



1955 AUSTIN HIGH REUNION

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 5 ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2010

www.austin1955.org -- reunion@austin1955.org

JULY, 2010

Belated Happy Birthday to the U.S.A. and to *Leonard Cooper* and *Anthony Pagliaro*. We apologize for the tardiness of this newsletter. Your editor's basement flooded in late June, and things went downhill from there.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to these donors of \$5 or more: Dorothy Banks (widow of *Sam Panebianco*), Walter Beckstrom, James Courtney, Clifford Dorn, Marvin Glick, Larry Manelis, Tom Mitropoulos, Patti Q (Piggott) Reichard, Clare (Olson) and David Potter, Dolores T. Sarocco, Lucy K. & Peter A. Trentadue, and Janet (Westergren) Johnson. And, a SPECIAL "Thank You" to *Louis Weber* for saving the photo nametag database from our 50th reunion. The photos will help us remember how cute we once were.

Please send newsletter donations to our Treasurer, *Irwin Magad*; 2100 Sanders Road, Suite 200; Northbrook, IL 60062-6141. Please make checks payable to "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd." We appreciate your support.

55TH REUNION NEWS:

Please note that **THIS** reunion on **September 25, 2010** at the Chicago O'Hare Marriott is the **REAL** Class of 1955 reunion, regardless of what is being touted on Classmates.com. We have lined up some excellent entertainment and will have some very special door prizes. We also expect some of our favorite teachers will be joining us, as well as these alumni from outside Illinois: Walter Beckstrom from Sarasota, FL, Harold Brown from Sunrise, FL, Jim Dayton (June Class President) from Cleveland OH, Jeanette (Gromoshak) Lucansky from Daytona Beach, FL, Marcia (Hasselmann) Murphy from Hanover, PA, Carolyn (Hering) Atchison from Ft. Lauderdale, FL, James Lupo from Sierra Vista, AZ, Louis Mango from Lake Worth, FL, Chuck Meyer from Brooklyn Park, MN, Myra (Polifka) Dickens from Palm Harbor, FL, Robert Schulman from Lawrence, KA, LaVerne (Swirczinski) Kempf from Clemmons, NC, and Ben Weinberg from Henderson NV.

The Friday evening buffet dinner will include: Assorted Italian Breads, Minestrone Soup, Caesar Salad, Zucchini with Tomato, Chicken Parmesan, Linguini with Marinara Sauce, Tiramisu, Amaretto Cookies, Coffee, Teas, Waters, and Soft Drinks. There will be a Cash Bar.

If you have already registered for the Saturday dinner/dance, please **use the enclosed yellow half sheet** to pay any balance due, and to sign up for the Friday evening buffet (\$35 per person).

If you have not yet registered at all, **use the full sheet Registration form on the backside of page 3**. Please reply whether you will attend the reunion or not. **SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION AND PAYMENT TODAY!** A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. **Please join us!**

IN MEMORIAM:

We were sorry to learn of the passing of *Larry Wilens* on November 17, 2007 in California. At Austin, Larry had the nickname of "animal". Thanks to classmate *Larry Manelis* for letting us know.

We also learned recently of the passing of *Kenneth (Miskawitz) Edwards* on May 5, 2006. We extend our sympathy to his widow, Glenda, who wrote, "... he and I really enjoyed the 50th reunion in the fall of 2005!" It is with deep personal sadness we report the passing on July 11 of *Harry Kappos's wife, Paulette*. Paulette often accompanied Harry to our reunion committee meetings, and endeared herself to all of us with her kind and thoughtful ways. We shall miss her. Our hearts go out to Harry and the family.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PHOTOS WANTED:

Clifford Dorn was kind enough to send us a photo of the Orr school 1951 graduating class. We have posted it on our website. Do any of you have your 1951 class photo? If you do, please send it to our webmaster, *Jim Padar* via email to webmaster@austin1955.org or via snail mail to 5426 West Lunt Avenue, Chicago, IL 60646, or fax it to 773-774-2448.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 1956:

Your own website can now be found at www.austin1955.org/1956. It contains a list of all your classmates. Note to the Class of 1955 – Please pass the word to your younger Austin alumni friends.

NEW, POWERFUL PEOPLE SEARCH ENGINE:

Jim Padar reports there is a search engine called www.zabasearch.com/. It is more powerful than Phone Book or Anywho.com. This can be used for locating missing classmates and other old friends. Thanks, Jim!

NEWS FROM LAWRENCE, KANSAS:

Classmate *Robert Schulman* had his house professionally painted beige 7 years ago. He noticed recently that the exterior paint color had changed from beige to green in some areas. "The paint job is still okay. It's just not the color that we painted it," Schulman says. Bob's dilemma may sound unusual, but paint experts say paint colors commonly fade over time, especially dark colors like browns and green. Bill Ruisinger of Paint Pro says a quality latex paint will generally last only 5 to 7 years in the Kansas City area. Bob has complained to the paint manufacturer. The company has agreed to pick up the tab on new paint. Hurrah for you, Bob!

MUSIC MEMORIES: THE ONE HIT WONDERS OF THE FIFTIES (by Chuck Meyer):

The answer to the January quiz is Caterina Valente. In early 1955, she released three singles in three languages: "The Breeze and I" ("Andalucia") in English; "Malaguena" in Spanish; and "I Love Paris" in German (or, as she sings it, "Ganz Paris träumt von der Liebe") *Fern Katz* was the first with the correct answer. Atta girl, Fern!

"The Breeze and I" was the only one that reached the charts in the US. She performed well into the 1980's, but then gradually became a recluse, never performing and rarely granting interviews (how do you say "I want to be alone" in Italian?). She was an excellent guitar player and in her early years her accompaniment was frequently just her own playing (Hello, Joan Baez).

The first two songs were written much earlier by noted Cuban composer and pianist, Ernesto Lecuona, as part of his "Suite Andalucia" for piano. "The Breeze and I" had been recorded by Jimmy Dorsey and Bob Eberly in 1940, when it made it up to number 2 on the charts. The following are a few clickable snippets of her singing --

["The Breeze and I"](#) from her 1955 record.

["Malaguena"](#) from her 1955 record (weird video)

["Malaguena"](#) (in Spanish) & "The Breeze & I" (in English) from a 1975 performance in London

["I Love Paris"](#) (in German)

Scat version of Paganini's ["Perpetual Motion"](#) from a 1971 TV show in Italy

A funny [impromptu](#) performance on Dutch TV.

An 8-minute [medley](#) with Louis Armstrong and Danny Kaye.

Scat version of ["Avalon"](#) with Ella Fitzgerald and Perry Como

["Carnaval"](#) duet with composer Luis Bonfa and their guitars.

But now let's meet our next mystery one-hit wonder.

She was born in 1926, was a pin-up girl, played in more than 20 movies between 1944 to 1961, made the cover of Life magazine, was an occasional guest on many TV series, and on one TV series, was a regular for seven years. She has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and was sensuous in both appearance and voice. Her second husband, who was a musician, realized her potential, and helped her into the musical portion of her career. Her first recording (and her only single) was released in late 1955 and was a million seller. Following that single, she recorded many albums over the next 15 years. After that, she went back into TV. She died in October, 2000.

1. Who is she and what was her only single? (It was in 1955)
2. Who was husband number 1?
3. What did she have in common with Nat "King" Cole?
4. What was the TV series she was in for 7 years? What was unusual about the show's casting?

TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOU:

Photos and items of general class interest should be directed to webmaster@austin1955.org. If you have any news (special trips, births, deaths, anniversaries, moves, etc.) or memories of your days at Austin to share, email *Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma* or write to her at 10846 Martindale Drive; Westchester, IL 60154-5021.

PLEASE NOTE: Reunion Committee members' phone numbers have been added below to allow an easier method of communication for those alumni who do not have internet access. Let us hear from you!

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CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE: Please email changes to reunion@austin1955.org

NAME (1st, maiden, last): _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

OTHER CHANGE: _____

PHONE NUMBER (required): _____

OR, mail this form to: **Chuck Meyer, Austin Class of 1955; 5257 107th Av N; Minneapolis, MN 55443-5902**

COMMENTS: _____

