



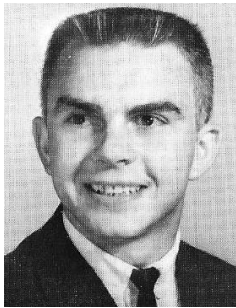
Parsons College E-News

Volume 10, No. 2

Summer - 2017



Richard Barton



Michael Brouwer



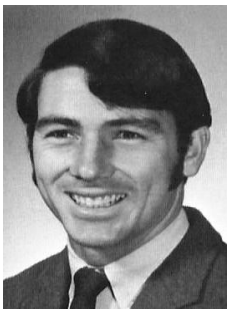
Tony Demacio



Frank Falks



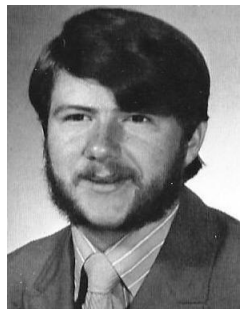
Sandy Konrad McCullough



O. Frank Repass



Arnold H. Rothschild



John "Jack" Sullivan



David W. Switzer



William Winger

Meet your distinguished Wall of Honor Class of 2017, visit Fairfield to Witness the Unveiling of the Lee T. Gobble Statue

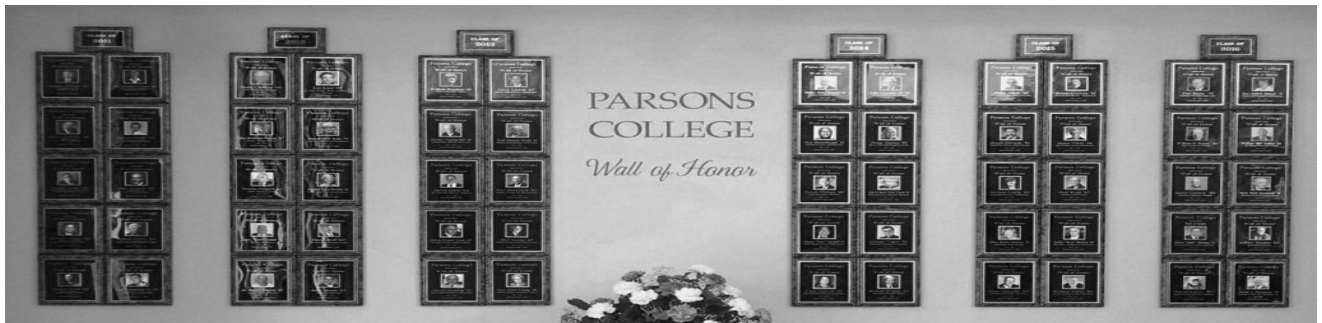
The nominations are in and we are proud to present another group of distinguished Parsons Alums/Students who will reside on the Wall of Honor...Meet the Class of 2017! This year's 9th Annual Wall of Honor ceremony will be held, once at the FA&CC in the Stephen Sondheim Auditorium at 10:00AM, Saturday, October 7, 2017. A luncheon (\$20.00) will follow at the Elks Lodge on the Square. A "Welcome Back" reception will be held Friday (3:00PM-7:00PM) at the Fairfield Country Club on Harrison Street. The reception (\$25.00) will include beer/house wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Saturday registration at the FA&CC will begin at 9:00AM. Pre-registration forms are available through Dave Neff at: neffacres@lisco.com. Room reservations should be made as early as possible at: AmericInn (1-641-451-6600 – So. Hwy 1); Best Western (1-641-472-2200 – West Hwy 34); or Super8 (1-641-469-2000 – West Hwy 34). A special addition to the weekend of events, which already includes the 1st Friday Art Walk and Oktoberfest, will be the unveiling of the sculptured statue of legendary **Lee T. Gobble**, at the FA&CC Friday evening at approximately 6:30PM...

Richard Barton PC'66 – Centerville, IA... Dick Barton was a Fairfield townie of modest means. He attended Fairfield High School, played football and graduated. He had no idea he would attend Parsons College, play football for **Frosty Westering**, earn a Master's Degree in Physical Education at N.E. Missouri State University and return to southeast Iowa years later as Superintendent of the Van Buren County School District. Dick's first job was at Keota High School, teaching Math/Science and coaching five sports. He moved to Ottumwa High School on the same format but that assignment was interrupted when Dick joined the U.S. Army. He served in Vietnam and returned to Ottumwa School District where he spent the next seven years while also attending University of Iowa and N.E. Missouri State. In 1978, Saydel High School (Iowa) offered him the position of Assistant Superintendent and Principal. That experience laid the foundation for an eight year journey to Wrangell and Anchorage, Alaska as Administrator and Superintendent/Principal of both junior and senior high schools. He returned to Keosauqua for eight years, then retired to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Dick was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity and is now permanently retired, living in Centerville with wife Joyce. They have no children. Dick's presenter is to be determined...

(Continued on page 2)

Michael Brouwer PC'61 – Burlington, IA... Mike hails from Garner, IA and spend 39 years in Fairfield as a student, college Director of Activities and Chamber of Commerce. Executive. He's served as President of the Iowa Chamber of Commerce Executives and received the "1995 Iowa Statesman of the Year Award." He moved to Burlington and became President & CEO of the Burlington/West Burlington Area Chamber. His leadership, influence and ability to get things done have made his community a better place to live. Mike, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, is now retired and lives with wife Kay in Green Valley, AZ. They have two children and families. Mike's presenter is to be determined...

Sandy Konrad McCullough PC'72 – Carlisle, IA... Sandy's distinguished high school career as teacher/coach/advisor/counselor/principal spanned 40+ years, half of those years devoted to helping at-risk students. Sandy is recognized as an authority in alternative education. At S.E. Warren High School she was an All-State basketball/softball honoree. Sandy won All-America honors in basketball, and All-State Softball First Team honors at John F. Kennedy College. She was invited to the Pan American games basketball tryouts and served as an alternate. Sandy now enjoys retirement with husband, Greg and they have two sons and families. She will be presented by her former Wildkittens coach, **Bob Spencer...**



This fabulous new wall of "The Distinguished" which houses the Parsons College Wall of Honor has been redesigned and reconfigured. At the end of this 10 year program there will forever be 100 plaques of those who attained EXCELLENCE.

Tony Demacio PC'67 – Waxhaw, NC... Tony was able to parlay his love for baseball into a distinguished career as a Major League Baseball Scout for 31 years. He's scouted for Atlanta (2), Cleveland, Chicago (Cubs), Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Tony's been Director of Scouting (Atlanta and Baltimore) and received "The George Genovese Lifetime Achievement Award in Scouting," the highest award in MLB scouting. He played baseball for the Wildcats and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. Tony is a McKees Rocks, PA native, now enjoying retirement with wife Diane. They have two children and families. He will be presented by **Dave Neff...**

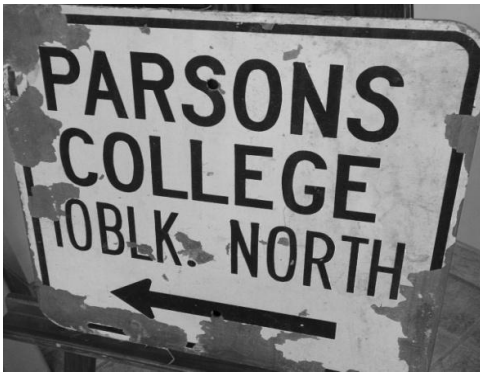
Frank Falks PC'67 – Columbus, OH... Frank made his mark as a football coach. Over a 35-year span he coached at nine colleges and three NFL professional teams (San Diego, Detroit Lions and St. Louis Rams). Frank was an All-America linebacker in college, coached all phases of the game and has been Assistant Head Coach. He not only played at Parsons, he also started his coaching career at the college. Frank was voted into the Joplin Junior College Sports Hall of Fame. He and his family currently reside in Columbus. Frank's presenter is to be determined...

O. Frank Repass PC'71 – Max Meadows, VA/Cocoa Beach, FL... Frank is a Nationally and Internationally recognized court-certified firearms expert. He has trained over 6,000 students in the law enforcement officer field. He served as the Range Master for the Orlando Police Department, was a member of the Special Weapons and Tactic Team (SWAT) for 21 years, and was involved in more than 500 operations. Frank was selected as the "1999 Fraternal Order of Police Officer of the Year" in Orlando. He's attended numerous instructor schools and carries 29 certifications. Frank received the IALEFT's "Charlie Smith Award," the highest honor for contributions to the International Firearms Training Industry. He is now retired but serving as Range Master at the Kennedy Space Center and doing volunteer work at several facilities. Frank, who was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon and WTBA at Parsons, while playing four years of football, splits time living between Virginia and Florida. He will be presented by **David Thompson...**

(Continued on page 3)

(WOH – cont'd)

Arnold Rothschild PC'69 – Rochester, NY... Arnie is President & CEO of Normal Communications, LLC, dealing in advertising, sales, marketing and messaging strategies. He's acting CEO of Rochester Theatre League, Inc, offering theatre education programs locally. And he is President of Growth Marketing Group of NY, LLC, specializing in advertising articulations, while providing print services to hundreds of businesses. Started career at Empire State FM radio as an account executive and now, in the communications field, Arnie's regarded an expert in Public Policy, Political Strategy, Media Strategy and Public Relations. At Parsons he was a member of the Phi Sigma Delta fraternity and currently lives in Rochester, NY. Arnie will be presented by **Dr. Richard Ivins...**



You remember how to get there....RIGHT??

John "Jack" Sullivan PC'72 – Naples, FL... Jack is an expert with 40 years in hospitality management. Managing member-owned and private developer golf, country, and yacht clubs, has earned him recognition as one of the country's leading experts in private clubs. At Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in Grosse Pointe Shores, MI the club was three times selected as "The Number One Yacht Club in the Country." In 1992 his reputation went national when selected to serve as National President of

the Club Managers Association of America. Eight years later he received two most distinguished awards...the "Club Manager of the Year" honor by Club Management Magazine and the "Excellence in Club Management Award" by the McMahan Group. Jack's been married to Darcy for 46 years and they reside in Naples. He will be presented by his wife, **Darcy Mellen-Sullivan...**

David W. Switzer PC'66 – Brainerd, MN... David graduated Cum Laude from Parsons with B.S. Degrees (double major) in Physics and Mathematics. He continued his education and his line of degrees reads like... BS, MS, DABR, FACMP, FACR. He is a Physicist and a distinguished authority in his field. David was a pioneer in the uses of computers in Radiology and Radiation Therapy. He was involved with the early installation of CAT head scanning equipment, MRI imaging equipment inside hospitals. David's served as President and National Board Representative of the American Association of Medical Physicists from the Midwest and Northwest chapters. He's trained over 25 Radiology and Radiation Therapy residents, and more than 100 Radiological Technologists in Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Therapy. David and wife Carol reside in Brainerd, MN. His presenter is yet to be determined...



The rotating display wall at Parsons Alumni Hall.

(Continued on page 4)

Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors

President: Nancy Wirtanen nwirtanen@yahoo.com

Vice President/Treasurer: Dave Neff neffacres@lisco.com

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Marion Jennings boomstar@comcast.net
Ed Longanecker emlong2@iowatelecom.net

John Braidwood jab_parsons@yahoo.com
Richard Ivins rgivins1945@gmail.com
William "Biff" Kummer 1-715-453-2825
Kay McPherson Ferguson KFerg2@cox.net

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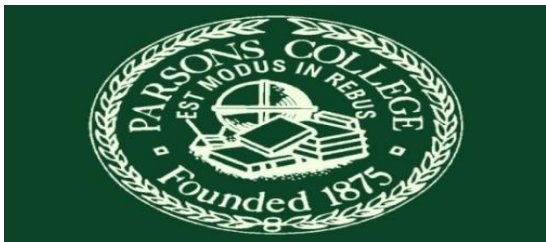
William "Bill" Winger PC'64 – Denver, CO...

First and foremost Bill is an educator. He began as Admissions Representative for Parsons. Started two education related businesses, one of which, Admissions Management Corporation, became a nationwide college recruiting business and was featured on CBS television and in the New York Times. In an 11-year stint with Bell & Howell Corporation, Bill went from sales to National Sales Manager, to Midwest Regional Manager, where he won “Regional Manager of the Year” honors. He later bought a secretarial school business and took it from 0 to 12.0M in four years. Bill returned to private business with the Colorado Private School Association, stayed through its sale to an Arkansas company and retired as President of their on-line division three years later. At Parsons, Bill was a member and President of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He met and married his Parsons sweetheart, **Donna Hotaling**, a Delta Zeta. They’ve been married 52 years and they reside in Denver. Bill will be presented by **Don Samuelson**...



A major round of congratulations to our most deserving Class of 2017. This is the 9th class of inductees. We promised to administer and recognize 10 classes over a 10 year period. In all reality, there aren't enough walls in Fairfield to house the many Alums /Students who have used their Parsons education to become distinguished in their careers. Next year will be the final year of the Wall of Honor Program. If you know of any qualified candidates who have put together that “WOW” career, or service to their community, please start putting the info together and submit their name(s) and resume to **Dave Neff** during the December /March nomination period.

***The Unveiling and Dedication
of the Legendary Lee T. Gobble
Sculptured Statue will be held
Friday evening, October 6,
2017 on the grounds of the
Fairfield Arts and Convention
Center. Be there...
Don't miss it!!!***



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).

REMEMBER WHEN???

By Doug Marion '70

If You Haven't Been To Fairfield Lately.....

Try to remember your very first memories in Fairfield where your daily college life took shape. Fairfield was indeed your "Home Away From Home" while attending Parsons College. Co-eds tend to remember more of the actual community and its offerings than the guys. Gals buddied-up, and over weekends spent free time scouring and devouring Fairfield's clothing and department stores. Everyone found the doctors and dental offices and the hair salons. Most guys knew where service stations, restaurants, gun stores, and motorcycle shops were – plus, of course, Gobble Clothiers and a bar/tavern or two!

Right about now your memory should be kicking in, so we hope you are jotting down notes to send Enews with your fun memories. Furthermore, from the day you graduated, through to today, you've no doubt lived in different locales and have many more thoughts and memories from which to compare and access your high points in Fairfield.

We hope the photos below stir your highly educated grey matter.

The Enews staff has a plethora of photos - more than can be published in a single story. We hope you find this leadoff dialog fun-filled and even a little educational. Today, Fairfield is loaded with nice people, including many alumni. It's real estate is affordable and while most of us have been gone, it has gained national recognition as a town of culture and a highly rated place to live and visit. The Fairfield entertainment, food and lodging are somewhere between very impressive and sensational. And.....once upon a time Fairfield was your "home away from home"



Thumbs up to the Fairfield Town Square grounds keepers. Over the decades, its trees have matured – bringing a wonderful immensity to the Square. Lighting has been added, hedges precisely planted, and maintained, and free frontal parking is readily available...

This beautiful three story building is on the northeast corner of Broadway and Main Streets, on the north side of the Square. In the 1960's, the lower level housed the Coast to Coast Hardware store. The second and third floors have become apartments and remain so today. At the rear end of the second floor, overlooking Main Street was a corner apartment. I rented back-to-back with friends after moving into this "paradise" from a previous rickety, \$25/month rental, crooked floor room in a house directly next to the A&W Drive-In on 4th Street.



How long has it been since you've driven through the countryside on a gravel road, or even seen a gravel road, for that matter? We are near Walton Lake in this photo in the waterworks area of town, a mile or so east of town off Kirkwood Street. Check it out....NO potholes and NO lingering trash...another BIG thumbs UP!!!!

(Continued on page 6)



I made it to City Hall a time or two to pay my parking meter fines, but never do I remember the majestic Jefferson County Courthouse, sitting on Briggs Street, east of Main and a block north of the Square and its huge clock tower with the copula topping it off. In fact, when we were in Fairfield there was no copula, it had been blown off years prior (but Lee Gobble fixed that!). This enormous, brick-laden structure was built during 1890-1893 and added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 1981. The photo was snapped in October on a BLUEBIRD DAY with Mother Nature showing off her brilliant colors and at her best...

On the northeast side of the Square at 104 North Court Street stands “Thymely Solutions” – a health food store. Its slogan is: “Natural Remedies and Gifts For Well Being.” It’s on Facebook if you would like to check in and say HELLO! Very tasteful and cool décor with a colorful front bench to rest your weary bones after a “lap” around the beautiful Town Square...



On the west side of town stands this unoccupied brick factory of old. If I had another 50 years on my DNA, I’d suggest it might be converted and used as a great apartment building for retired alumni or for military veterans on the mend. The structure looked to be healthy and strong. Only drawback as I see it is that it’s right next to the railroad tracks. And that doesn’t sound TOO restful to me...



On Briggs Street, north of the Jefferson County Courthouse stands this beautiful, well preserved two story brick building. Our man on the ground tells us that this sturdy structure now serves as the Jefferson County Attorney’s Office Building and is complete with front and rear parking...



And last but not least, who could possibly forget the Fairfield Train Station. If you weren’t cussing the railroad out for keeping you awake all night, perhaps you were thankful it served as your school bus of sorts on your travels to and from Fairfield. That quaint and serene little building no longer offers passenger service, but it does offer many, many memories of the trips and the parties of years past...

I had the privilege of interviewing **Jenna Foster** on Monday, December 7, 2015, and had time to reminisce about the **Foster Auction Gallery** location on Highway 1, north of the Parsons College Campus and also about the rental properties that the Foster Family owned next to their home at 601 North 2nd Street in Fairfield.

Friday nights at the Foster Auction Gallery were a tradition in Fairfield and operated 'big time' through the 1960's and 1970's. It was a consignment auction house, where individuals would bring items they wished to have sold during the week, and every Friday night the auction would be held. **LeRoy and Jenna Foster** were the proprietors of the facility and were assisted at the snack bar area by their two sons, Gary and David. Later on, the older son, Gary assisted with the clerking of the auction.

Some of their patrons never missed a Friday night auction. A good number of Parsons students would outfit their apartments, or campus rooms with beds, tables and sofa's from the Foster's Auction. People would bring their entire family and even sometimes their dogs. It would take a full week to prepare for the next weekend's auction. Patrons would begin bringing in their items on Saturday and it would continue through the rest of the week until Friday would roll around.

Jenna tells a 1976 story about some Parsons students, who were in need of another bed for their apartment. As the story goes, they came to the auction, purchased a bed but did not have transportation. Fortunately, the bed had rollers, so following their purchase, the four boys rolled the bed to Highway 1 and pushed it back to town from the auction house and to their apartment.

During the auction they would have two assistants who would "catch the bids" while LeRoy did the calling and **Marie Kiefer** did the clerking. Marie worked for **Dr. VanTassel** during the day and did the clerking in the evening. Jenna was in charge of the receipt of payment from the patrons as they left with their purchases. They had one additional assistant who helped park cars in their parking lot to keep it orderly and not have anyone boxed in when patrons were ready to leave.

LeRoy was a veteran of WW II and participated in the D-Day Invasion at Normandy. He was also present at the Flag Raising at Iwo Jima, which was part of his tour of duty with the U.S. Navy. LeRoy suffered from similar post-traumatic stress syndrome as our troops do today. He was a strong swimmer and would transport food from one ship to another by swimming between the ships with food for the crew in a water proof container. Jenna graduated from Iowa State University in Ames, IA with a Home Economics degree. She met LeRoy as a student at ISU and they were married and moved to Fairfield, where she still resides.

Apartments rented to Parsons Students.

The Foster's home is still located at 601 North 2nd Street. During the 1960s and early 1970s they owned rental homes to the north and to the east of their property. Each location was able to house up to eight beds for the students.

Also, in the basement of their home there was room for eight more beds, so a total of 24 students called the Foster's property their home. In the basement they also provided a kitchen, ping pong, pool table and a card table for recreation. The WTBA Social club started as the Untouchables in the rental home east of the Foster's. **Dick Thomas** was one of the founding members, **Biff Kummer** was well remembered by Jenna and **Doug Marion** worked the weekly auction in 1969 and 1970.

World War II and Parsons College:

Jenna relates the story of the number of Parsons men who went off to serve our country during WW II. The government took over some of the dormitories for training. The women students moved to the fraternity houses, as the enrollment of male students dwindled during the war...

Bet you didn't know?? by John Braidwood

Millard G Roberts first memorable act in 1955 was to lavish \$10,000 on his inauguration, equivalent to nearly \$100,000 today! As a result, both students and faculty thought it more appropriate to call his inauguration the "Ascension". This was to be the first of many examples of his inappropriate use of college monies, the beginning of his unsustainable reckless spending that fore-shadowed the eventual financial demise of Parsons College!



Dr. Millard G. Roberts

In 1966, Roberts was quoted by the Wall Street Journal as saying he expected Parsons to show a 5.3 million dollar profit that year, but in fact the college's debt was growing at an average of nearly 1.0 million dollars a year, 9.0 million dollars in today's dollars. Once again it begs the question, what board of trustees would embrace such fiscal incompetency? It became more and more apparent that the majority of the board were puppets acquiescing at the whim of their bold and fearless leader. An exception was **Lee Gobble** who rendered his resignation in 1967, primarily as a consequence for Roberts distain for board members who would dare to offer constructive fiscal criticism. How about this milestone? Just prior to the closing of Parsons, board chairman **Roger Lund** resigned and the board appointed **Arthur Grant** of San Francisco to succeed him. A 1967 graduate of Parsons, Grant was the youngest board chairman ever to serve, and his tenure as chairman was also the shortest...15 days to be exact!

A 1969 Parsons graduate, Fairfield community activist, and recent "Wall of Honor" recipient, **Dave Neff** saw Parsons as both a student and staff member. He had been an undergraduate during the boom years of the late 1960's. Having graduated in 1969, he joined the athletic department staff that fall as intramural director. Neff incidentally, upon Parsons demise, chartered a new career and went on to become President of Iowa State Bank & Trust Co. Neff valued his days at Parsons, as a student and a member of the staff, but he has described the late 1960s as a period of uncontrolled growth. "It was a time of counting up how many students you had and then building whatever was needed. The college lacked financial stability and direction after losing its accreditation in 1967. Better communications with creditors and some kind of a financial plan might have softened the blow, when enrollment declined there seemed to be panic and not much else," Neff said. The time to regroup and look for programs that would have given the school greater stability was when Parsons regained its accreditation in 1970. With a smile, Dave was quoted as saying, "My hindsight of course, is 20-20."

An interesting fact, when the NCA (Northeastern Credit Association) fact-finding team arrived early in 1967, and in April announced that it had revoked Parson's accreditation, effective June 30, *often misunderstood was that the quality of the college's academic program was never questioned*. But the report cited administrative weaknesses and took Roberts to task for a "credibility gap" in the operation of the college. Roberts threatened legal action against the NCA and this sparked a faculty revolt and by a vote of 101 to 58, the faculty asked the board of trustees to relieve him of his duties. The board took formal action on June 5, 1967, and called for his resignation less than four months after they granted him a new five-year contract. Finally after years and years of incompetency, the board was forced to have an epiphany, unfortunately, as the saying goes, "too little, too late!"

On a personal note, while living in Traverse City, Michigan, I learned that **Captain Charles Parsons**, younger brother of **General Louis B. Parsons**, for many years vacationed in Wequetonsing, Michigan. I learned later that Parsons tragically drowned as a result of a boating incident in Lake Michigan in 1905. Wequetonsing is approximately one hour north of Traverse City. How many times has the Parsons College experience coincidentally appeared and reappeared in my life time...really quite amazing! Also of interest, Traverse City, MI. has a population of approximately 20,000 and remarkably has four Parsons College graduates! One day, as I was applying for employment, my interviewer, **Steve Fordyce**, announces that he, too, is a graduate of Parsons College! You just can't make these things up!

Great Stories & Testimonials

About Parsons...."As was the case with many of us, I had to learn how to learn. Early on I struggled to retain information and was very concerned about my ability to succeed. One day, **Dr. Cornell C. Clarke**, was both a Dean and teaching Ed Psych stopped me as I was leaving class and asked me a question..."Why is it you have a strong A in my class but, when I looked at your records are struggling in other courses?" I explained that while I was taking copious notes in other courses I did not retain the information...he then said..."But you do not take notes in my class"....to which I said..."because you make sense to me and by listening to you I know what you are thinking" He then suggested that I stop taking notes in other classes, lock into the teachers frame of mind and try to figure out why they thought what they were saying mattered....I did, and became a Dean's List Student!



Dr. Cornell C. Clarke

In my business career I never take notes...I listen aggressively and try to get into the mind of the person I am sitting across from. In today's environment, I am sure I would have been defined as "learning disabled" and yet, because of Dr. Clarke, that changed in my life!

Right before that happened, I went to see **Dr. Eastman** to tell him that I was taking a course in statistics as part of my Sociology major and it made no sense to me. He told me I could wave one required course and I waved "Stat". Later in life, I consulted the design of Arbitron Radio Ratings first big qualitative project "Retail Direct" with some of the best statisticians in media...because I learned how to learn.

My radio career started at KCLS and ended up, not only a partner in radio stations around the country, but, a major radio and tv consultancy in the US, UK, and Australia.

I worked as a member of two bands (King James Version and Revision Volume III) which helped me learn the entertainment business and I now run a 15 million dollar a year entertainment company, The Rochester Broadway Theatre League (<http://www.rbt.org>)

But, most of all, it gave me a place where I belonged and grew and prospered because people cared! I even wrote a term paper that allowed George C. Jordan III to graduate!....LOL!

Now as a major political consultant and veteran of 150 or so elections...with all that has worked for me in life...I wear a Parsons tee shirt every morning in the gym (no joke) because even when I am around the ego of politicians I always want to remember where I came from!

SUBMITTED BY: **Arnold Rothschild PC'69** – President & CEO Normal Communications LLC

(Continued on page 10)

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 College with a yearbook from yesteryear!!

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
The 9th Annual
WALL OF HONOR
CEREMONY
will be at 10:00AM,
Saturday, October 7th
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center
BE THERE!
DON'T MISS IT!

PUTTING PARSONS AND THE AIR FORCE TOGETHER??

I was discharged from the US Army late December 1970 and returned to my job with the Parsons admissions office. While in the Army, I did some tutoring in the base Education Center and became acquainted with the system.

In 1971, Parsons assigned me to recruit in New Jersey. After that school year closed, the New York counselor **John Kirby** and I were approved to travel south to process unanswered correspondence and try anything else we could think of to generate new students for the college. We started to wonder if we could recruit military personnel who wanted to use their Veterans Administration school benefits to attend Parsons. Accordingly, we started cold calling every military installation we found, including the Pentagon. While we failed to generate new applications from members leaving the service, we did in fact have a very serious inquiry about providing college level classes for Air Force personnel on their own bases.

Kirby and I couldn't find a payphone fast enough (this was before cell phones!). We knew this could be a gold mine for the college and we put the Air Force and the college administration together and celebrated, as **John Davies** put the program together. The scheme was what we would today describe as a "cash cow". We had no bricks and mortar; the only major expense was faculty. If the college had not failed, that relationship might have expanded to other service branches and kept on going. Although I'm not positive, I seem to recall that Davies was able to move the contract to another college so that he could continue to administer it after Parsons closed.

John Kirby and I were subsequently terminated as the college shifted to recruiting via telemarketing. When I advised **John Amberg** that I had just financed a new car for my recruiting efforts, he gave me a bonus that allowed me to payoff the car. I've never forgotten that kind gesture and it made being fired a little easier...

SUBMITTED BY: **Tom McDermott, PC'n/a** <tominkeylargo@gmail.com>

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."

Next Issue – FALL - 2017 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!!

You're Spending 86,400 Seconds of Living Today! How you doin'?

NEWS & NOTES

(Ed Note: News & Notes is a new addition to our E-Newsletter. It will be a raw rambling of news, notes and tidbits of what's going on here, there and wherever.)

PCAA SURVEY

A number of people responded to the surveying saying they would like to step-up and become active with the PCAA in our endeavors. President **Nancy Wirtanen** will be making contact with those of you who were/are interested. Stay tuned!!

CARNEGIE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The project to preserve and expand the old Carnegie Library and make it the full-fledged statewide Carnegie Historical Museum (CHM) continues. Committee members, **Kay Ferguson, Biff Kummer, John Blackstock, Dave Neff** and **Curator Mark Schafer**, along with 30 or so, interested Fairfield residents met with the Winona (Minnesota) Historical Museum Director, **Mark Peterson**. Mark spent the day sharing his ideas on how do make this project happen. He answered questions and was a true inspiration to both the committee and to the town folks who attended. We look for some major steps forward in the upcoming months. Why is this important to our Parsons alumni and friends? Because it is the home and the last outpost for keeping Parsons memorabilia in tact and on display. The CHM as we envision it, would house the history and artifacts of Jefferson County, Fairfield, Civil War, Indian relics, the history of the Loudon Corporation and Parsons. If we (Parsons Alums) lose this site and our standing, the history of Parsons College would no doubt end up in a dumpster somewhere in southeast Iowa...

REUNIONS: THERE'S ONLY ONE PCAA!!

If you were one of the seven, or so, who signed up for the George Jordan III and Parsons NEWSLINE June reunion, promoted as something like the Golden Reunion Celebration and found your way back to Fairfield, you got rooked. For the costly registration fee of reportedly \$225.00, you did not hear the Mayor speak, **Tony Yelovich** didn't show up, the high school marching band and the 34th U.S. Army Band were nowhere in sight, **Dr. Tree** and **Dave Neff** were absent, and we would hope that you

did not donate to any of the fabricated levels of status contributions, like for example, the elite \$500.00 Milliard G. Roberts Society level of contribution. We've watch this dog and pony show over the years and have never seen any evidence of dollars being used for any PCAA programs, no sharing of contact information, and absolutely no divulging of financial state, or status. Once and for all, WE, THE PCAA, AND I, THE EDITOR & PUBLISHER OF THE E-NEWSLETTER, state that we are in NO WAY affiliated, supportive, or involved in any reunions or activities sponsored by, or promoted by, George C. Jordan III, or the PARSONS NEWSLINE...

THE MISSING ALUMS WITH NO EMAILS

President Nancy is sitting on nearly 500 alumni names with contact information but NO email addresses. If there's any way or ideas to help other than spreading the word that, "We are looking for you, please contact Nancy!!!"

(Continued on page 12)

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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.***

SUMMER FESTIVAL DISPLAYS '64-'65

The Parsons College Foundation Fund announces a new display in the Parsons College Alumni Hall at the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts. This new display highlights Summer Festival 1964 and 1965.

Dr. Millard G. Roberts was in the process of growing the college from his arrival in 1956. The areas he focused on were academics, sports and theater to draw students, faculty and the community to participate with the college. **Dr. Sydney H. Spayde** was recruited from the renown Cain Park Theater, in Cleveland Heights, Ohio to become the producer/director of the Summer Festivals. His mission was to bring top notch live theater entertainment to Fairfield during the summer months. (To the right: **Eddie Bracken** rides onto the scene in "Teahouse of the August Moon.")



The college was on a trimester system and many students opted to be in college year-round. The aspect of summer stock theater was a great boon to entertain the students as well as the Fairfield community. "The musicals and other productions were 'in the round' with audiences on all sides at the fieldhouse. As I look back, the whole experience was quite awesome," according to **Betty Blough Downey**. She shared that: "Other supporting cast members were hired...All of the costumes were provided, and we used the Trustee gym to distribute and try on the costumes."

Spayde was provided a generous budget to bring this program to the forefront. Many national actors and actress' as well as choreographers would come and stay in Fairfield for one month or sometimes the full three months of the summer. Those who came to Fairfield included, **Darryl Hickman, Margaret O'Brien** and **David Drew** performing in "Gigi", **Orson Bean** in "Send Me No Flowers", **Eddie Bracken** in "Teahouse of the August Moon", **Hal Holbrook** in "Mark Twain Tonight", **Pat and Eloise O'Brien** and **Mary Lynne Metternich** in "Brigadoon". One of our local Fairfield High School graduates was attending Parsons College at that time and played opposite of Mary Lynne in "Brigadoon" and "The Music Man" – Betty Blough Downey graduated from Fairfield High School in 1962 and Parsons College in 1966. There were also other local thespians who participated in these annual events.

Marcia Wallace, also a graduate of Parsons College Class of 1964, appeared frequently in many of the summer productions. She went on to be a Hollywood star with the "Bob Newhart Show". Marcia was inducted into the Parsons College Wall of Honor inaugural class of 2009.

Dr. Sydney H. Spayde continued on with Maharishi University of Management when they arrived in Fairfield in 1974. His name was given to the theater in the main library on the college campus... (Compiled and written by Dave Neff)

(Continued on page 13)

DIXIE HOGAN HOECKMAN RESIGNS

Dixie is moving up and moving on. After a number of years serving on the Parsons College Alumni Board, Ms Hoeckman has decided to resign. She was a valued member of the PCAA Board and will be missed greatly. A number of her years were spent in the role of secretary. We all wish Dixie and her family much continued good health and happiness...

BARHYDT ORGAN IN NEED OF UPGRADE

The ceiling and rafters of the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts vibrate gloriously with each performance on the Barhydt Organ. But like all high class instruments, it is in need of a tune-up. Donations are needed to upgrade the organ and replace and convert the current pipes from metal to wood. Total cost of the project will be around \$22,000. If you are an organ enthusiast of just a dedicated Barhydt support you are welcome to send a donation to: **The Barhydt Organ Foundation, % Fairfield Arts & Convention Center, 200 Main Street, Fairfield, IA 52556.** Thanks in advance!



Courtesy of Dennis Marandos

Greek and Social News...

The **Sigma Pi's** are still prepping for their big reunion in Savannah, GA. Dates for the event are September 19-21, 2017, so there's still plenty of time to rally up and sign up. Those interested and not yet signed on should contact **Dave Howard:** 904-806-3297 or email: comdh2@aol.com.



Alpha Xi Deltas... Rumor has it that the Alpha Xi's "Fun Bunch" are heading to the Boston area in September. No dates reported yet! Stay tuned!

ATTN: GREEKS & SOCIAL CLUBS

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

Letters to the Editor...

(The following is a recap of "at random notes" received from Dr. Everett Hadley, PC'73 Acting President)

Dr. Roberts effected higher education in a number of ways. Number 1- He made Transferring into an art form; Number 2- He helped combat the colusion of certain college officials trying to prevent students from transferring from one school to another; 3- He introduced the trimester system by hiring people with academic credentials and who, could teach in the summer. They had other jobs during the school year. I was VP of Student Life but also taught. **Dr. Tree** taught history and **Dr. Becksfort** taught math, but both had other jobs during the school year; 4-There was good reason to celebrate Dr. Roberts. He stood 'higher education' on its ear. But his downfall came when the student enrollment died. He could not maintain debt payments when he had no increase in student enrollment.

(On George Jordan): 1- I believe that George Jordan is using money from Parsons to aid his retirement. 2- George does not have a Parsons degree. When he completed 7 trimesters his GPA was 1.957. 3- George should be creative on his own. 4- Please tell George Jordan, GOODBYE!!!

Sincerely, E.E. Hadley (signed)

Dr. Everett Hadley, PC'73 Faculty – 3399 Atwell Avenue, The Villages, FL 32162

The Parsons experience needs a lot more than two or three sentences, but I will abide by the boundaries. Here goes....."For the period in the early '60's, Parsons College was decades ahead of the times for traditional college education. It was a period of tremendous innovation, creativity and diversification. It created a challenging climate for its students to learn, think outside the box, and be exposed to a worldwide culture of events." As you know, I could go on and on, but this shall suffice for now...

James Cornick, PC'65 – jcornick@mchsi.com

You all do a great job of keeping our fun days at Parsons in the forefront. Most of us old Sig Eps are just glad we're not in jail doing time. You have NO idea how much we appreciate how much you have done to keep us connected...

William "Mac" McFarlane, PC'66 – MAI93@aol.com

Never say, Never!!!

Thank you for the meaty newsletter, very interesting, especially the material on the demise of M. G. Roberts's reign. On another point and since this is a _college_ publication, I mention some awkwardness, not to say errors, in expression. The first is a real howler: "...invited the commandant of the Quantico Marine base to sit with he and Mrs. Kreisler during that October 1969 game." p. 7. HIM, not "he". Another, p. 10, calls the word _trustee_ an oxymoron. It is not. An oxymoron contains TWO words that are seemingly contradictory: fiery ice, for example. Several times, _it's_ is used for _its_. _it's_ stands for _it is_ and is therefore a contraction; _its_ is a possessive adjective meaning "belonging to it." You may not want these comments, but I just couldn't help it. The newsletter should, I think, show that **its** writers received a college education...

Carol L. Sherman, PC'61 – clsherna@live.unc.edu

Ed Note: Your serious concern for our accuracy and your astute background sounds like a perfect match for you to join our staff as a proofreader. We would welcome your expertise and your keen eye. So, if you're seriously concerned with our product, by all means contact us. This response printed as received and not edited...



I love you guys for putting out the newsletter and appreciate your efforts. Since this has happened several times in the past, I finally feel it necessary to give you a nudge: please learn the difference between its and it's. There are mistakes in almost every issue by the editorial staff (what staff? We have none!) as well as the contributors [that you can't help, alas]. This little suggestion does not diminish my admiration for the work you do—I just want PC grads to look good in print!

Katherynne VanderMolen, PC'69 – knv2@comcast.net

(Ed Note: Thanks for being an avid reader of the ENewsletter. Since we are volunteers with extremely limited man/woman power, we would also like to invite you to be a part of our "proofing team." You would be sent a draft copy for a 24 hour review and turn around prior to final publication. We welcome your "grammar eye" and your effort and input to assist us to perfection.)

In Memoriam...

A Special Salute to Ken & Helen Carpenter, PC/Faculty...

I am writing this to inform you of the funeral arrangements for Ken and Helen Carpenter. Ken died a couple years ago and his cremains were kept until wife Helen died. She passed away a couple months ago at the age of 98. Their wishes were to be buried in one urn and so it was. Ken was the band director at Parsons College and Helen was the piano instructor in the 1960s. I received a call from Dan, their eldest son who many of you will remember from Parsons College days, asking me to play *Taps* at the graveside funeral. The burial was at Adel, IA on July 11, 2017. I knew Ken was a veteran of WWII but had forgotten that he was commander of the band that supported the "Flying Tigers" in Burma, China, etc. He was entitled to full military honors. The Iowa Military Honor Guard at Camp Dodge handled the service just as they would have done in Washington DC. There was not a big crowd but **Dan and Sue Carpenter** of Parsons were there along with family members. It was a wonderful and delightful service and salute to a wonderful couple...



The Carpenter's graveside service was performed by Parsons grad Don Samuelson, PC'64

John Calvin "Jack" Palmer Jr. ... Passed away at home on February 19, 2015. He was 75 and had pancreatic cancer. Jack was born in Detroit, Michigan and was married to **Barbara Quast**. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and played on the college football team at Parsons. Both his sister, **Elaine Palmer Dunlap** (Delta Zeta Sorority) and brother, **Donald Scott Palmer**, as well as his brother-in-law, **Walter Capen Dunlap** (deceased), all attended Parsons College. Jack graduated from Birmingham High School, Birmingham, Michigan and is survived by his wife, Barbara, two sons, John Calvin Palmer III and David Palmer, and three granddaughters. He was a loving, wonderful and devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend, and is deeply missed...

Brad Tait, PC'65... It's been reported by Brad's wife, Sandy Tait, that Brad passed away June 10, 2017. There will not be an obituary or memorial service. Brad's remains will be taken to Wyoming. He was originally from Fargo, ND and was living in Phoenix, AZ. Brad attended a Parsons get-together in Phoenix in March of 2017. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and a member of the Wildcats tennis team and the Lettermen's Club. No further information is available...

Anthony Wayne Herd, PC'60-'61... age 74, of Paw Paw, IL passed away April 5, 2017 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Chicago on June 1, 1942. He is survived by his son, two grandchildren and one sister. Anthony was preceded in death by his wife Linda in 2011. He served in the Navy during the Vietnam War, where he met his wife. His favorite pastime was rally racing from which he won many awards. Most recently he purchased a new Mazda convertible which he enjoyed. The family received guests at the Adams Funeral Home, Paw Paw IL. Burial with military honors followed at Wildey Cemetery...



Steve Winant

Steve Winant, PC'66... A former resident of Bronxville, NY, and most recently Tampa, died unexpectedly in his home on February 21, 2017. Steve was born January 22, 1943, in New York City. He spent his childhood in Scarsdale and Bronxville, attended Bronxville High School and later Craftsbury Academy in Craftsbury, Vermont, spending his senior year at the Craftsbury American Academy program in Switzerland. He attended Parsons, graduating in 1966, and is the pioneering founder of the Parsons College Alumni Registry. He started with a handful of names and addresses and built it to over 1,500. Following graduation, Steve served in the U.S. Army and following his discharge worked for the

Reflectone division of Singer Sewing Machine. He later moved to Tampa and completed his career with AeroSimulation, as a project manager, building flight simulators. He is survived by his two sons, three grandchildren and three brothers. A loving father, great brother, best friend and co-worker, Steve will be missed by all. No further information is available...

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