



1955 AUSTIN HIGH REUNION

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 10 ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2015

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to Jackie (Catalano) Ballard, Raymond Charlette (Class of 1956), Eileen (Fogel) Glatt, James Huseman, Norman Kazluski, Thomas Pekras, and Robert Skow.

A very special "Thank You" to *Geraldine (Harris) and Ed Horak*, Louis George Kaufman, Jack Rosspank, Robert Udoni, and Louis Weber for their extra generosity.

Please make donation checks payable to "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd.", and mail them to our Treasurer, *Irwin Magad*: 3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060

Thank you, Ladies, for writing your maiden name on your checks. It saves your editor lots of time.

FROM SHEL MARCUS, REUNION CO-ORDINATOR:

Thank you for your many quick responses to attend our 60th Reunion celebration on the weekend of September 25/26/27 at the Chicago/O'Hare Marriott Hotel. It will be our 3rd BIG Reunion since our 50th (50th, 55th, 60th). As in the past, we'll have time to laugh, cry, and remember the great times we had at Austin High. There will be many memorable highlights, and gifts for all who attend. Our hotel location offers access to a new, large, indoor, brand-name discount shopping mall within a few minutes from our hotel. And for those who like to gamble, there is a fabulous new casino which provides a shuttle bus to and from the hotel.

All this and more - like our casual Italian buffet get-together on Friday evening, with some special surprises; our classy sit-down dinner on Saturday night, with a very, very honored guest speaker who will entertain with many memories of our high school years; and finally, our Sunday morning buffet breakfast, which will allow us to not say "Goodbye," but "Until we meet again."

Yes, it sounds like a wonderful weekend, and we, the committee, have had a ball planning this and the many other memorable events over the years. So, if you haven't sent in your reservation yet, do it today to ensure your presence is noted in the Memory Book. Reunion details will follow after we receive your reservation.

We have received messages from some classmates who, for various reasons, will not be able to join us, but would like to participate in some way. The committee has decided that, as in past years, we will devote a page in our colorful Memory Book (which has always been a great souvenir) to acknowledge "**MAROON & WHITE SPONSORS***."

You may show your support by contributing any amount as a **MAROON & WHITE SPONSOR**. Your gifts will help cover reunion and other expenses, including the costs of printing and mailing your quarterly newsletter that will continue to bring you classmate news and notices of future events. Whether you will attend or not, if you would like to be a **MAROON & WHITE SPONSOR**, just complete the form on page 4 of this newsletter and send a check.

RESERVE NOW FOR OUR 60TH REUNION!!

REMEMBER to make your room reservation BEFORE AUGUST 25 by calling 1-888-236-2427. Ask for the special "Austin High School 60th Reunion" rate of \$135 + tax. The Rivers Casino is five minutes away from the hotel and provides a free shuttle service, and Fashion Outlets of Chicago is ten minutes away, so plan to spend the weekend. **SIGN UP NOW with the reservation form on page 4 of this newsletter.** If you have any questions, call or email *Ken Rosko* at 847-623-5800 or jkr.financial@gmail.com or *Shel Marcus* at 847-966-5862 or Shelmarcus@yahoo.com. Stay well and plan to join in the fun. **GO YOU AUSTIN!!**

MAN'S CLASS RING STILL WANTED: If you have a man's AHS55 class ring you no longer want, classmate *Harry Kappos* may take it off your hands. Contact Harry at (847) 271-2503 or (847) 515-8693 or hgk1937@comcast.net. Size is not important.

IN MEMORIAM:

Classmate **Kenneth E. Todd** of Schaumburg passed away Feb. 28, 2011. He was the former CEO of Wace USA and the owner/operator of AlphaGraphics, Elk Grove Village. Kenneth is survived by his wife Penny (nee Sherwood); his three children, and four grandchildren. Belated condolences to the Todd family. We also learned recently of the passing of **Steve Myles** in San Diego, CA. Our sympathy goes to his brother Howard.

WET EYES: On June 6, classmate **Irwin Magad** joined eight WWII veterans, 13 Korean War Veterans, and their Guardians at 3 a.m. at the North Chicago City Hall to board buses to Milwaukee for their Lake County Honor Flight on Southwest Airlines to Washington, D.C. Each veteran must go in a wheelchair, and his Guardian is the pusher, who also sees to the veteran's needs and never leaves him alone. Irwin was the Guardian for his friend Michael Lichtenstein. All veterans fly free. As Irwin relates, "We all knew that this would be a very emotional trip, but we never suspected that the emotions would begin on our bus ride up to Milwaukee. We were escorted by several police cars and motorcycles, with lights flashing and sirens sounding, plus a motorcycle club of 50 to 100 members all around the bus. When we arrived at the airport, leader of the club, dressed like a Hell's Angel, came aboard and with tears in his eyes, thanked the veterans for their service. As we left the bus for the walk to the terminal, the walkway was lined with bikers all the way thru the terminal up to Security. They wished us a good flight and again thanked the vets for their service. Some of the lady bikers hugged our veterans.

Upon arrival at Baltimore/Washington airport, we left the plane after the rest of the passengers. The wheelchairs were waiting, as were thousands (yes!) of people, both civilian and military, waving flags, greeting us, and saying 'Thank you for your service.' More wet eyes.

We went first to the WWII memorial, where a ceremony was about the start, commemorating the 71st anniversary of D-Day. A couple of our veterans were brought up front to be honored by a crowd of several thousand, with a military band playing. More wet eyes.

My grandson was in Washington at the time, and was able to join us as we visited the Vietnam, Korean, and Lincoln Memorials. The scenario at the WWII Memorial was repeated at each stop, with visitors greeting and thanking the vets for their service. Our day ended with dinner at VFW post #177 in Fairfax VA, after which we retired to our hotel for a well-deserved rest.

The next day, we visited the 911 Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, where we watched the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns from a special spot in front of all other visitors. The youngest Guardian on the trip was 15 year old Ellie, whose father was also a Guardian. While at Arlington, we made a stop at the grave of a 90+ year old veteran with whom Ellie had become quite close through several years of correspondence to the point that the old vet considered her his grand-daughter. When he died, Ellie was unable to attend his funeral, so she was now able to visit his grave and pay her respects. Her father followed after a few minutes, and they both returned to the bus, red-eyed, as we all were. More wet eyes. Our next visits were to the US Marine Corps Memorial, the Women's Memorial, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. Then, back to the airport for a wonderful flight back on Southwest. Upon arrival in Milwaukee, we boarded our bus to return to North Chicago, where we had a "welcome back" ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in North Chicago. More wet eyes. Of the many speeches we heard, one bears special mention. One of our WWII veterans who had served in Germany became a Catholic priest after the war. He said that after fighting in Germany, he changed his life to try to save people instead of killing them. More wet eyes. It was, indeed, an honor to be on this Honor Flight and just be a part of it."

60 YEARS AGO: on **July 11, 1955**, the U.S. Air Force Academy officially opened and the first cadets were sworn in. (The Academy was initially housed in temporary quarters at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado. The permanent site at Colorado Springs was completed in August 1958.)

MAY 2015 ANNIVERSARIES:

70 YEARS AGO: On **May 8, 1945**, **VE Day**, combat in Europe ended after Germany agreed to an unconditional surrender.

165 YEARS AGO: On **May 31, 1850**, nine Chicagoans, including John Evans, met in a law office above a hardware store on the northern edge of the city's business district to found Northwestern University. All nine were Methodists, yet they deliberately chose to found a secular university which, in 1869, became one of the first universities to admit women students. University Hall, which was its first permanent building, still stands as a campus landmark. In 1882, Northwestern fielded its first intercollegiate football team and later became a founding member of what was to become the Big Ten Conference. The city of Evanston is named for John Evans. [Encyclopedia of Chicago]

JUNE 2015 ANNIVERSARIES:

240 YEARS AGO: The U.S. Army was founded on **June 14, 1775**, when the Continental Congress authorized enlistment of riflemen to serve the United Colonies for one year. The Army has grown to one of the strongest combat forces in history. Learn more about how the Army began and what its missions are today:

<http://www.wearethemighty.com/happy-240th-birthday-us-army-2015-06#ixzz3d5D4YG5i>

800 YEARS AGO: On **June 15, 1215**, a peace treaty came into being that would become a pillar of English law and the basis of constitutional democracies in the United States and around the world hundreds of years later. Magna Carta set out the principle that everybody was subject to the law, even the king. Some of its key principles influenced the U.S. Bill of Rights and other legal systems. [Chicago Sun-Times & Chicago Tribune]

200 YEARS AGO: On **June 18, 1815**, Napoleon lost the Battle of Waterloo. He surrendered to the British, who imprisoned him on the remote island of [Saint Helena](#). Just a humble kid from Corsica, he attended military school in Paris, and rose quickly through the ranks during the years of the French Revolution. By 1799, he was the ruler of France, and within five years had conquered most of Europe, and declared himself emperor of it all. News of his death in 1821, at age 51, was received by shock and grief throughout Europe. [Various]

60 YEARS AGO: On **July 7, 1955**, the song *Rock Around the Clock* by Bill Haley and His Comets reached #1 on the *Billboard* chart in the USA. (It remained #1 for 8 weeks. Although not the first rock and roll song, it is considered the song that brought rock and roll into the mainstream.) On **July 17, 1955**, the first Disneyland theme park opened, in Anaheim, California.

RANDOM THOUGHTS: Nothing makes a man feel older than seeing a pretty girl and thinking ‘She needs to put some clothes on.’ [Arlo and Janis Comics]

Be kind to unkind people. They need it the most. [Anon]

All of us have moments in our lives that test our courage. Taking children into a house with a white carpet is one of them.” [Anon]

Enthusiasm – nothing great is ever achieved without it. [Ralph Waldo Emerson]

20 years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do, than by the things you did. [Anon]

There are never enough “I love you’s.” [Lenny Bruce]

RETURNED MAROON & WHITE ANNUALS:We still have a supply of annuals that people have given us. If you want one or more, please contact **Ken Rosko** and arrange for pickup or delivery. Also, if you wish to dispose of your old annuals, please send them to: **Ken Rosko** at JKR Financial Consultants, Ltd., 1790 Nations Drive, Suite 216, Gurnee, IL 60031, where they will be stored for free distribution to anyone who wants them.

TELL US WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH YOU:

Photos or other items for our website, should be emailed to webmaster@austin1955.org or call Jim Padar for where to mail them. If you have any news to share in the newsletter, please email your editor, **Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma** at kaurige1@att.net or write to her at 10846 Martindale Drive, Westchester, IL 60154-5021.

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1955 AUSTIN HIGH REUNION

60th ANNIVERSARY REUNION

SEPTEMBER 25 – 27, 2015

CHICAGO MARRIOTT O'HARE

REGISTRATION & ENTRÉE SELECTION

FRIDAY EVENING ITALIAN BUFFET - \$50 PER PERSON
SATURDAY NIGHT SIT-DOWN DINNER - \$90 PER PERSON

To reserve a place at the Friday night casual buffet, the Saturday night dinner and entertainment, or both, please send your deposit of \$50 per person or full payment by **July 31**. Payment by July 31 will ensure your name and photo will be in the Reunion Memory Book. The balance, if any, will be due by August 31.

Please send this completed page with your check payable to "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd.", to our Treasurer, *Irwin Magad*: 3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060. Remember, **deposits of \$50 per person are due by July 31**. Final payments are due no later than August 31.

NAME #1: _____ NAME #2: _____
(Ladies – Please include your maiden name in parentheses.)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER(S): HOME: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____ SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

EVENTS: September 25 Friday Night Buffet Supper # of people attending: _____ x \$50 = \$ _____

September 26 Saturday Night Dinner # of people attending: _____ x \$90 = \$ _____

TOTAL= \$ _____

LESS DEPOSIT # of people attending: _____ x \$50 = \$ _____

BALANCE DUE = \$ _____

September 27 Sunday Farewell Breakfast (select from menu – pay on your own) # of people attending: _____

_____ Sorry, I/We cannot attend, but keep me/us posted on future events. My/our contact information is above.

SATURDAY DINNER ENTREE SELECTION: Please select one for each person dining.

___ Lemon-crusted Chicken # ___ Seared Salmon # ___ Filet Mignon # ___ Grilled Vegetable Ravioli (no meat)

***Maroon & White Donation Sponsor Name(s):** _____ = \$ _____

Mail this completed form with your check, payable to: "Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd." to *Irwin Magad*, Austin Class of 1955 Reunion, 3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____ NOTE: Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt. Should you need to cancel, refunds will be made up to September 1.