



# 1955 AUSTIN HIGH REUNION

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2 APRIL 2013

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**April is a promise that May is bound to keep. ~Hal Borland**

**HAPPY SPRING TO ALL!!**

## **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!**

We are grateful to the following classmates for their very generous donations to defray the cost of printing and publishing this newsletter. Many thanks to: Paul Abramchik, *Nancy (Baggio)* and *Mike Pasquerelli*, Rita (Cimino) Reczek, Francis Donohoe, Clifford Dorn, Ronald Erhardt, Susanne (Ferrari) Block, David Gotskind, Evelyn (Karger) Lyons, *Charles Larsen*, *Irwin Magad*, *Sheldon Marcus*, Beverly (Morreale) Dalesandro, Myra (Polifka) Dickens, *Ken Rosko*, Beverly (Simons) Bednarski, Carol Warso, and a special "thank-you" to Walter Beckstrom for the unique amount of his donation. ☺

**Please make donation checks payable to "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd."**, and send them to our Treasurer, *Irwin Magad*; 2100 Sanders Road, Suite 200; Northbrook, IL 60062-6141. **Thank you, ladies, for writing your maiden name in parentheses on your checks.** It saves your editor lots of time. We appreciate your support!

## **RESERVE NOW FOR BOEING, BOEING ON JUNE 19!!**

Our next outing will be lunch and *Boeing, Boeing* at Drury Lane Oakbrook on Wednesday June 19. Check in at 11:00 A.M., lunch is at 11:30 A.M., show begins at 1:30 P.M. The usual cost for the lunch and show is \$45, but your Austin 1955 Alumni Association is subsidizing \$10, for a final cost of \$35 per person. This is a real bargain! Lunch will include a first course, a choice of entrée, dessert, rolls and butter, and one non-alcoholic beverage. Wheelchairs are available upon request. Parking is free, and since it's a matinee, you won't have to drive in the dark! Friends, family, and other Austin class alumni are welcome to join us. The more, the merrier! Sign up now with the form at the bottom of Page 4. **Reservations and payments MUST be in by May 22, 2013.**

## **IN MEMORIAM:**

We are saddened to report the passing of **Thomas Bilbo** on January 14, 2013. Tom was preceded in death by his wife Mary, who passed on April 14, 2012. We extend our deepest sympathy to sons Michael and David, grandchildren Eric, Maddie, Bridget, and Meagan, and the rest of the Bilbo family.

Classmate **Anna Marie [Orlando] Bauer** passed away on January 19, 2013 after a long illness. Anna Marie loved spending time with her granddaughter, gardening, entertaining at her home on Lake Geneva, and going to shows and restaurants with friends. Our sincere condolences go to her husband Roy, son Christopher, granddaughter Jaden, and other family and friends.

## **MORE ABOUT PARTS FROM LOLITA (QUINY) FRASER:**

"Just thought I'd let you know that I had a left hip replacement on November 26th and I'm almost like new. I went through two years of taking Advil and getting by, but now it's great! I also had a right hip replacement about 9 years ago and it's still working and according to my x-rays, it should be good for another 5 to 10 years! So, that was good news. I'm a person who dances a lot, so I'll be tripping the light fantastic soon. I'm also active doing Pilates and I go to the gym about 3 times a week. Not too bad for a 1955 grad! I'm still my high school weight and also have a good appetite! I have put June 19th on my calendar, because my husband and I spend the summers in Chicago at our condo on 30 E. Huron. We're in the heart of the city and really enjoy it. I also have a lot of family in the suburbs. It's wonderful to spend time with all of them. We go back to Palm Desert, CA the first of Oct. Take care, Lolita (Quiny) Fraser." Lolita - Your editor is JEALOUS of that high school weight! Good for you!

## **EIGHT IS GREAT:**

**Marilyn (White) Rosenthal**, who currently resides in Israel, writes: "My husband and I now have eight (8) great-grandchildren: three boys and five girls. Wow! Warmest regards." WOW! Indeed!

### **EYE SURGERY:**

**Jim Lupo** wrote in February, “Monday I go to the hospital to have scar tissue removed from the right eye. This will restore up to 80% of my vision in my right eye. Wish me luck!” We did, and Jim reported recently that the surgery went well and he should have 80% vision by August. Good for you, Jim! We are delighted.

### **MORE ABOUT GAMES:**

Maxine Jaffee writes: “That was a good idea to mention all these old games. Here are some more:

**Jacks** - This game required 6 jacks and one small ball. You threw the jacks on a flat surface, usually the ground, and tossed the ball in the air. You were supposed to pick up one jack while the ball was in the air and catch the ball with the same hand on the first bounce. Then toss the ball up again, picking up two jacks, and on and on until you had picked up all jacks.

There were several other ball games. Usually just girls did this one. Two or more girls can play. You bounced the ball, caught it, and at different times would put your leg over a bounce while saying (using the same letter), ‘A my name is Alice and my husband's name is Al and we come from Alabama and all we want for Christmas is Apples.’ Repeat for each letter of the alphabet. First one to miss a word loses.

Another game required two people. They would clap their hands together and then clap the other person's hands (left to left and right to right) while singing or chanting a rhythmic song, such as, ‘A sailor went to sea, to see what he could see, but all that he could see, was the deep blue sea, sea, sea.’ Each time you said ‘sea’, you would salute.

Another clapping/singing game for two people was to clap hands together twice, then touch the back of the other person’s hands, then clap the palms together while singing, ‘I am a funny little Dutch girl, as funny as can be. And all the boys around the block are crazy over me. My boyfriend’s name is Jell-O. He comes from Punchinello. With a cherry on his nose and two black toes, and that’s the way the story goes.’

Then, there were the grade descriptions: First grade babies, second grade tots, third grade angels, fourth grade snots, fifth grade peaches, sixth grade plums. I don't know what 7th grade is, but 8th graders are sure bums.”

Maxine, you have a great memory. Thanks for sharing.

### **AUSTIN TIMES, JUNE 14, 1957:**

More news from this 56-year-old newspaper:

“With all the fun of school activities in the fall of 1955, a sad event occurred when Mr. Seney, Austin’s principal for a year and one half, passed away. A memorial assembly was held as a tribute to the school’s leader. At the close of the semester, Mr. Carr took over as principal.”

“**Campaign & Election** – WITH ONLY a few exceptions, the recent ASG campaign and election went along smoothly and according to plan. ASG this semester renewed the practice of having candidates give short campaign speeches. However, due to certain well-known complications, this may be discontinued in the future. Certainly, the student body of Austin High will miss these speeches. Our congratulations to all those who worked to make this campaign a successful one, and especially to the candidates, both winner and losers.”

Thanks again to Anna (Montiforte) Mancini for this wonderful old treasure.

### **MARCUS GETS APPOINTMENTS:**

**Shel Marcus** writes. “Since my term was up after six years as president of the Midwest region of B'nai B'rith International (BBI), the International president of BBI appointed me to the national Executive Board and also International Membership chair. Also, the Illinois BBI Sports Lodge president appointed me to their Executive Board. B'nai B'rith International is a volunteer organization and is the global voice of the Jewish community, the most widely known Jewish humanitarian, human rights, and advocacy organization. BBI works for Jewish unity, security, and continuity, and fights anti-Semitism and intolerance around the world. Founded in 1843, BBI is celebrating its 170th anniversary this year. BBI has members, chapters, and lodges throughout the United States and in over 50 countries.” Nice going, Shel! We’re proud of you.

**FREE HELP FOR SENIORS:** Many seniors are living on a fixed income and struggling to pay for the basics, such as paying for prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other basic needs. Sadly, they are unaware that there are over 2,000 federal, state, and private benefits programs at the federal, state, and local level that are designed especially to help seniors. The place to start the search is at a terrific website — [www.BenefitsCheckup.org](http://www.BenefitsCheckup.org). This site was created by the National Council on Aging (NCOA), a non-profit group that is supported by private donations and government. You'll be surprised at how much help is available. The site says it has helped 3,470,339 people find over \$12.8 billion worth of benefits in the 10 years since it has been in operation. BenefitsCheckUp asks a series of questions to help identify benefits that could save you money and cover the costs of everyday expenses. After answering the questions, you will get a report created just for you that describes the programs you may get help from. You can apply for many of the programs online or you can print an application. You may get help with: Medications, Food, Utilities, Legal, Health Care, Housing, In-Home Services, Taxes, Transportation, and Employment Training. If you do not have computer access, contact NCOA at 800-677-1116. Each state also has resources for seniors. In Illinois, you can go to the website of the Illinois Department of Aging [www.state.il.us/aging](http://www.state.il.us/aging) to find a list of additional resources for everything from elder abuse to Alzheimer's to help for seniors with debt or gambling problems. There is a tremendous amount of support available — if only seniors knew where to look and were encouraged to seek it. The phone number is 800-252-8966. The above information was excerpted from Terry Savage's February 6, 2013 Chicago Sun-Times column.

### **FORGOTTEN CHICAGO:**

Do you remember Riverview, the Olson Rug waterfall, the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Maxwell Street? Although they are all gone now, there is a website whose stated aim is "to discover and document little known elements of Chicago's infrastructure, architecture, neighborhoods, and general cityscape, whether existing or historical." [www.forgottenchicago.com](http://www.forgottenchicago.com) was launched in November 2007 by Jacob Kaplan, a 23-year-old part-time college student and full-time drug store manager living in Rogers Park. The site's stated hope is "that exposing many of these overlooked elements of Chicago's built environment to a wider audience will result in more interest in their preservation." Forgotten Chicago is filled with such gems as a fine essay by Greg Borzo on Chicago Cable Cars, a Kaplan story about forgotten breweries, and Patrick Steffes' essay about hotels. The site is rich with photos and commentary, and provides links to like-minded Internet sites. In addition, Forgotten Chicago conducts tours and stages events. In February, one free event took place in the Cultural Center. The focus was on "overlooked aspects of the central business district ... examining long lost architecture, hidden in plain sight remnants of former retail institutions, innovative parking solutions, and overlooked buildings that have remained from lost eras of the Loop." 2013 tours include:

[Industrial Might & Architectural Surprises Bus Tour](#) – Sunday, April 21, 2013

[Division Street Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, May 19, 2013 [Jefferson Park Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, June 9, 2013

[Avondale Bike Tour](#) – Sunday, June 23, 2013 [Indiana Harbor Boat Tour](#) – Sunday, July 21, 2013

[Cicero/Berwyn Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, July 28, 2013

[Pennock and the "Land of Koz" Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, August 11, 2013

[Downtown Evanston Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, August 18, 2013

[Cable Car Remnants Bus Tour](#) – Sunday, August 25, 2013

[Bloomington Trail Walking Tour](#) – Sunday, September 15, 2013

[Corporate Kings North Bus Tour](#) – Sunday, September 29, 2013

Tour prices haven't been posted yet, but you can obtain information by calling 312-869-2548.

### **THOUGHTS TO PONDER:**

"The consumption of alcohol may cause you to think you can sing."

"I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter...I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after."

"The best thing to hold onto in life is each other"

### **TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOU:**

Photos and items of general class interest should be directed to [webmaster@austin1955.org](mailto: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.

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CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER CHANGE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER (required): \_\_\_\_\_

OR, mail to: *Chuck Meyer*, Austin Class of 1955; 3800 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue N #203; Brooklyn Park, MN 55443-2974



## Luncheon/Theatre: Wednesday, June 19, 2013

Drury Lane's production of *Boeing, Boeing*, a slapstick romp about a roué with three mistresses, has no earthly right to be as funny as it is.

**Check-In 11:00 AM -- Lunch 11:30 AM -- Play 1:30 PM**

Fasten your seat belts for high-flying hijinks when *Boeing, Boeing* lands on Drury Lane's stage! In this first-class 1960's French farce, playboy Bernard juggles the arrivals and departures of his three flight attendant fiancées, each unaware of the other...until an old friend's surprise visit causes turbulence. Winner of the 2008 Tony award.

**Payment due by Wednesday, May 22, 2013 (no refunds)**

**Payable to: "Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd."**

Please mail to:



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Irwin Magad**  
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**Please Select:**  Chicken Breast Marsala  Salmon Filet \*

\*Vegetarian meals are available upon request.