes ago. I only wish there were more people (names) included from my era, '67-'71. Many thanks again!

**Patty Bowers, PC'71** – [pbowers1@centurytel.net](mailto:pbowers1@centurytel.net)

Well done as usual, thanks! Will try to rally the troops (my Alpha Xi Delta sisters) for the All-Class Reunion and Wall of Honor ceremony this October 4-6.

**Sandy Hermel Parker, PC/AXD'65** – [SandyHWP@sbcglobal.net](mailto:SandyHWP@sbcglobal.net)

Absolutely beautiful! Hopefully I'll make it back to Fairfield again soon and see it (windows) first hand!  
**Carolyn Khaki Signor Randall, PC'67** – [khaki1@citlink.net](mailto:khaki1@citlink.net)

**Pick up the phone! Call a FRIEND! You'll be glad you did!!**

# In Memoriam...

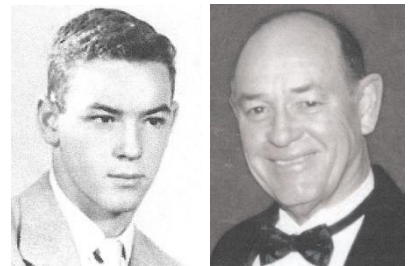


**Marcena "Marty" Taylor**

**Marcena "Marty" Taylor PC'51...**The Parsons College Alumni lost one of its' most distinguished members last month and a true friend to many. Long-time arts enthusiast, restaurateur and Fairfield resident Marcena "Marty" Crowl Taylor, 83, passed away March 11, of natural causes. She and husband Jack, who also passed away recently, were staunch supporters of their alma mater, Parsons College. The Taylor's donated a stone bench, made from the rubble of Parsons Carnegie Library stones, to the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center in the summer of 2012. Marty and Jack graduated from Parsons in 1951. They were married later that year. Marty was born in Monmouth, Illinois. Her family moved to Fairfield during her high school years and a match was made. Marty's parents bought a restaurant called "The Alley Inn" and ran it until 1947, when they opened the "Broadway

Grill." That same year Marty graduated from FHS and enrolled at Parsons. She majored in English and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Along the way she met John W. "Jack" Taylor in a student commons and later invited him to a dance. He walked her home, another match was made, and they were married December 3, 1951. Last year they celebrated 61 years together. Marty's post Parsons travels led her to spending time in Texas, California, Pennsylvania and Michigan. But all roads invariably led her and her family back to Fairfield and the small town environment. Marty's congeniality and hospitable ways led she and Jack to the decision to lease and manage the Fairfield Country Club (*the oldest existing club west of the Mississippi River*). She embraced her role as hostess, employed a number of Parsons students, and entertained many of the visiting entertainers and musicians who appeared at Parsons Summer Festivals, including Louis Armstrong, Stan Kenton and band, the Smothers Brothers and Orson Bean, to name a few. In 1968 Marty took over the "Broadway Grill" from her parents. A year later, Jack joined her after leaving the country club. Thus began a 15-year run which took them to 1983 when they closed the "Broadway Grill" and opened what was to become the much celebrated "Taylor's Off-Broadway Grill" on North Court Street. They operated the restaurant until retiring in 1999. Marty's community involvement included memberships to the Jefferson County Health Center Auxiliary; P.E.O. Chapter MB; the Fairfield Country Club; and the Fairfield Art Association. She is survived by four children, seven grandchildren and four adopted children. Father Bernie Weir presided over the funeral services which were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fairfield...

**Robert L. Moyer, PC'53...** Bob, 81, of Kankakee, IL passed away September 9, 2012 in Danforth, IL. He was born in Ottumwa, IA, excelled in football during high school and earned a football scholarship to Parsons. While there, and attending a freshman dance, he met Carol Ramsay, three years later they were married in the Barhydt Chapel. The son of hard working parents, Bob grew up with a strong work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit. As a kid, he sold the fish he caught in the Des Moines river, had more than one paper route and set pins at the bowling alley. Bob was drafted by the US Army a week after graduation and became a demolition expert. He took advantage of the GI Bill following



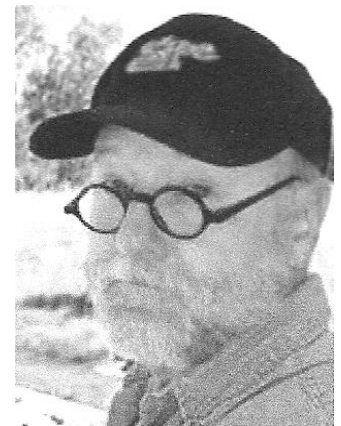
**Robert "Bob" Moyer, PC'53**

his discharge and enrolled at Iowa State University in Ames and received an engineering degree. This led him into the small town newspaper business as Production Manager. Later he connected with a large newspaper, the Trenton Times and Daily Journal in New Jersey, worked his way to Director of Operations in a career lasting 37 years. In 1973 he moved back to the mid-west and became VP of Operations for the Small Newspaper Group. He finished off his career with stops in Cape Girardeau, MO and Chicago and retired in 1995. Bob loved to compete and his passion for golf made it his sport of choice. Within the community, he was a member of the Kankakee Country Club, Kiwanis, the Board of National City, served on the Board at Riverside Hospital and was a member of the Methodist Church. Bob, who was always driven to be the best that he could be, is survived by his wife Carol, three children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Danforth, IL in September of 2012...

*(Continued on page 15)*

**John Ambrosone, PC'68-'69...** John, 65, of Bath, NY, died suddenly November 20, 2012. After attending Parsons in the late 1960's, John served as a medic in the US Navy during the Viet Nam War. He later joined the US Army Reserves and reached the rank of Major. John retired from the VA Medical Center in Bath, where he worked as an RN. He was an avid gardener and well known throughout the community. His generous heart and nature have blessed many people through the years as he lent a hand, or tools, or gave food, recipes, gardening wisdom and more. John was also an avid cyclist, swimmer and runner who participated in many races and marathons. He is survived by wife Cheryl, one daughter and two grandchildren. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Fagan Funeral Home in Bath...

**Chris Cassatt, PC'65-67** passed away January 16, 2013 at his home in Aspen, CO after a two-month battle with lymphoma. He was 66. Chris, who attended Parsons from 1965-67, was an award-winning photographer, designer and, above all – in his mind at least – a cartoonist. His photographs of Aspen were a major feature of 'The Aspen Times' through the 1970's and 80's and he created a modernized layout of, and for, the newspaper. His design was a prize-winning success and established the look of the newspaper for decades to come. But Chris's true passion and greatest success – locally and nationally – was his cartoons. His most widely known achievements have come in recent years, when he was responsible for the internationally syndicated comic strip, "Shoe." However, his greatest personal creative success may have been with "Sal A. Mander," a fictitious character, born from a Jerome Bar Sketch of one of Cassatt's droopy-eyed, pot-bellied Aspen friends. Chris's subversive sense of humor came out most strongly when he began entering and running his cartoon creation for various local and state offices. After "Sal A. Mander" got thrown off the ballot in an Aspen mayoral election on the shaky grounds that he was not a real person, Chris legally changed his name to "Sal A. Mander" and ran for Colorado governor in 1978, finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in a six-candidate race. Born in Syracuse, NY, he grew up in New Jersey and, in addition to Parsons, he attended Windham College in Putney, VT. Both colleges closed shortly after his departure but Chris refused to accept the blame for their fate. He left Parsons and headed west to Aspen lacking a degree and started on the ground floor of "The Aspen Times." Chris grew with the newspaper and his talents and spirit were a vital part of the Times, which was at the time the town's only newspaper. But for all his successes, awards and triumphs, his biggest success at the newspaper was his office romance with business manager Lauren MacDonald, which led to their marriage in 1974 and the birth of a son and a daughter. In addition to his wife and children, Chris is survived by his parents and a brother...



*Chris Cassatt, PC'65-'67*

*(Continued on page 16)*

**PARSONS FOREVER!!!**

*Memoriams-- (cont'd)*

**Mildred Ain Handy Parks, PC/Delta Chi Housemother...** Mildred, 96, passed away January 12, 2011 at Parkview in Fairfield with her daughter and granddaughter at her side. Mildred was a lifelong resident of Fairfield, as were her parents, and her parents' parents. She attended Lincoln School and later Fairfield High School. In 1934 she met Clifford Handy at an Armory dance and they married in 1935. Mildred won the "Buck Night Raffle" at the Co-Ed Theatre in 1952 and used the money to purchase the land where Cliff built their home on Wilson Blvd. She spent nearly 60 years there until health issues required a move to the Parkview Care Center in Fairfield. Mildred was a beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Parsons students/alums remember her as the housemother for the Delta Chi fraternity. Mildred was kind, loved children, energetic, quick witted, and absolutely loved having fun. Her grand kids could count on "Mimi" to make all vacations and weekends in Fairfield an adventure. She would be the first to suggest setting up the badminton, archery or croquet sets (and she didn't sit on the sidelines and watch...she played!). She took the kids on numerous picnics, band concerts and shopping trips to the town square (the "old" Fairfield of Harrisons, Seifert's, Gobbles, Spurgeon's, Coast to Coast and to Martin's store soda fountain). Sometimes dinners were at Walton or the Elks, but usually "Mimi" made delicious homemade meals from scratch. She was the quintessential Iowa cook. Other than her family, Mildred's loves were sewing and needlework, (she was a very talented seamstress), and playing cards (especially bridge where she was a local champ). Mildred lived a wonderful life. She lived in a small town that she loved. She spent her life surrounded by friends and family that she loved and that loved her back. She was content and happy. She was "Fairfield" thru and thru!! A month or so before she passed away, daughter Karen was sitting with Mildred at the house talking about her life, her age, and how fortunate she had been in so many ways. Karen said, "You know, "Mimi," you are pretty lucky". She looked at me, thought for a second, and then said, "Honey, I'm not pretty lucky, I'm *DAMN* lucky!" That is a testament to a life well lived and an incredible way to have spent 96 years, charmed and feeling *DAMN* lucky." A memorial service was held at the Behner Funeral Home in Fairfield on January 29, 2011 with minister Mike Metz of the First Methodist Church officiating. (*Editor's note: Information provided by Janet West Friedrich, PC'66 – see Alumni Write*)...



*Randy Carabelli*

**OTHER DEATHS...** It's been reported that **Randy "Clyde" Carabelli, PC'n/a** passed away November 2, 2010 in Dawsonville, Ga. It is believed that Randy attended Parsons during the mid-late 1960's. This information was provided by Randy's wife Barbara. ...E-News has also learned through several sources that former WTBA social club member **Andy Rowley, PC'n/a** died recently at his winter home in St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands. No further information is available at this time...

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

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# **LEE GOBBLE'S INVENTORY OF PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA OFFERED TO ALUMNI...**

**HURRY! INITIAL RESPONSE HAS BEEN FANTASTIC!!** If you've ever thought about or contemplated owning a piece of Parsons College memorabilia, there's no time like the present. While this supply lasts, you can own a Parsons T-shirt, sweatshirt and golf shirt. The Parsons beer mugs have sold out but we hope to locate the source and replenish. Our beloved friend, **Mr. Lee Gobble, PC'37**, who has celebrated his 98th birthday, has generously passed on the remaining inventory of his Parsons T-shirts, sweatshirts, golf shirts to the Parsons College Foundation with instructions to liquidate at a fair and reasonable price. So, on a first come, first serve basis, here are the remaining styles and sizes of these Parsons treasures and the listed prices:

Description	Price + Packaging/Shipping *	Sizes Available					
		S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
Sweatshirt - green w/white Parsons logo	\$25.00		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sweatshirt - white w/green Parsons logo	\$25.00		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
T-Shirt - green w/white Parsons logo	\$15.00		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
T-shirt - white w/green Parsons logo	\$15.00				Yes		Yes
T-Shirt - blue w/white list of schools – Harvard, Parsons, U.S. Army, etc.	\$15.00			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Golf Shirt - green w/white PC embroidered logo on left breast	\$20.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Golf Shirt - white w/green PC embroidered logo on left breast	\$20.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hooded sweatshirt – green w/white Parsons logo	\$25.00						Yes
Hooded sweatshirt – white w/green Parsons logo	\$25.00			Yes	Yes		

\* Add Packaging/Shipping Charges: Orders of 1 item \$5.00; 2 items \$7.50; 3 items \$10; 4 items \$12.50; 5 items \$15.00. If more than 5 items, postage will be quoted at time of shipping.



**ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS:** Contact Dave Neff by phone (641-919-4640) or email ([neffacres@lisco.com](mailto:neffacres@lisco.com)) with your order, including the ITEM, SIZE, and QUANTITY. Please include you shipping (U.S. Postal Service) address AND phone number at time of submitting order. Dave will verify and confirm back the availability of your requested item(s) and the total amount of purchase. At that point, make check payable to: **Parsons College Foundation Fund** for the designated amount, which will include, packaging and shipping, and mail the check to the following address:

**Dave Neff  
Parsons College Foundation Fund  
2272 Glasgow Road  
Fairfield, IA 52556**

Upon receipt of your check, Dave will mail your order via United States Postal Service. We're excited to extend this great offer and hope you take advantage of the opportunity to grab a piece of Parsons College memorabilia...