

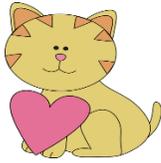


AUSTIN HIGH [CHICAGO] 1950s ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 14 ISSUE 1 WINTER 2020

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

LAST CALL FOR DRURY LANE MARCH EVENT



By now, you should have received in the mail your Registration Form for the Austin High '50s Gala Reunion Weekend Event on October 9-11, in Oakbrook Terrace, IL. If you have not received it, please contact Shel Marcus, Art Fumarolo, or Marsh Hechter. See more information from Shel Marcus on next page.

SPRING 2020 DRURY LANE LUNCH & PLAY on WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2020:

Register now for the best seats for *An American in Paris*! **Only the first 42 to register** are guaranteed the special discount price of \$65 each. This includes almost everything! Free parking, easy access with a minimum of stairs, and all taxes and gratuities. Wheelchair seating is limited. Lunch will include a salad, choice of entrée, dessert, rolls and butter, and coffee or tea. Adult beverages are extra. Friends, family, and other Austin alumni are welcome to join us. The more, the merrier! Sign up now.

Reservations and payments MUST be in by February 28, 2020.



DRURY LANE SPRING EVENT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020

Runtime: *2 hours with a 15-minute intermission*

Check In @ 11 AM – Lunch Seating @ 11:30 – Play Begins @ 1:30 PM

Payment due by Tuesday, FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Payable to: "AUSTIN 1955 REUNION, Ltd."

[DO NOT MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO IRWIN!!]



Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Number of people _____ X \$65 = \$ _____ Check # _____ is enclosed.

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Entrees (number of each): Fish: _____ Chicken: _____ Pasta: _____ Vegan: _____

(Parmesan-crusted Tilapia, Grilled Breast of Chicken, Finger Cavatelli, Veggie Kebab)

Mail your check by February 28, 2020 to:

Irwin Magad, Austin High [Chicago] 1950s Alumni

3714 Monticeto Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060

SHEL MARCUS WRITES:

“AUSTIN HIGH 2020 REUNION INFORMATION HAS BEEN MAILED! By now everyone on our mailing list should have received their registration information regarding all the exciting plans for our fabulous 2020 Austin High School's 1950s Week-end Reunion, October 9-11 at the Chicago Hilton Oakbrook Suites and the Drury Lane Theatre/Dining Complex. This will be a once in a lifetime experience and I hope, after reading all the exciting plans your reunion planning committee has put together, that you've reserved your space and sent in your deposit. As those of you who have attended our past reunions will recall, they have all been a fun-filled time with many good memories and happy surprises. This one will be no different, except we are celebrating the **decade** of the fifties, and are inviting any and all who attended Austin High school during 1950-1959 to join us. There will be a memorabilia area where you will be invited to display your old sweaters, jackets, pictures, and whatever to share those great memories. We have already collected Yearbooks from each year of the '50s, and they will be on display for viewing during the entire week-end. As in the past, our classmate Lou Weber, '55, and his staff at Publications International, have generously donated the printing and production of our beautiful program book, name tags and holders, souvenir bags, napkins, etc. Many, many thanks, Lou, for your generosity, friendship, and support over the years." **Send in your reservation and deposit by March 6.**

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

We are grateful to the following classmates for their donations in support of this newsletter:

Mary (Agostino) Palmisano '55, Clifford Dorn '55, Bette (Gustafson) Twietmeyer '54, Robert Mintz, '55; **John Rozinsky '56**, Jackie (Tavormina) Passuntino, '54, and **Josephine (Tavarone) Bax. '56.**

Special thanks to these who made extra-generous donations: Miriam (Lee) Smith '56, **Ken Rosko '55**, Al and Susan (Synoracki) Meyer '56, and Louis Weber '55.

ALUMNI NEWS:

John Rozinsky writes that in September, he and Diane joined several Austin High School folks at Rehoboth Beach, DE, where Phyllis and **Bruce Powers ('56)** have a condo unit on the beach. They were joined by **Joyce Callahan, '57**, and Lee Heffron, whose husbands **Bruce Callahan, and John Heffron**, were both Austin '56 graduates. Since it was their first time there, they had much fun exploring the area, well-known as a weekend and vacation destination for residents of the Washington, D.C. area. It was a somber occasion as well, with Joyce scattering Bruce's ashes on the beach where John Heffron's ashes had previously been scattered. In prior years, this group was joined by '56 grads, **Carl Fauver** and **Allan Barger**.

WEBSITE UPDATE:

The "**1955 Graduate List and Member Status (2/9/2020)**" on our website has been updated to reflect the status of all 1955 alumni as of February 9, 2020. Take some time to browse the list to rekindle some old memories. If you find any inaccuracies or if you know how to contact someone who is listed as "Not Located" or "Addr Unknown," please let us know by email to: reunion@austin1955.org or phone call to Art Fumarolo at 847-289-7847. We will send new members details about our organization and our upcoming 1950s reunion. Note: The 1956 Graduate List will be updated next quarter.

AUSTIN NEWS:

According to the latest *Building Usage Report* issued on January 2, 2020, by the Chicago Board of Education, the majority of Chicago Public Schools' district-run elementary and high schools are not being properly utilized. Nearly 290 schools across the city are considered either *overcrowded* or *underutilized* based on space availability and student enrollment. Among the CPS school buildings, 253 are *underutilized*, meaning they use less than 70% of their ideal enrollment capacity. Thirty-five schools were classified as *overcrowded* – meaning they use more than 110% of their ideal capacity – while another 206 schools were deemed *efficient*. These figures include only district-run schools, so charter and alternative schools are not factored in. The Austin College and Career Academy High School, with an October 1, 2019, enrollment of 245 in a building equipped to handle 1,908, has a utilization rate of 13%, and is classified as *underutilized*. [WTTW online news site; January 2, 2020]

“Learning is a lifelong process. It's only the graduation ceremonies that end.”

IN MEMORIAM:

Michael Bauer ('56), USMC, retired member for 23 years of one of the original CFD helicopter units, and a carpenter with Local #80 for 25 years, passed away on October 15, 2019. He leaves his wife Kathleen, daughters Kathleen (the late Dave) Heraty and Beth Bauer, and three grandchildren. Semper Fi, Mike!

Albert Peter Fosha ('55), passed away on December 19, 2019 in Sun City, FL. He was a loving husband, father, and grand-father who lived life to the fullest! He genuinely wanted everyone around him to have laughs and fun. He loved tennis, pickle ball, golf, fishing, and good times drinking with friends and family. He was one of a kind and will be dearly missed. He is survived by his loving wife Betty Sue, his son Albert, daughters Carol, Nancee, Terri, and Debbie and 7 grand-children.

Darlene (Granger) Eaton ('56), of Hayward, California, passed peacefully at home on September 19, 2019. She was born in Chicago in 1938 and moved to California in 1963. She is preceded in death by her parents, brother Jerry Granger, and husband Francis Eaton. She was a loving mother to her children, Dawn Ehret (Joe), Denise Passama (Jay), Darrin Eaton (Erin), and Danny Eaton (Jayde); seven grandchildren, five great grandchildren and one on the way. Her sense of humor and love will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Jocelyn (Haywood) Pritchard ('55), passed away on October 24, 2016. Beloved wife of the late William, loving mother of David (Cindy), Linda (Wilson) Muse, and Pamela Pritchard. Grandmother of three.

Eugene Kout ('55), passed away on September 12, 2019, in Medford, Oregon. Gene is survived by his wife, **Flora Lee Bandalin ('56)**, his sons Steven and Gary, and four granddaughters.

Mary Maffia Lacni ('56), passed away on October 24, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Steven R. Lacni for 57 years, loving mother of Steven, grandmother of four.

Margaret McLay Brenner ('56), passed away on September 7, 2019 in Louisville, KY. Margaret was born in Scotland, and immigrated to the United States in the 1940s. She met her husband George, who passed shortly after she did, in Chicago. Together, they shared their passion for traveling the world and experiencing different sights, sounds, and foods. Condolences to her niece Mary Jo Rothenberg, who told us of her passing.

Myrna Joy (Leivenson) Barnett ('56), passed away on May 2, 2019. She leaves her beloved husband and best friend, Gerald; daughters Julie and Wendi; and three grandchildren.

Sandra (Turner) Weinberg ('58), wife of classmate **Ben (Buddy) Weinberg ('55)** passed away on December 15, 2019 in Henderson, NV. They were married for 61 years, and had two children, Mark and Wendy, and three grandchildren.

Gerald Wollard ('56), loving and devoted husband of Sandy, passed away at Ponte Vedra Beach, FL on June 6, 2019. Jerry served in the USMC and had a successful career with United Parcel Service, retiring in 1995.

Condolences to **Judy (Wright) Whellen ('56)**, on the passing on January 15, 2020, of her husband, Floyd.

Condolences to **Susan (Yablon) Klein ('55)** on the recent passing of her twin brother **Alfred Yablon ('55)**.

GOOD THOUGHTS:

“Perhaps they are not stars in the sky, but openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy.” [Charles Schultz]

Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates: Is it True? Is it Necessary? Is it Kind? [Anon.]

“We turn not older with years, but newer every day.” [Emily Dickinson, December 10, 1830]

A good laugh and a long sleep are the two best cures for anything. [Irish Proverb]

MILESTONES & HISTORIC EVENTS:

100 years of Good Humor: In 1919, Christian Nelson, an Iowa store owner, discovered how to coat an ice cream bar with chocolate, inventing the Eskimo Pie. When he heard of the discovery, Harry Burt (1875–1926), owner of a Youngstown, Ohio, ice cream parlor, replicated Nelson's product. The story is that Burt's 23-year-old daughter Ruth thought that the new novelty was too messy. Burt's son, Harry Jr, suggested using a wooden stick as a convenient handle. They tried out the idea in the store's hardening room, where they discovered that the stick formed a strong bond when the ice cream crystallized. Burt outfitted twelve street vending trucks in Youngstown with rudimentary freezers and bells to sell his "Good Humor Ice Cream Suckers" in **1920**.

100 years ago, on January 19, 1920, the **American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)** was founded by Roger Baldwin, Helen Keller, and others. The ACLU states as its mission the protection and preservation of First Amendment rights, equal protection under the law, due process, and the right to privacy.

75 years ago: on January 27, 1945, the Auschwitz death camp in Poland was liberated by Russian soldiers. They could not believe what they saw there. "Do not be indifferent when any minority suffers discrimination," warned Auschwitz survivor Marian Turski, 93. [*Time* 2-10-20] Editor note: NEVER FORGET! See also <https://www.history.com/news/auschwitz-liberation-soviets-holocaust>.

60 years ago: in 1960, Pizza Hut was born. In 1958, just three years after the McDonald's franchise was established, two brothers in Wichita, Kansas, named Dan and Frank Carney had an idea. They asked their mother to loan them \$600 so they could open a pizza shop in a downtown building that was shaped a bit like a hut. They could only fit nine letters on the sign out front, so, playing off the odd shape of the building, the Carney brothers named their restaurant Pizza Hut. Two years later, the first Pizza Hut franchise opened. The pizza chain grew from there. Rival pizza chain Domino's started in the early 1960s and Papa John's didn't enter the market until 1984. Today, Pizza Hut is the largest user of cheese in the world. [*The Daily Meal*, September 27, 2019]

"What bothers me now is that my birthday suit now counts as vintage clothing."

A FOOTNOTE OF SORTS:

Charles Brannock grew up around shoes at his father's shoe store in Syracuse, NY. As at most other shoe stores at the time, shoe sizes were measured using a block of wood. In the 1920s, while at college, Brannock set out to find a more accurate way to measure feet. He experimented using his childhood erector set and was eventually able to secure patents in 1926 and 1927. The **Brannock Device** could simultaneously measure foot length, foot width, and the distance between the heel and the ball of the foot, showing the location of the arch. It determined foot size with 95 percent accuracy and could detect irregular sizes that past ways of measurement could not. Brannock used the device at his father's store, and soon, footwear companies began ordering it for use in other stores. During World War II, the Army even hired Brannock to create a special device for measuring soldiers' feet for Army boots. Brannock supplied his devices all over the world from his factory headquarters in Syracuse. The Brannock device, which has changed little over the years, became ubiquitous in shoe stores and remains so today. [*Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation* - January 15, 2020]

SPECIAL DAYS (WHO KNEW?):

March 30 is National Doctors' Day, an annual observance of the first anniversary of a doctor using ether anesthesia, by Dr. Crawford W. Long. The holiday first started in 1933 in Winder, Georgia, and since then, every year on March 30, we continue to celebrate medical advances like these and thank all doctors everywhere.

March 25 is Waffle Day. It is a tradition that is celebrated in Sweden, Norway, and to a lesser extent elsewhere. March 25 is also the Feast of the Annunciation, upon which waffles are typically eaten. The shift from the religious celebration to Waffle Day occurred because the Swedish *Vårfrudagen*, meaning "Our Lady's Day" (the Feast of the Annunciation), sounds similar to *Våffeldagen* ("waffle day") in faster speech, and so over time, Swedes began calling it Waffle Day and celebrating it by eating waffles.

DID YOU KNOW?

The biggest toy company also happens to make the smallest pieces. According to World Atlas, the Lego Group, which is based in Billund, Denmark, is the world's largest toy manufacturer. Not only have Legos been a staple of childhood memories worldwide, but they've also spawned tons of different build sets, theme parks, art projects, museums, and even some top-grossing movies. Who doesn't love creating miniature worlds with those little bricks and figures all day? [Source: *World Atlas* | Date Updated: January 6, 2020]

INTERESTING TIDBITS FROM KEN ROSKO:

- Banana is a happy fruit. Eating just one can help you relieve irritating emotions, anger, or depression.
- A Tiger's tongue is so rough, it can lick the paint off buildings and strip the skin from the bones of an animal.
- Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete.
- (I love this one.) You can survive entirely on a diet of potatoes and butter, which provide all the nutrients a human body needs.
- Without your pinky finger, your hand would lose 50% of its strength.

TELL US YOUR NEWS: Send news to share to *Kaye (Beecroft) Aurigemma* at kaurigel@att.net or write to her at 10846 Martindale Drive, Westchester, IL 60154-5021. Photos and other website items should be sent to Chris Padar at austin1955.webmaster@gmail.com or 408 Nawata Place, Prospect Heights, IL 60070.

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE: Please email changes to reunion@austin1955.org or mail to: Art Fumarolo, Austin High [Chicago] 1950s Alumni; 5365 Fox Path Lane; Hoffman Estates, IL 60192.

NAME _____ YEAR _____
(print) _____
(First, Maiden, Last, and Class Year)

STREET ADDRESS: _____ CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PHONE (Required): _____

EMAIL _____

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