MHS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

John Moore 3602 S. Ironwood Drive Apt. # 131 W South Bend, IN 46614 FIRST-CLASS MAIL PRESORTED U.S. POSTAGE PAID LAKE MICHIGAN MAILERS, INC.

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July 2018



Wednesday July 11, 2018 Noon F.O.P. Hall

Menu

Tom's Picnic Lunch

Brats Potatoe Salad Baked Beans

Fresh Fruit Rolls



\$9.00 PER PERSON \$2.00 for non eaters

Includes hot or cold drinks
Tax and gratuity

Half & Half drawings made prior to entertainment Cash Bar available for beer, wine or mixed drinks



IN MEMORY

MARILEE A. (POORMAN) HOUGHTON

Dec. 8, 1939-May 10, 2018 Class of 1957

PHYLLIS SUE (BOYD) HUXFORD

Dec. 29, 1946-May 12, 2018 Class of 1965

BARBARA JEAN Mc CARTY

May 18, 1933-Jan. 24, 2018

Class of 1951

DENNIS DONALD "SKIP" DEAL

Nov. 27, 1936-May 15, 2018 Class of 1955

JANICE (PROUGH) FARKAS

Sept. 30, 1937-Mar. 14, 2018 Class of 1955

LUCY MAE ((ELLINGER) SINGLETON

Jan. 12, 1939-Dec. 31, 2017 Class of 1957

GEORGE JAMES IMUS, Jr.

Nov. 30, 1939-May 22, 2018

Class of 1958

ALVIN L. MYERS, Sr.

Mar. 31, 1943-May 4, 2018

Class of 1961

BARBARA LEE (CLINE) MARCOTTE

July 3, 1946-May 22, 2018

Class of 1966

SCOTTY L. ELLER

Feb. 15, 1945-Apr. 22, 2018 Class of 1964

JAMES BOYER

Jan. 31, 1935-Feb. 5, 2018 Class of 1953

ANNE E. (MANOSPERTA) CLAEYS

Jan. 29, 1923-July 16, 2017

Class of 1941

EUGENE "GENE" J. VAN PAEMEL

Feb. 20, 1936-May 28, 2018 Class of 1954

CONDOLENCES

Two people of the MHS Alumni who have been members since 1998, but did not graduate from MHS, passed away recently and our condolences go out to their spouses and families. They are:

Jayne Lennox

Nov. 1, 1935-May 29, 2018 Elkhart High School Wife of Jack Lennox '51 Osceola, IN

Ann M. Richardson

Oct. 8 1929-May 17, 2018 South Bend Riley High School Wife of Bob Richardson '49 Bristol, IN

Dennis "Skip" Deal 1936-2018

"Skip" graduated from MHS in 1955 where he was a gifted athlete in football and basketball and is the holder of many records. He is survived by his wife, Linda (Watkins) Deal '69.

"Skip" worked at Uniroyal for 13 years and was a Mishawaka Fireman for 27 years before his retirement. He enjoyed attending the MHS Alumni meetings with his buddies,



Ron Hobkirk '58, Denny Maggoli and Gene Goddard '48. He was an excellent cook, noted especially for his soups, working at several local taverns in the area.

Rainy Weather Report To Our Out of Towners..

WOW! It has been a rainy start to May. In fact, the first half of May will go down in the books as the wettest start to May since records began in the 1800's. As of May 15th....



Precipitation:

Month to date: 6.03 in. 1.77 in. Normal Year to date: 20.82 in. Normal 11.66 in.

Running For Miami County Prosecutor....

Jeff Sinkovics '86 lives in Peru, IN and has been a practicing attorney for the last 27 years. For the past seven years he has served as deputy prosecutor for Miami County. Jeff ran and won the nomination for Prosecutor in the recent primaries with high hopes of winning the head Prosecutor's position in the fall. Jeff has been a long time deputy prosecutor and precinct committeeman of the Republican party in Miami County.

"Send My MHS Alumni Newsletter Via E-Mail"....

Jim Baker '57 doesn't want to take a chance of missing a issue of the alumni newsletter. "He said, "Since we spend 6 months living in Naples, FL in the winter and 6 months in Elkhart in the summer, please send me my newsletter by E-mail." Thanks Jim for your donation.

Teacher Of The Year Named....

Sara Hoover, a second grade classroom teacher at Beiger Elementary School was named "Teacher of the Year" for the districts elementary schools.



It was the second time **Sara**, a teacher for 18 years with 14 of those at Beiger, who has been recognized as Teacher of the Year in Mishawaka. The first award was in 2009.

Sara said, "I've always wanted to be a teacher. I'm a Mishawaka High School graduate. I went to Hums Elementary and Beiger Junior High. I always wanted to come back and teach in the schools that I went to. That was important to me."

From Whiffle Ball at Rose Park....To President of Pelican Products.....

Scott Ermeti '81 sent in a check to cover the dues for his sister Kris '83 and his mother, Sharon Blackmond (S.B. Washington, but a Cavewomen at heart) plus a very generous donation. Kris is currently the social worker at Beiger School, prior to that she was the Executive Director of the Family Childrens Center for many years.

When **Scott** was in high school, he was a summer park director at Borley Park in 1981, he and his buddies, **Larry Grau '79**, a park director at Normain Park and **Jim Bottorff '79** at College Park.

Between the three, they started Whiffle Ball games for their kids and later had a Whiffle Ball tournaments. Each team

consisted of two kids and two old guys (17-18) on a team. **Scott** said, "We were hooked on the game." **Jim, Larry,** and another friend, **Perri Baert** (Marian '81 joined forces and held tournaments at Rose Park for 30 plus years, drawing teams from all over the Midwest. **Jim Bottorff** still runs the tournament but it is now played in Chicago.

All that was many years ago. In 1992 **Scott** took a job with Pelican Products in Torrence, California when there were 30 employees. Today Pelican employs nearly 2,000. He was responsible for US business over seas and moved to Barcelona, Spain in 1997 where he lived for nine years. It was here he met his wife, **Malu**, a Brazilian who was going to college there at the time. They moved back to the United States when the founder of Pelican Products sold the company to an investment company and **Scott** ran their International Business for 12 years. In 2017, **Scott** was promoted to President of Pelican Products.

The **Ermeti's** live in Redondo Beach, CA with their 14 year old son, **Mehlo**, and a daughter, **Shaylia** who is 12 years old and is a very gifted athlete in both soccer and basketball. **Mehlo** had a serious trampoline accident, and after a long recovery period has turned to music and now produces his own music, learning the piano, and hopefully has found his passion. From a Borley Park director playing Whiffle Ball to President of Pelican Products.....Not too shabby.

55th Wedding Anniversary Paul & Kay (Eberhart) Johanson '61

They currently reside in Nashville, Indiana. **Paul** retired from Honeywell Corp. in South Bend and **Kay** retired from Dehco Corp. in Elkhart. They have four children, nine grand children and one great grandson.

Miskodeeds.....

Garry Schalliol '65 from Bremertown, Washington sent a note back to this editor saying, "Thank you very much for the two old Miskodeeds. I found them very interesting and fascinating."

1923 1925 1926 1928 1931 1938 1945 1948 1958 1959 1960 1961

The above Miskodeeds are still available, for anyone who desires them free of charge. Contact John Moore and they will be mailed to you.

Thanks to **Danny Raab '54** for donating three old yearbooks and to **Ken Kroger '53** for ten old Miskodeeds.

REMINDER JULY MEETING OF THE MHS ALUMNI WEDNESDAY >>>JULY 11, 2018<<<

CLASS OF 1952

Join your classmates the last Friday of every month at **Allie's Restaurant** in River Park at 10:00 a.m.

Call

Jane (Van Hoecke) Mittleman 574-259-4839

or

Irene (Klatt) Mc Callum

574-344-9712

CLASS OF 1953

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2018 F.O.P. HALL 10:30 am to ???

The MHS Class of 1953 will hold their Annual Brunch and Social Reunion

Great Indy 500 Story.....

Thanks to **Peter J. DeKever '86** for the most interesting story, THE KAMM'S SPECIAL: MISHAWAKA'S ENTRY in the 1938 INDIANAPOLIS 500."

Not many native Mishawakans knew or at least remember the Kamm entry in the 1938 race. It was a way that Kamm and Schellinger Brewery felt that they could

gain name recognition and they hired the well known Indy driver, William A. "Shorty" Cantion, and he qualified the Kamm Special, #47 at 120.906 m.p.h. Unfor-

tunately. #47 developed problems with the super-charger and was forced to make a pit stop after 12 laps Two laps later, the car had to pull out of the race, the first car to do so, and #47 became history.

Another noteworthy news item is that **Pete's** father. **Joe DeKever, '61** attended this years Indy 500, his 57th consecutive year as spectator for the "**Greatest Spectacle In Racing.**"

(Thanks to **Peter** and The May 24, 2018 issue of **THE MISHAWAKA ENTERPRISE** for the contents of this article)

Anna Finishes Second and Ninth

Notre Dame junior and Mishawaka High School graduate, **Anna Rohrer** '15 finished second in the 10,000 meter race at the ACC Outdoor Track & Field Championships recently in Coral Gables, Florida. Her time was an excellent 33:03.30.

Anna led nearly wire to wire but a runner from Louis-ville University overtook her in the final 400 meters. This was only the second race of the outdoor season for **Anna** who has been battling injuries.

Two weeks later, **Anna** competed in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships at the University of Oregon. She took the lead with eight laps to go in the 10,000 meter run, but faded and finished ninth. **Anna** earned first team All-American honors with her finish.

Kudos's To The DeAmici's Club.....

Nine graduating high school seniors from area high schools were the recipients or \$1,000 scholarships to further their education at colleges of their choice. This is the forth year the Club has made these scholarships available. Funding is made possible with the various fundraising events and dinners the Club holds throughout each year.

Many members of the DeAmici's Club are MHS Alumni, with the membership consisting of both "A" members (Italian descent, both men and women) and "B" members (associate members).

The recipients of the scholarships are:

Angelina Marchi MHS IUPU Hanna Scott MHS IUPU Brianna Squadroni MHS IUPU

Kameren Cochran Marian University of Toledo

Madeline Felix Marian Purdue Seth Forlund MHS Rose Hulman

Kathy Myers Home tba Megan Fanti Penn tba Dawson Demier Concord tba

Class of 1978 40th Reunion Friday August 24th Meet and greet at Denise's



Saturday August 25th Rose Park Cookout

Sunday August 26th Brunch and Bloody Mary's

The largest class reunion in MHS history Don't miss this one......

Call: Debbie (Sriver) Fleming

574-234-2856 <u>rfleming@princescitydental.com</u>

M

MISHAWAKA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Mishawaka High School 1st Annual All Class Reunion

Saturday July 28th Mishawaka F.O.P. Hall

1825 E. 12th Street 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Dress code will be business casual.

Join your classmates for an evening filled with Cavemen spirit! There will be light appetizers, cash bar and 50/50 chances throughout the evening.

Gather your classmates and participate in the class challenge by decorating table(s) with memoraiablia from your years at MHS. Prizes to be rewarded to the best table decorations.

Alcohol will be available and ID's will be checked. However, graduates under the age 21 may attend.

Tickets will be \$20.00 each and are available at:

Mishawaka Administration Building 1402 South Main Street Mishawaka or at the July 11th meeting of the MHS Alumni.

Proud Grandparents...... And Well you should Be!

Ray Baert '60 and his wife, Mary Ellen (De Neve) Baert (St. Joe '60) are the grandparents of two graduating college seniors this year, both having been selected the outstanding seniors in their respective schools at the universities they attend. Kathleen Baert at Marquette University and Thomas Baert at Oklahoma University. They also have three additional grandchildren, two in college and one already teaching high school.

Congratulations On Their 65th Anniversary.....

Sandra (Oberchain) Swede, daughter of Harrison Oberchain '50 and his wife, Sue (Newton) sent in a note that her parents celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with family and friends on March 20th in Scottsboro, Alabama. The happy couple were married in Biloxie, Mississippi where Harrison was stationed in the USAF. They returned to Mishawaka when his enlistment was up and Harrison returned to work for Indiana Bell. After his retirement, they moved to Scottsboro, Alabama in 1989. They are the parents of four children, grandparents of ten and the great grandparents of eleven.

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY CARL "BUD" BIGGS

June 18, 2018 Class of 1948

Congratulations.....

Joseph Wagner (Madison Twp. '50) and Jean De Raeve '53 will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on July 11th. Florida has been their home for the last 29 years.

Following **Joe's** stroke and hip replacement in 2016, our life style is at a slower pace. **Jean** said, "I refer to this chapter in our lives as the 'in sickness and in health' part of our marriage. We look forward to the Alumni bulletin each month....It is the first thing we read when it arrives, Hello to those who still remember us,"

The Wagner's reside in Summerfield, Florida,

IN MEMORY MAURICE MICHAELS

June 2, 1930-Aug. 13, 2017 Class of 1949 *Marcie*

A Tribute To My Dad

"Let us all strive to be people of ability and conviction who draw upon our education and faith to lead principled, productive and compassionate lives that improve the human condition. Life is short and we do not have much time on this earth to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us. Let us then make haste to love, and be quick to be kind."

Submitted by **Richard Hahn** in memory of his father, **Robert Hahn** who was a math teacher at Mishawaka High School.

CLASS OF 1948 70th Class Reunion Celebration August 1, 2018 THE



IS OVER

All members (and their spouses) of the class of 1948 are invited to the August meeting of the MHS Alumni for a <u>FREE</u> lunch.

Courtesy of a generous anonymous 1948 classmate.

A reserved table will be set up to accommodate all class members of 1948 and their spouses Lets all turn out for this special invitation and enjoy the good 'ole days.

Elsie Takes A Trip Down Memory Lane....

"I was going through some old photos recently and came across some that really brought back some wonderful memories to me.

When I was 9-10 years old, I loved going to the park. Actually it wasn't even a park, it was a playground at 14th Street and South Main Street, now the site of Emmons Elementary School. It was there I learned to sew. A lady would come once a week and taught us how to cut out doll dresses and sew them by hand.

Rose Park was built in 1939. Back then, each park had two park directors....one for the boys, one for the girls. There I competed in rope jumping, hop scotch, jacks, checkers, etc. As a park champion, I competed with girls from other parks and that is where I met my lifelong friend, Elsie

Kopsea. Mary Jane Brewer was the girls park director and Walter "Dutch" Thurston was the boys director. There were monthly dances on the tennis court at Rose Park and band concerts at the Battell Park shelter. In the winter, my friends and I would walk to Central Park on East Mishawaka Avenue to ice skate. Brrrr, Freezing!

One day each summer we were bussed to Scout Res for a day of games and swimming.

Fast forward....the summer of 1942, I was park director for the girls and classmate **Dean Trump '43** for the boys. We worked the youngsters for 2-3 hours in the afternoon and again a couple hours in the evenings. **Mr. Frank Steele,** MHS athletic director, headed up the park department program.

Great memories.....Great times."

Elsie (Belli) Van Bruaene '43 Peoria, Arizoni

50th Wedding Anniversary......

Rodney '65 and Patricia (Arata) Spear '67 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 8, 2018. They dated for two years while Patricia was in high school and were married at St. Monica's Church.

Patricia gave this account of what happened after that. "We moved to West Lafayette, IN for Rod's senior year at Purdue, then back to Mishawaka for him to MBA at Notre Dame. Then our first son was born in 1970 and son number two in 1972. After that we moved to Illinois, Corning, New York, Wilmington, North Carolina, back to New York, then to Texas where Rod earned another Master's in Liberal Arts at SMU, and stayed there for 27 years. We then retired to Mishawaka and now live on The St. Joseph River. We love being 'Back Home Again In Indiana.'"

Welcome New Member To The MHS Alumni.... Julie (Bathje) Fisette Class of 1988

South Lyon, Michigan

A TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH ANN RICHARDSON

June 8, 1918-July 25, 1945 Class of 1936



On May 22, 2018, **Elizabeth Ann Richardson** was honored by the Mishawaka Historic Preservation Commission with a historical marker at her childhood home, 834 Lincoln Way East in Mishawaka.

Elizabeth was born in Akron, Ohio, and came to Mishawaka in 1931, After graduating from Mishawaka High School, she earned a degree from Milwaukee-Downer College in 1940 and joined the American Red Cross in 1944. She was sent to England, where she worked in a Clubmobile, which was used to provide coffee and doughnuts to G.I.'s at bases around England. In March 1945, **Liz** was sent to Le Havre, France, and put in charge of Clubmobile operations in the city, which was a major transit point for American forces entering and leaving Europe.

On July 25, 1945, Elizabeth Ann Richardson was killed in a plane crash near Rouen, France, She is buried in Normandy Cemetery, near Omaha Beach. First Lady Nancy Regan placed flowers on Elizabeth's grave on June 6, 1982. She was also the subject of a book, *Slinging Doughnuts for the Boys*, published in 2007, Elizabeth is the most-remembered America woman to be killed in service during World War II.

To celebrate the centennial of **Elizabeth Ann Richardson's** birth, the Mishawaka Historical Preservation Commission installed the marker, the second in a series of markers honoring prominent Mishawakans and the buildings associated with them.

(Note: Thanks to **Pete De Kever** for submitting and sharing the above article.)

Beginning balance as of May 1, 2018 17,605.15 Income: Membership 50.00 Donations 660.00 C/A interest .69 710.69 710.69 18,315.84 Expenses: Lake Michigan Mailers 619.80 Newsletter postage 553.06 MHS Graphics Dept. 106.77 Postage 847.09 Entertainment 300.00

MHS Alumni Financial Report For May

Special Olympics

F.O.P. Hall rental

Ending balance as of May 31, 2018 15,325.27

Antique-Classic Car Show Wednesday August 1, 2018 F.O.P. Parking Lot

360.00

203.85 2,990.57

2,990.57

(Day of the MHS Alumni Meeting)

Come early for the meeting and see these beautiful cars

For more information, contact:

Vince Kertes 574-679-4087

(Rain date...September 5, 2018)

IF YOU ARE GETTING TWO NEWSLETTERS PLEASE NOTIFY SANDRA MIKESELL 574-674-9968 Dsmike60@comcast.net

Notes From The May Meeting....

J. T. Buffet and his Margaretta Band entertained 155 members and guests at the June meeting and Tom Faulkner Caterers prepared and served a great Mostaccioli/meat ball lunch.

Half & Half winners were:

40.00 Ron Jacobs' 54 30.00 Phil Miller '64 20.00 Dave Rutkowski '65

Elsie (Belli) Van DeBruaene '43 who resides in Peora, rizona was a welcome guest and enjoyed seeing old friends, and as always, it was nice to have Dr. Speicher, Superintendent of Schools in attendance. Rod Spear reminded the group that the July meeting will be the second Wednesday (July 11th) since July 4th is on the first Wednesday of the month.

HELP HELP HELP

WE NEED TO HAVE SOMEONE STEP UP AND TAKE OVER THE EDITORS JOB FOR OUR ALUMNI NEWSLETTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
CONTACT **ROD SPEAR** FOR DETAILS
574-257-3831

3/4-23/-3831

MAIL ALL CHECKS, CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR MEMBERSHIP ISSUES TO

SANDRA MIKESELL

10645 WASHTENAW DR. OSCEOLA, IN 46561 574-674-9968 Dsmike60@comcast.net

UNTIL A NEW EDITOR IS FOUND, SEND ALL OF YOUR NEWS ITEMS TO

JOHN MOORE

3602 South Ironwood Dr. Apt. 131W South Bend. IN 46614 574-231-8500 jmoore3026@aol.com

IN MEMORY TODD KUCELA

May 26, 1967-June 2, 2018 Class of 1996

ANTHONY "TONY" ZAPPIA

May 11, 1926-June 1m 2018 Class of 1945

DORLA JO (NULL) MULDOON

Aug. 26, 1945-June 1, 2018 Class of 1963

ROBERT KOONTZ

Jan.29, 1959-June 1, 2018 Class of 1972

JANE (POWELL) FESLER

Nov. 17, 2017 Class of 1942

MAY YOU REST IN PEACE

MHS Alumni Special Olympians Win Big.....

Three members of the MHS Alumni did very well competing in the Special Olympics State Games June 8 thru 10th held on the campus of the Indiana State University in Terre Haut, Indiana.



Steve Flatt '68 won gold medals in each of the 25 meter and 50 meter walks. He also finished 4th in the softball throw.

Ross Hensel's '86 volleyball team finished 1st giving Ross his gold medal.

Mike Palmer's volleyball team finished 2nd earning him a silver medal.

It was a stormy week-end which forced cancellation of many of the outside events. Our boys were lucky that their games were held inside. **GREAT JOB GUYS!**

Another Version Of The Name...Miskkodeed.....

In 1911, an active Junior Class of Mishawaka High School, realizing the desirability of a high school year-book, published the first Miskodeed.

The publication of this first Miskodeed was an exceptionally difficult task; there was no precedent, no one upon whom to rely for experienced guidance. The twenty-three members of the class devoted much time and effort to the publication. Mr. John F. Nuner, superintendent of schools; Miss Mary D. Welch, principal; and Miss Marie Simpson English instructor, however, all gave of their time and effort in the interest of the yearbook, which was a success.

One problem confronting the first staff was that of choosing a suitable name for the annual. They selected the Potawattomi Indian word, *Miskodeed*, meaning spring beauty, as an appropriate name, because it bore a resemblance to the Indian name, Mishawaka, and because the annual was to be printed in the spring.

Editors Note: The above information was taken from the 1939 Miskodeed and furnished by **Peter DeKever '80.**

A Tribute To Dr. Mary Ruppe



June 25, 1969-Mar. 18, 2018 Class of 1987

Dr. Ruppe was the valedictorian of the Mishawaka High School Class of **1987** and a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard University in 1991. Following stints as a researcher in Boston and La Jolla, CA, she graduated from the Einstein College of Medicine in New York in 1998. She the completed a residency in internal medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C.. Followed by a fellowship in Endocrinolgy at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. **Dr. Ruppe** spent the rest of her life at the Houston Methodist Hospital as director of the bone clinic as a specialist, treating adults and children with genetic bone disease.

Dr. Ruppe was an exceptional competitive swimmer. As a nationally ranked member of the Michiana Marlins USS Team, she won numerous state championships, was the top ranked Indiana swimmer in 1985, and was a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee East Team snd a Silver Medalist at the Baton Rouge Olympic Sports Festival in 1985. At Mishawaka High School, she was MVP for all four years and at one point held the school record in all individual swimming events. She is a member of the MHS Hall of Fame. At Harvard, she was a member of the swim team for four years, participating on two Ivy League and three Eastern Championship teams.

While living in La Jolla, CA, she took up open water swimming and won the 12 mile swim around Coronado in 1993, setting a record time for swimmers of any gender. She was also named to the U.S. Olympic Committee National Open Water Team in 1994, competing in a 10k race from Switzerland to France across Lake Geneva and finished a close second. Following her cancer diagnosis she continued to compete in Masters swimming, winning an individual National Championship in 2014 and earning All American status in 2015.

Dr. Mary was truly a special person, loved, respected and admired by family, friends, colleagues, and patients whose outpouring of sympathy leave little doubt that she had a positive impact on the lives she touched. She is survived by her husband, **Dr. Michael Beauchamp** and two sons, **Rhys** and **Drew** of Houston, Texas, her parents and, siblings, **Anne** (**Ruppe**) **Shields** and husband, **Brian** of Overland Park, Kansas, **Joseph Ruppe III** of Maplewood New Jersey, and **Kathleen Ruppe '83** of Paris, France.

IN MEMORY RALPH G. POWELL

Class of 1951 In Loving Memory Marni



JULY MEETING ENTERTAINMENT YOU ASKED FOR THEM BACK!



THE

PAUL DECKER BAND

WITH AN ALL NEW SHOW

"FIRE CRACKER SPECIAL"
PAUL DECKER on keyboard

TEDD WAGGONER on trumpet

DALE ANDERSON on guitar

CRAIG SCHROEDER on sax





A CAVEMEN'S EXERCISE REGIMEN FOR PEOPLE OVER 70

For those of us over 70....this is a great exercise regimen. For you young 'uns out there (under 70), just keep it in mind until you reach that magic 70 number!

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room on each side. With a 5-lb. potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides. Hold them there as long as you can, Try to reach a full minute, and then relax. Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb. potato bags, then eventually, try to get to where you can lift a 20-lb. potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight out from your sides for more than a full minute.

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

Lowell Nichols Remembers....

"Just got off the phone with Classmate Audrey (Johnson) Seward '48, and we reminisced when we were kids and how we would walk down Battell Street, hand in hand to attend Mary Phillips School. She lived across the street from me on the corner of North Main and Battell Streets. She had a pony and I rode nearly every day."

Lowell Nichols '48.

Editors Note: For many years, **Lowell** organized the mini reunions at Merrifield Park after the regular June alumni meeting. He added, "I can no longer walk, so I can't drive. I'm sorry I can't be with you, the great class of '48."

Mega Surprise Birthday Party.....

"My husband Joe '48 and our nine children planned to surprise me on my 85th birthday recently. My son, child number five and Fort Wayne resident, Steven, asked me to pick up a gallon of ice cream before coming over to his house for pizza one Friday evening. So, Joe and I stopped at Kroger's and headed for the frozen food section. We were intercepted by Steven and directed to aisle three, there was son Ron, child number six; next aisle was John, son number seven; next aisle was Susan, child number eight. Down another aisle was child number nine, Jim; next was child number four, Carol, then followed by Mary, child number three accompanied by her daughter and my great grandchild. Another aisle and another child, number two, Pete and the last aisle was Christine, husband and their four children.

My laughter was accompanied by tears. I had no idea that they had been planning for three months to surprise me. Delicious pizza and lots of laughter and many miles traveled by all.

California, Arizona, Missouri, Virginia, South Carolina, Indiana, Illinois

Another surprise dinner and 75 additional guests on Saturday night. Even **Elvis Pressley** and **Frank Sinatra** paid me a visit."

Submitted by; **Barbara (Zimmerman) Vernasco '50** Huntertown, Indiana