



AUSTIN HIGH 1950's ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2 SPRING 2017

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



WE HAVE MERGED AND WE'RE OFF TO THE RACES!!

In the spirit of friendship and camaraderie, the leaders of the Austin classes of 1955 and 1956 reunion committees are pleased to announce the merger of the two groups. We hope this will be a long and fruitful union. Please plan to join your fellow Austin alumni for a Day at the Races 80th Birthday party for most of the Class of 1955 at Arlington Park on Thursday, August 17. Arlington Park celebrates its 90th anniversary this year, having opened on October 13, 1927. We are looking forward to a fun day. Our group (Austin High 1950's Alumni) will even be greeted on the Big Board. Please see the last page of this newsletter for a Registration Form with price, what's included, and registration deadline. More details will be in the Summer (July) newsletter. Sign up now, and avoid the last-minute rush!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

We are grateful to the following classmates for their donations in support of this newsletter: Walter Beckstrom, Rita (Cimino) Reczek, Joseph DeRosa, Marie (Douglas) Burkman, Clifford Dorn, Vera (Feigenbaum) Post, Marcia (Hasselmann) Murphy, Marilyn (Hellyer) Morrison, Louis Kaufman, Grace (Morra) Trp, Claire (Olson) Potter, John Ruckrich, Carolyn (Stevens) Heino, Josephine (Tavarone) Bax, Concetta (Tosto) Fumarello, and William Wire.

Special Thanks to Paul Abramchik, Patricia (Heiland) Wise, *Sheldon Marcus*, Robert Mintz, *Kenneth Rosko*, Paul Sengpiehl, and Louis Weber, who made extra generous donations.

Please make your annual \$5 (or more) donation checks payable to "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd." and mail them to our Treasurer, Irwin Magad: 3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060. PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE YOUR CLASS ('55,'56,'57, etc.) ON YOUR CHECK, AND LADIES, PLEASE ALSO NOTE YOUR MAIDEN NAME.

[Note: We are retaining the legal name of "Austin 1955 Reunion Ltd.", because that is how our non-profit group is registered with the State of Illinois, and that is the title on our checking account.]

IMPORTANT NOTICE!! Currently, your donations help defray the cost of paper, ink, envelopes, stamps, and database and website maintenance, as well as helping reduce the cost of special events. Classmate volunteers *donate* their time to print, fold, stuff, seal, and stamp the newsletters that go into the mail. Now that our group has more than doubled, we really need to reduce the number of hard copies we produce. If you have access to a computer and an email account, or if you have a friend or family member who has one, and would do you a favor 4 times a year, **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, send us your email address** on the CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE form on page 3 of this newsletter, or on the enclosed special form. Your reunion committee will really appreciate your help.

IN MEMORIAM – CLASS OF 1955:

Lolita (Quiny) Fraser passed away mid-December 2016 after a two-year battle with ovarian cancer. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband Don and the Quiny and Fraser families.

Dr. Monique (Lopas) Savlin, PhD beloved wife of the late Robert, loving mother of Peter, Eric, and David (Becky), passed away on January 12. Monique was born in Antwerp, Belgium, and had a happy childhood until the Occupation. She then lived with a Catholic family in the countryside, pretending to be Catholic. Her father, Aaron, was killed by Nazis. After the war, the family immigrated to Chicago, where she met future husband Robert on a blind date, since he had studied in Belgium. She taught French at Chute Middle School in Evanston, then earned her Ph.D. at Northwestern, and was a practicing psychologist for the rest of her life. "I became a psychologist, looking into the mind to find meaning and attempting to understand how people came to behave in the many varied ways which they do. What makes us truly human? How can we be so different from each other? What drives some to commit evil and deny wrongdoing?" Rest in Peace, Monique.

Arlene (Cohen) Lavin passed away peacefully with all of her family around her on February 24, in Scottsdale, AZ. Arlene is survived by her beloved husband of 57 years, **Michael Lavin**; her children, Beth Lavin and Allison (Steven) Hoffman; grandchildren Rachel and Alec Hoffman and all her beloved grand-pets. We extend our condolences to the Cohen and Lavin families.

We heard from classmate **Patricia (Heiland) Wise** that classmate **Jocelyn (Haywood) Pritchard** of Oak Park passed away on October 24th 2016. "She was a great Austinite, who was in many clubs and programs. She graduated from Iowa State & was Tri Delta." Jocelyn was the beloved wife of the late William "Bill"; loving mother of David (Cindy), Linda (Wilson "Bill") Muse and Pamela Pritchard; Cherished grandmother of Jeremy Muse, Justin Muse and Michael Pritchard.

IN MEMORIAM – CLASS OF 1956:

Melvyn H. Schneider passed away peacefully on Oct. 17, 2016, surrounded by his family. Mel attended Emmet grade school, Austin High, and Roosevelt University before joining the Admiral Corporation, founded by Ross Siragusa, as a junior accountant. Mel and Ross became fast friends, and Mel served as an advisor and later volunteered for nearly 40 years with the Siragusa's nonprofit family foundation. Although settled on the West Coast, Mel never let go of his Chicago roots, remaining loyal to all the Chicago sports teams, especially the Bears and Cubs. Mel is remembered as an energetic, patient, and thoughtful person, with an admirable sense of humor and diplomacy, and a wonderful penchant for story-telling.

Glenn A Beiter Jr., of Kerrville, Texas, passed away Monday, Jan. 2, 2017. Our condolences go out to his widow Sue and the rest of the Beiter family.

Paul M. Lovrencic, beloved husband of Barbara Doss-Lovrencic, nee Peterson; loving father of Sue Ann (Richard) Seiler and Michelle (Ray) O'Connor; loving stepfather of Marc (Gabrielle) Doss; proud grandfather of six, passed away early in April. Paul was an Air Force Veteran and a member of American Legion Post 791 of Northbrook. We extend our sincere sympathy to the Doss and Lovrencic families.

2016 ANNIVERSARY CORRECTION:

Thanks to **Maxine Jaffee** for pointing out some errors in the Winter newsletter's article about radio station WFMT. The station moved in **1964**, not 1954, to its current location at 5400 N. St. Louis Avenue. This facility was renamed in **2014**, not 1995, the Renée Crown Public Media Center.

CHICAGO'S OLDEST BAR CLOSES:

Long considered one of the city's most historic taverns, Schaller's Pump opened in 1881 and poured its last beer on April 30, 2017. The bar took "Pump" as part of its name because of the brewery next door pumping beer directly into the tavern. George Schaller bought it near the end of Prohibition. His son, Jack, took over in the early 1960s and ran the bar for decades with the help of his children. Jack Schaller, who lived in an apartment above the bar, died in 2016. It was a short walk from the former home of Richard J. Daley and across the street from the 11th Ward Democratic headquarters.

2017 BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

225 YEARS AGO: on April 2, 1792, Congress established the first U.S. Mint in Philadelphia.

208 YEARS AGO: Abraham Lincoln was born in Hodgenville, Kentucky. Little known facts about him are: he was a licensed bartender; he was a wrestler who lost only one of his 300 matches, and was posthumously honored in the National Wrestling Hall of Fame; he hated the nickname "Abe." [*Parade*, February 12, 2017]

145 YEARS AGO: Arbor Day was founded by J. Sterling Morton on April 10, in Nebraska City, Nebraska, where over an estimated one million trees were planted on that single day.

125 YEARS AGO: Walt Whitman passed peacefully at home on March 26, 1892, after a career that revolutionized American literature with works like *The Leaves of Grass*.

100 YEARS AGO: John F. Kennedy was born in Brookline, Massachusetts on May 29, 1917. He served as President of the United States from 1961-1963, in the U.S. Senate from 1953-1960 and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1947-1953. He died on 11-22-63. The U.S. entered World War I on April 6, 1917.

80 YEARS AGO: Madeleine Korbel Albright, was born Marie Jana Korbel on May 15, 1937, in Prague, Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic). Her grandmother gave her the nickname "Madeleine." She married Joseph Medill Patterson Albright three days after graduating from Wellesley. They had three daughters. She became the first woman to be sworn in as the United States Secretary of State on January 23, 1997.

80 YEARS AGO: On May 27, members of the public first walked across the Golden Gate Bridge on the day of its completion. Cars crossed the next day.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME (DST) MYTH:

Most Americans think we turn our clocks one hour forward in the spring and backward in the fall because the farmers said they needed more daylight in the field. The truth is it was industrialists and politicians, including Woodrow Wilson, who thought that increasing daylight hours would reduce demand for electricity and free up coal for the war effort, according to David Prerau, author of *Seize the Daylight*. Questions remain if DST does, in fact, reduce energy consumption to a significant degree, but it HAS succeeded in getting more people to shop. The extra month of DST that the U.S. began observing in 1986, boosted the golf and BBQ industries by between \$200 million and \$400 million, according to some estimates. That trend continues for many retailers today. [TIME 3-20-17]

TELL US YOUR NEWS: If you have any news to share, email *Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma* or write to her at 10846 Martindale Drive, Westchester, IL 60154-5021. Photos and other items for our website should be directed to Jim Padar at webmaster@austin1955.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE: Please email changes to reunion@austin1955.org OR, mail to: *Chuck Meyer, Austin 1950's Alumni; 5800 St. Croix Ave. N – Apt. C610; Golden Valley, MN 55422.*

NAME (1st, maiden, last) and Class Year:

STREET ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE (Required): _____ EMAIL: _____

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This newsletter was prepared by Minute Man Press of Westchester on behalf of the Austin 1950's Alumni

ARLINGTON PARK SPECIAL EVENT
(ALUMNI 80th BIRTHDAY PARTY)
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2017
Gates Open 12:00 PM -- Lunch -- First Race 1:25 PM



Payment due by Thursday, AUGUST 10, 2017 (no refunds)
Payable to: "Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd."

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Number of people _____ X \$30 = \$_____ Check # _____ is enclosed.

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Price includes Admission, Daily Racing Form, Reserved Seats, and a "Grab 'n Go Lunch, including choice of Sandwich (BBQ Chicken, Beer-Soaked Bratwurst, or Black Bean Burger), Assorted Chips, Seasonal Fruit, Chocolate Chip Cookie, and Soft Drinks. Adult beverages are available at extra cost.

Please mail this form and your check payable to **Austin 1955 Reunion, Ltd.** No later than **August 10 to:**

Irwin Magad,
Austin Class of 1955 Reunion
3714 Monticeto Circle
Mundelein, IL 60060