



Parsons College E-News

Volume 9, No. 2

Summer - 2016

Wall of Honor Class of 2016 ready for induction

It happens every year about this time. And this year is no exception. On Saturday, October 8, 2016 at 10:00AM sharp, PCFF President Dave Neff will give the nod, the Parsons fight song will play in the background, and the ceremony will begin with the introduction of the Class of 2016 to the Parsons College Student/Alumni Wall of Honor at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center's Sondheim Auditorium. The plaques will be unveiled and a luncheon will follow immediately after the ceremony at the Elks Club on the west side of the square. Carnegie Museum director Mark Shafer will host visitors from 1:30 – 4:00pm and you're free to select one of Fairfield's banner restaurants for dinner...

This is what it's all about!! We salute YOU!!



*Doug Marion '70
Distinguished Alumni
WOH Class of 2014*

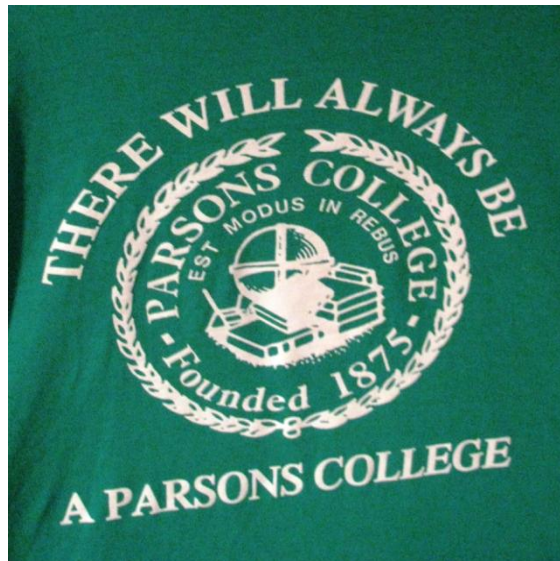
The four alums featured on this page are current members and have already been inducted to the Wall of Honor. They were inducted in 2013 and 2014. This is what this year's honorees have to look forward to. Another 10 distinguished inductees will be added to the wall in October. Currently there are 69 members in the Wall of Honor. After Saturday there will be 79. In 2008, several alums, headed by **John Blackstock** and **Dave Neff** pledged to launch a 10-year program where they would, through the E-Newsletter, seek out nominations for the WOH and select 10 distinguished students/alums per year. There are two years remaining on their 10-year pledge. Applications for future WOH nominations will be available for reprint in the Fall and Winter editions of the E-News.



*Gene Copeland '61
Distinguished Alumni
WOH Class of 2014*



*Narda Simonsen Murphy '64
Distinguished Alumni
WOH Class of 2013*



**TURN THE PAGE... to meet the
newest members of the
Wall of Honor –
THE CLASS OF 2016**



*Linda Frizzell '72
Distinguished Alumni
WOH Class of 2014
(w/coach Bob Spencer)*

WOH 2016 - WOH 2016 - WOH 2016 - WOH 2016 - WOH 2016

We are please to present the inductees of the Class of 2016 to the Parsons College Student/Alumni Wall of Honor. Following are the brief mini-bios/profiles for each of this year's honorees. Congratulations to one and all!!! An expanded, in-depth writing will follow in the Fall E-Newsletter.

* **Dan Breen, '71 – Fairfield, IA... Educator/Girls Basketball Coach** – Hall of Fame basketball coach/teacher while serving 33 years in the Fairfield Community School district. Started girls basketball program at FHS, posted 334-60 record, conference record of 97-3, won the Iowa State Championship and named Iowa Coach of the Year in 1983. Voted to Iowa Coaches Hall of Fame in 2005. Founded Fairfield's youth basketball program which grew to 150 children and 12 competitive teams. Dan also co-founded the Parsons Junior Drill Team. He helped found, and lead a community task force that promoted, designed and raised 9.5M to upgrade/expand city's recreational center...

* **William Burger, '60 – Gainesville, FL... Banking Executive/Attorney** – Bill started as a trust officer in Waterloo, Iowa, and ended in 2007 as President of the Iowa City Market for USBank in Iowa City. In between, he served in various positions at National Bank of Waterloo, including Senior Vice President, and as President of the Iowa Trust Association in 1985. Bill's community service and charity involvement began with the Jaycees. He's been affiliated with the Iowa Heart Association, American Cancer Society, United Way, to name a few. Bill served as President of the Chamber of Commerce and was named "Outstanding Citizen of the Year." He graduated University of Iowa with a law degree and is currently retired and living in Florida...

* **Jim Cornick, '64 - Des Moines, IA... Magazine Executive/Publisher** - Jim spent 35 years with the Meredith Corporation and became publisher of their Successful Farming Magazine. He was named "National Agri-Marketing Association's Communicator of the Year," served as president of the Iowa Chapter and was inducted to the NAMA Hall of Fame. Jim received the "FFA's Honorary Farmer Degree" and for 10 years served on the NACD Advisory Board in Washington, DC. He has served on numerous boards and was also a past president of the Agricultural Publishers Association. Locally, Jim is involved with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Iowa Mental Health Planning Council and the Polk County Health Services board...

* **Robert "Bobby" Harrison, '54 - Marion, IA... Business Executive/Musician** - Bob began his distinguished career with the Loudon Company in 1963. He became Corporate Sales Manager and was instrumental in drafting and designing numerous other projects in which the firm developed. In 1971, Bob, who was a 4-Sport letterman at Parsons, and who assisted in the start-up of Pershing College, received Loudon's 'Highest Level in Marketing Award.' Bob plays the trumpet and was a member of the Iowa National Guard 34th Infantry Red Bull Band. And he was one of the core and founding member of Fairfield's traveling Dixieland Band...

* **Dave Hubler, '60 - (posthumously)... Student Union/Activities Management** - Dave saw a need and started the first Habitat for Humanity group in Chico, CA. Started Leukemia & Lymphoma Support Group in Des Moines and lobbied for funding and research. Enjoyed a distinguished career as a nationally and internationally recognized authority and consultant on College Student Union/Activities Management. Authored and co-authored numerous articles on College Student Unions and held various leadership positions in the Association of College Unions-International for 32 years. Passed away in West Des Moines on April 12, 2016...

* **Lois Stuflick Johnson, '71 - Altoona, IA... Coach/Educator/Fund Raiser** - Lois was instrumental in organizing the first women's basketball camp in the United States. At Parsons, she was Academic All-American and Valedictorian. Lois represented the USA in the Pan American Games and played at the National AAU Tournament. She was voted All-American. Lois' teaching/coaching career began at SE Polk High School. She was inducted to the Iowa Girls High School Hall of Fame. For the past 24 years, Lois has been involved with the Altoona community sports facility and assists the Catholic Church with youth programs and fund raising...

(Continued on page 3)

"You can't help getting older, but you don't have to get old!!" *65nWise*

* **William "Bill" Larkin, '66 - Bloomfield Hills, MI... Air Charter/Executive/Owner** - Bill is president, CEO and owner of a logistics business. He owns PASS CHARTER. It is a business of moving people and freight. Bill's air charter experience led him to the exploration of transporting college and professional sports teams to/from their events. Currently, he provides transportation for various sports teams at over 40 colleges, including Notre Dame, Michigan State, Wisconsin, Indiana, Arkansas and Duke, to name a few. In addition to growing his charter business, Bill also has ownership in two professional Minor League baseball teams, the Connecticut Stars (AA- Detroit) and Birmingham Shuckers (A- Milwaukee)...

* **Merlin "Merlie" Rostermundt, '52 - Ireton, IA... Educator/Banker/Mayor** - Merlin has done just about everything in the town of Ireton that there is to do. He's been Mayor (2 years), City Clerk (21 years), City Council (4 years), Sioux County Election Board (23 years), Teacher (9 years), Elementary Principal (8 years). Merlin was a board member and Chairman of the West Sioux Community School (12 years), a Football/Basketball Referee (20 years), President of Paradise Park Board (4 years). He was Executive Vice President of Security Savings Bank and President of Ireton-Craig Insurance Agency, Inc (24 years). Plus, Merlin served as Chairman of Ireton Development Corp., the Hawarden Golf Board (12 years) and St Paul's Lutheran Church Board. Talk about an MVP!!!

* **Jeffrey Stanley, '64 – Madison, WI... Restaurateur/Owner** – Jeff owns and operates one of the top 100 Hamburger Restaurants in the United States of America. He opened “Dotty’s Dumplings Dowry” in downtown Madison, Wisconsin, with one grill, a counter top and 10 stools in 1974. He’s been cooking ever since. Jeff and DDD gained notoriety when he took on the city pundits and refused to move to make way for a large development. Now, over 40 years later, he is in a fourth location which has 86 seats, and last year did over 2.0M in sales. His restaurant is legendary and his hamburgers have been rated #1 in the city of Madison and the state of Wisconsin...

•**David Thompson, '71 - Portland, OR... Multi-Truck/Trailer Dealerships Owner** - Dave owns the largest multi-point truck and trailer dealership on the west coast and boasts the largest inventory of Mack and Volvo trucks in the United States. He now has 23 dealerships located in 15 cities spread over four states. Dave's interest in buying and selling used trucks and trailers surfaced at Parsons. Several years later in 1976, he opened his Thompson Equipment Company in Portland, OR. Now, operating under TEC Equipment, the company has posted 39 consecutive years of profitability and has received numerous awards. Highlighting the awards was being twice named "National Dealer of the Year." Dave serves on a number of boards and is a major contributor to many local and national charities...

MOTEL RESERVATIONS: *If attending, make reservations ASAP at one of the following hotels/motels in Fairfield: (AmericInn - 2104 S. Main – 800-634-3444; Best Western/Fairfield Inn - 2200 W. Burlington – 641-472-2200; Super 8 Motel - 3001 W. Burlington – 641-469-2000; or Landmark Inn (the old Hunt Hotel) - 115 N. Main – 641-472-4152). A block of rooms has been reserved under ‘Parsons Wall of Honor’ for the weekend of October 8, 2016 at all motels except Landmark Inn. Step two, pre-register with Dave Neff (neffacres@lisco.com) for the Friday reception and Saturday luncheon by filling out the form above.*

WALL OF HONOR PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ **Attended Parsons:** _____

>**Friday, October 7 – 3:00-7:00PM** – Registration & Reception at Fairfield Country Club, 905 E. Harrison
(Beer, Wine and Heavy Hors d'oeuvres) **\$25.00 p/p** X _____ = \$ _____

>**Saturday, October 8 – 9:00AM** Registration (cont'd); **10:00AM** WOH Ceremony at FA&CC, 200 N. Main

>**Saturday, October 8 – 12:30PM** (ceremony) WOH Luncheon at Fairfield Elks Club, west side of square
(Luncheon served) **\$20.00 p/p** X _____ = \$ _____

>**Optional Donation** \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **Parsons College Alumni Association** and mail check with this form to:
Dave Neff, % Parsons College Alumni Association, 2272 Glasgow Road, Fairfield, IA 52556

Alumni survey reveals the obvious and uncovers some surprises: Your PCAA has got some work to do...

If you received the Parsons College Alumni Association (PCAA) survey and responded, we thank you. The survey was emailed to approximately 1,000 alumni and nearly 50% responded. The PCAA was seeking your input and opinions related to the topics of, our Reunions, the Wall of Honor, the Alumni E-Newsletter, Alumni dues and the Parsons website. The responses we've received to the questions asked confirmed a number of our assumptions and opened our eyes to several others issues that need attention. Your PCAA will be addressing those issues in the very near future and reporting back through the Alumni E-Newsletter in a timely manner. We wanted to know 'What You Think' and you told us. Here is a recap of the highlights:

*****REUNIONS... Over 76% of you told us you were happy to keep the frequency of reunions at 2-3 year intervals (38% every 2 years, 38% every 3 years).***

*****REUNIONS LENGTH... 68% of responders are satisfied with a two day event.***

*****REUNION LOCATION... An overwhelming 72% told us they would like the reunions to remain in Fairfield.***

*****REUNION SEASON... 53% prefer reunion be held in the fall; 30% voted for summer; and 20% for spring.***

*****WALL OF HONOR IMPORTANCE... Nearly 50% of those surveyed told us the WOH program was major and very important. Interestingly, 35% responded that they did not know.***

*****WALL OF HONOR CANDIDATES... Surprisingly, 82% said they did not know of any WOH candidates; 11% said yes, but didn't know how to nominate a candidate; and only 6% said yes, they know a candidate.***

*****WALL OF HONOR CONTINUANCE... 66% would like to see the program continue as long as possible; 24% told us that 100 inductees was enough; and 8% voted the WOH be increased to 200 honorees.***

*****PC E-NEWSLETTER... 70% of you rated the E-Newsletter important; 17% told us they read it and file it; 8% of those surveyed don't receive E-News and 4% don't know how to contribute.***

*****PC ALUMNI DUES... Only 4% said they pay their dues; we were somewhat blind-sided to learn 38% of the respondents do not pay their dues, but would do so if they knew how and when to pay; and interestingly again, 22% told us they would support an increase from \$5 to \$10; over 16% said they would use PayPal and prefer that method of payment over checks; and a significant number, 35%, do not pay and are not interested.***

(Continued on page 5)

(Survey – cont'd)

****PC WEBSITE... 40% do not access or use the site; 7% of the users are current on dues; and 35% of our respondents would use the site but don't know how.**

It's fairly obvious where the opportunities lie and where your Parsons College Alumni Association needs to focus its effort, and in which areas adjustments and improvements need to be made. We will continue to work to the best of our ability to streamline our programs and to preserve the legacy and memory of Parsons College for many years to come...

Peira yearbook exchange remains open to exchange, trade, share and donate



Yes we have yearbooks. We have yearbooks dating back to the 1920's and 30's and 40's.

Ed Longanecker will continue to offer his services in receiving yearbooks and doing his best to satisfy specific yearbook requests. So you are invited to contact Mr. Longanecker. He will also welcome receipt of those unwanted Peiras and will even pay the shipping. There are opportunities to share, exchange and/or trade yearbooks. In addition, Ed will take your Parsons plates, cups, saucers, mugs, mortarboards, etc. **Any contributions would be directed to foundation and alumni activities.** Here is the contact information: Ed Longanecker, 211 W. Washington, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641; email: emlong2@iowatelecom.net...

Parsons merchandise sales holding strong! Order now!!

A number of people have worked very hard to put together an assortment of Parsons College merchandise memorabilia. We have T-shirts, Golf shirts, Sweatshirts, Hoodies and even an authentic Parsons lightweight jacket by Russell. In addition, on the last page of this E-Newsletter you will also find an array of caps and visors. All this merchandise is reasonably priced, some embroidered, and all produced at the Fairfield Line, locally in Fairfield. We hope you take advantage of our offering, perhaps to surprise that Parsons graduate in your family with a special gift or suit-up yourself. We are good to go with Kelly Green & White and sizes up to 3XXX. Call or email today: 1-800-247-3383, or email:

www.fairfieldlineinc.com . (See page 22)

Order now!!!

Etch your name in Parsons College History!



Buy A Brick!

Help support our mission to preserve the memory of Parsons College – **BUY A BRICK!**
For details and information call Dave Neff at 641-919-4640 or email at neffacres@lisco.com

Bring it on!! No More E-News Deadlines

DR. TREE'S CORNER... with Bob Tree



Greetings to Alumni and all other friends of Parsons College from the old home town, Fairfield, Iowa. Summer came a bit early this year so it has been warm and sunny, but as we all know, that helps make the tall corn grow. It is, believe me. But enough about the crops. I plan to write about something else that has grown here even beyond the hopes of many of us — the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center which houses the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts, and has for about nine years now. First a word about the building.

It was designed and built for the purpose of being a home to the arts. It is located at 200 North Main Street directly across the street from the Jefferson County Courthouse and one block north of the Fairfield square. There is plenty of evening parking space. Excellent heating and air-conditioning make it possible for the building to be utilized the year around and it is a busy place with lots of activity. Not only is there a modern, professionally equipped 550-seat theatre, but there are meeting rooms, exhibition chambers, a restaurant equipped kitchen, and the Fairfield Art Association is housed here. The theatre, with its large stage is well equipped to handle touring theatrical companies and has been increasingly doing so over the past several years.

Next season, for example, The Russian National Ballet Theatre will be presenting its production of SWAN LAKE, the great Russian, classic ballet. In addition FAME—THE MUSICAL, The VIENNA CHOIR BOYS. ANNIE , and the BLUES BROTHERS REVUE are among the 18 shows appearing on the Artist Series. For additional information, please check the Center's Web Site: www.FairfieldACC.com.

If planning a vacation or business trip in the near future please keep the Sondheim Center and Fairfield in mind as part of your itinerary. There is a fine Golf Course here as well as a Great Theatre. Including both would make for a wonderful trip. Enjoy our fine restaurants and motels as well. Come on home for a good time!!

Hope to see you all here, soon. Sincerely, Prof. Tree

(Editor's Note: There's little doubt the success of the Parsons Summer Festivals of the 1960's spurred the planning and development of the new Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. It should also be noted that a number of Parsons affiliates (students, alums and faculty) had a lot to do with making the 6.0M FA&CC happen. Our Dr. Bob Tree has experienced both, and played a major role in promoting the cultural arts scene in southeastern Iowa. Dr. Tree is a pillar of this program and personally invites each and every one of you to put a visit to Fairfield on your bucket list, to come and enjoy the entertainment. You'll be glad you did. Theater and ticket information can be obtained at: www.FairfieldACC.com and/or by calling direct at: 641-472-2787)

Parsons Alumni Association Board of Directors

President: Nancy Wirtanen nwirtanen@yahoo.com

Vice President/Treasurer: Dave Neff neffacres@lisco.com

John Blackstock jblackstock@prodigy.net
Bill Burger billb1956@gmail.com
Dixie Hogan Hoekman WJH50@aol.com
Marion Jennings boomstar@comcast.net
Ed Longanecker emlong2@iowatelecom.net

John Braidwood jab_parsons@yahoo.com
Frank Challant Fchallant@comcast.net
Richard Ivins rgivins1945@gmail.com
William "Biff" Kummer 1-715-453-2825
Kay McPherson Ferguson KFerg2@cox.net

Statue of Lee T. Gobble to be erected on the lawn at the FA&CC!!!



“Lee T. Gobble, Mr. Fairfield” will grace the front lawn of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center and forever glance at the Courthouse Steeple he succeeded in replacing. Most everyone attending Parson's College knew Lee, who passed away at 100 years old in April 2015. There are countless stories about Lee, his family clothier establishment since 1853, his unique style & quirkiness, his generosity, and love of Fairfield and Parsons.

The figure of Lee will reflect his personality and some of his favorite silly traits – he will be clothed in dress pants, a shirt with unbuttoned collar, topped with a Parsons College sweater, and sports jacket (Left: artist's rendering) If you knew Lee in the 1960s and 70s, you'll understand the old style phone in his pocket. There will be GGG turkey designs, a bow tie, U of I considerations, and of course a Hershey's kiss in hand.

There is so much to say about Lee Gobble, that an added feature will be the colorful “fan of Lee's tie collection” spread at the base like outstretched turkey feathers, depicting more Parsons stories and Fairfield history.

“We are excited to announce that Christopher Bennett, the same artist we brought to town in the late 1970s to create “William Coop & Friend” for the Fairfield square, and in 1986 “Leapfrog” for the Carnegie Building lawn, has been commissioned to do another bronze figure sculpture that will be placed in front of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. The project will involve another native artist, Ken Rowe in modeling parts of the figure, and collaboration with Mark Shafer on historical details and design.”

Parson's Alumni are especially invited to help us remember Lee Gobble, with this life size bronze figure, which will be placed near the entrance to Parsons Alumni Hall at the FA&CC. The amount of \$36,500 remains to be raised, after the FAA contributes its \$16,000 saved for a public art project. Further funds will be secured by applying for a public art grant, donations, memorials, and fundraising events. Donations are invited from anyone that appreciates art, and the memory of Lee Gobble.

All donors and memorial gifts to this project will be recognized on an appropriate plaque. The FAA is a 501C3 non-profit and donations are tax deductible. Contributions to “Lee Gobble Sculpture” can be sent to:

**Contributions to “Lee Gobble Sculpture” can be sent to:
Fairfield Art Association, C/O Suzan Bates Kessel, 200 North Main, Fairfield, IA 52556
OR left at FAA Studio, or Fairfield Arts & Convention Center**

NAME AS TO BE LISTED _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

AMOUNT _____ RECEIPT REQUESTED _____

Winona Museum Director shares knowledge, direction, plans, enthusiasm and hope with Dr. Ferguson and Dr. Kummer

Dr. Kay Ferguson and **Dr. Biff Kummer**, PCAA board members, just returned from a one-day workshop hosted by the Winona Historical Society in Winona, MN. As you all well know by now from previous writings, the Parsons College Alumni Association has undertaken the task of exploring ways to save, refurbish and to bring the old, treasured, Fairfield Library, now labeled the Carnegie Historical Museum, up-to-date and back to life. With Drs. Ferguson and Kummer leading the way, your PCAA board is committed to making this happen.

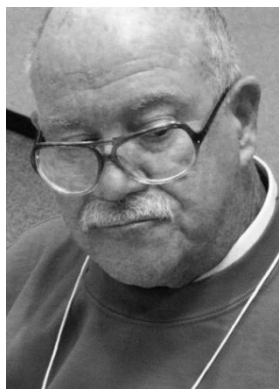
This historic building, constructed in 1893, stands out as the first Carnegie Library built west of the Mississippi River, built by funds granted directly from **Andrew Carnegie**. Today, aside from a small sampling of memorabilia on display in Parsons Alumni Hall at the FA&CC, the remaining artifacts and history of the college is housed in this building. Although the Parsons collection is of major presence, the museum also includes much of the history and many of the historic artifacts of Fairfield, including memorabilia from the Loudon Corp and the civil war. Parsons College and the city of Fairfield cannot afford to lose its history, or its prominence of space and display.

Drs. Ferguson and Kummer volunteered to attend a workshop in Winona, a small town, which successfully completed a similar museum renovation recently. The Winona Museum is now a thriving center in the community and offers education, entertainment, cultural activities and exhibits throughout the year. This transition did not happen overnight. At the workshop, Museum Director, **Mark Peterson**, explained how they made it happen. And how he worked with the community and together they updated the museum, solved storage problems, expanded and offered an array of opportunities to the community and the schools. Most impressive is the operating management system affecting the budget that they had drawn up.

(Continued on page 9)



Dr. Kay Ferguson



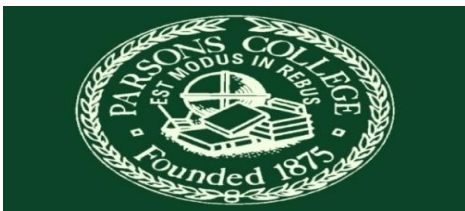
Dr. Biff Kummer

But first, as an alumni of a college that's been closed for 43 years, you must be asking, "why is this important to us?" We have no alma mater, we have at best a charred campus with little to no resemblance of anything we remember from our college days, or would even want to revisit. In essence, we have very little left of Parsons College. But, what little history we do have remaining, and that is accessible, is housed at the Carnegie Historical Museum on South Court Street in Fairfield.

(Carnegie – cont'd)

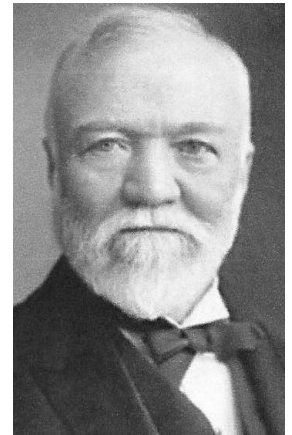
Drs. Ferguson and Kummer returned with a wealth of new knowledge and information. The primary focus of the workshop was first: How can our CHM increase space, and display more of the valuable and significant artifacts housed within? And how can the CHM thrive and become successful in providing an educational message for the next generation? Secondly, we must believe the CHM can expand displays and outreach without expanding the budget. The solution is 2-fold. We must activate a 'Volunteer Committee' AND we must utilize the 'Federal Program Experience Works' workers. These workers qualify to receive a salary from the federal program. In addition, Winona evaluated their insurance needs and made adjustments to save money – they offer Museum Memberships which aid funding – they belong to a number of state and national associations which also helps to increase funding.

Mr. Peterson painted a complete and valid pathway detailing how CHM can thrive just as the Winona Historical Society has expanded and become an active educational center for surrounding communities and tourists. The museum events attract visitors from other counties and surrounding states, all elementary and public classes, private school children and community groups. We are convinced the CHM can enjoy the same success, attract tourists and federal funding with the assistance and support of the Fairfield Community.



The Iris City Cleaners in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa has created a Parsons logo mat. The decorative mat is 3' x 4' and made of nylon pile fabric with cleated nitrile rubber backing. If interested in purchasing this piece of memorabilia, contact Ed Longanecker via email at: emlong2@iowatelecom.net, fax at 319-385-9707, or call 888-485-9707. The price is \$62.95+ shipping. (See page 26 for more PC memorabilia).

'The Building...and The Man'



The Carnegie Historical Museum, formerly the Fairfield Library (L), now houses the history of Jefferson County, Fairfield and the Parsons College Collection. This building was built in 1893 with funds provided by Andrew Carnegie (R). A second Carnegie Library was subsidized by Mr. Carnegie and built on the Parsons College campus several years later...

Both Ferguson and Kummer are planning to reconvene in Fairfield on August 10 to discuss their next step. The entire Parsons family is elated that Mr. Peterson is eager to share the formula for Winona's success, and equally excited by his willingness to take it a step further, visit Fairfield, and talk to the powers that be, in an effort to help move the CHM project forward. At this point, we are extremely optimistic Mr. Peterson will travel to Fairfield and do just that... visit with the Carnegie Historical Museum Board, the City Council, the Mayor, share his successful plan, and his unwavering enthusiasm that... "YES, WE CAN DO THIS!"...

Next Issue – FALL - 2016

News Deadline: NO DEADLINE

*Your news and photographs are needed.
Please submit as a jpg and provide information
about the photo.*

*If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen
nwirtanen@yahoo.com*

Getting a new email address? Receiving multiple issues? If so, please notify Nancy of address change and any duplication.

WE DON'T WANT YOU TO MISS AN ISSUE!!

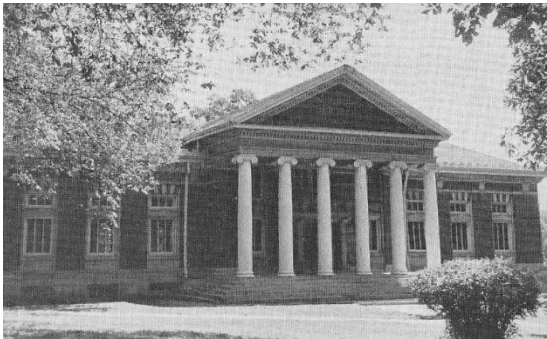
***Bet you didn't know??** by John Braidwood*

When **Millard G. Roberts** arrived at Parsons College in 1955, the chief administrators were the president and the dean of the college. By 1962 the college had a president, two vice presidents, an assistant to the president, and several deans. Remarkably, by the time Roberts was fired in 1967 there was a president, a provost, four vice presidents, four deans, and an assortment of administrators. The college had been growing exponentially, but by comparison the growth of Robert's administration proportionally exceeded all other aspects.

In 1955, **Richard Hoerner**, Chairman, of the Parsons College board of trustees reminded the board search committee that Robert's previous employer the "Brick Presbyterian Church" of New York City cautioned: "Roberts will be great if you can control him, If you can't, it will destined to be a failure." A sobering caveat that unfortunately went unheeded.

Roberts proved a genius at innovative ideas, but could not always differentiate between what was good and what was bad. He was likely to throw out even the most successful to try something new. He liked change for its own sake, "It keeps people on their toes," he said. He boasted that he fired 25% of his faculty annually to keep the rest in top form. As the late **David Boroff**, acclaimed educational writer described him, "Pudgy, flamboyant, tireless, Roberts has the glad-handing manner of a Chamber of Commerce president, the force of a bull dozer, and the guile...of a snake oil salesman."

What to do about a library.....It was 1905, Parsons College had incurred the tragic loss of Ankeney Hall (chapel, science lab, classrooms, lecture hall and library) located next to Ballard Hall due to fire, with an estimated loss of \$40,000, equivalent in access of a million dollars today. **T.D. Foster** of Ottumwa, meat packing entrepreneur, came to the rescue and gave \$25,000 to start reconstruction. Foster Hall for Science and Fairfield Hall were quickly built and dedicated, but then, where was the money to come from to build a library? **Andrew Carnegie** was



Carnegie Library #2

approached, and to everyone's amazement, agreed to contribute to the building, but on condition that the college match the gift. It could not, and the matter soon came to a conclusion. Then by chance, and this is one of those - "Can you believe this" - stories, Foster, by incredible coincidence, found himself on board the same ship with Carnegie crossing the Atlantic. He again brought up the matter of building the library. This time Carnegie generously waived his conditions and gave \$15,000 out-right for construction of a new library. Foster had successfully persevered to the amazement and joy of the administration. It is interesting that Fairfield, Iowa became, and was thought to be the only city in the country to have a public, and a private Carnegie Library...And now, you know: "The rest of the story!"

In the early 1900s', **Colonel Charles Parsons**, philanthropist, and younger brother of **Lewis Baldwin Parsons**, contributed a substantial amount of personal time and money to the college's early growth. His generous gifts to the school totaled over \$150,000, equivalent to nearly 4 million dollars today. He became one of the college's most significant monetary contributors during that time...

REMEMBER WHEN???

By Doug Marion '70

*(Editor's Note: Doug has researched many yearbooks regarding people and the happenings of Parsons College. In this column he continues to feature the year of 1966, focusing on a number of Parsons sports teams, while sandwiching in some of the major national and worldwide events of 50 years ago. Special thanks to **John Blackstock** for his editorial contributions to this column.)*

As we continue featuring the banner year of 1966, the year in which Parsons reached its pinnacle of student enrollment (5,141), and sadly began its painful demise (Life Magazine, June 3, 1966), we must not overlook the great Wildcat sports programs. While the United States had its hands full in 1966 battling Russia in their race to the moon, the Parsons baseball team under coach **Jim Hall** was involved in racing to the greatest season in PC baseball history. MVP **Gene Myatt** paced the Wildcats to a 37-10-1 mark and to national prominence. Some of the stalwarts on that star-studded team included, **Doug Dunlap, Paul Zahn, Tony DeMacio, Mike Bottom, Tom Lolos, Tim Heintzleman, Dick Mills, Jim Zerilla** and **Larry Blixt**. Not surprisingly, a number of those players were drafted by major league teams...

In a year clouded with race riots throughout the country, rising inflation and the escalation of the Vietnam war, **Tony Yelovich's** Wildcats wrestling team wrestled their way to a perfect 9-0 record. **Rich Bodine** captained the matmen and **Rich Knobloch** was voted most valuable wrestler. Other team standouts who contributed were, **Wally Ligon, Roland Crivellaro, Richard Shohfi, Carl Willing** and **Rich Rogers**. The Notre Dame and Michigan State football teams also posted 9-0 seasons, while in the major sports, Baltimore (baseball), Green Bay (football) and Boston (basketball) claimed championship honors. ...

With Jack Nicklaus surging onto the national golf scene, captain **Duncan Wall** and MVP **Bob Stauderman** were guiding the Wildcats golf team to a successful 10-6-2 tally. The 1966 team members included, **J. Mayers, Fred Hunt, D. Musengo, T. Warner** and **Ray McClintock**. ... If you were following the linksmen in 1966, you were probably listening to the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Beach Boys and Simon & Garfunkle in your free time. ... You may also have been aware of a number of other noteworthy happenings around the world: the Houston Astrodome was built - Batman & Robin and Star Trek made their debuts - the "Pill" was declared safe - first successful heart transplant recorded - the Vatican okayed eating fish on Friday - a postage stamp cost 5 cents - and mini skirts and colored TV's were deemed to be "IN"...



***BEST EVER!** Parsons leading hitter Doug Dunlap (.374) strokes a double while helping Wildcats to the best record in history at 37-10-1...*



***PERFECTION!** After posting a 9-0 season, Rich Knobloch, Rich Bodine, Carl Willing, Wally Ligon, and Rich Rogers are off to the NCAA small college wrestling tournament to represent the Wildcats...*



***THE 1966 MVP's:** Row 1 – Bruce Cortez, track; Robert Stauderman, golf; Gary Zucker, tennis. Row 2 – Bill Atkins, basketball; John Kuhi, cross country; Rich Knobloch, wrestling; Gene Myatt, baseball.*

(Continued on page 12)

(REMEMBER – cont'd)

Across campus, coach **Dave Bucknell's** tennis team was matching the golfers 10 win season (10-7) with **L. Paul** as captain of the netmen. He was backed up by MVP **Cary Zucker, Gary Foster, D. Dunlavy, D. Johnson, D. Lann, N. Pao** and **R. Barton**. ... Perhaps the greatest struggle of the first six months of 1966 was endured by the Parsons Basketball team. ... Despite captain and MVP **Bill Atkins** racking up over 1,000 points (1,056) for the season, the best the cagers could do was tally 11 wins against 14 losses. The Wildcats were finding the competition a lot tougher since leaving the Iowa Conference. ...

And perhaps the greatest highlight of 1966 came in the fall with the opening of Blum Stadium, the emergence of **Chelo Huerta's** football team to national recognition and being awarded a trip to the Pecan Bowl in Abilene, TX, where they lost to North Dakota State. ... If you weren't playing varsity sports, studying, or drinking beer at The Den, you may have joined the intramural program and competed for the IM Sweepstakes Trophy. And if you were one of the men of **Turner House**, you proudly hoisted that championship trophy after edging the Sig Eps in total Sweepstakes points... In the "Best of the Best" categories, nationally, "Best Song" was The Ballad of the Green Beret (SSgt Barry Sadler) - "Best Movie" was The Sound of Music (Julie Andrews). And at Parsons, "Best Athlete of the Year" was **Larry Blixt** (football and baseball) - and voted "Letterman of the Year" was **Bill Larkin**... The year 1966 - 50 years ago - was truly a banner year and one we'll never forget!!!



Breaking the Barrier! Coach O.B. Nelson presents the game ball to Bill Atkins, commemorating Atkins going over the 1,000 mark for the season...



BEST OF THE BEST: Larry Blixt (L) was named "Best Athlete of the Year" and Bill Larkin (R) was voted "Letterman of the Year"...

YOUR DUES ARE DUE NOW

.....
**Please send a Minimum
of Five Dollars – Cash or
Check (sorry, no PayPal
yet)**

to:

**Dave Neff, c/o Parsons
College Alumni
Association,
2272 Glasgow Road,
Fairfield, IA 52556**

**(If you like what we do, TELL
US - additional donations
accepted)**

Publication Information

Publisher/Editor: John Blackstock '64
jblackstock@prodigy.net – 636-926-7881

Advisor: Doug Marion '70
dougmarion@aol.com - 949-212-7758

E-News Dues (July to July): \$5.00 /year; plus, donations accepted. Mail to:

Dave Neff '69
c/o Parsons College Alumni Association
2272 Glasgow Road
Fairfield, IA 52556.

Editor's Note: To submit Greek, social, or personal news, send request to Nancy Wirtanen at: nwirtanen@yahoo.com for consideration. E-News reserves the right to edit all material and downsize due to limited space. Opinions expressed by writers do not necessarily represent those of E-News or the PCAA. The Parsons College Alumni E-News is not affiliated with the Parsons News-line, or George Jordan III.

THE ALUMNI NOTES...

KMCD's Litwin says: "Thanks for the memories!"

Larry Litwin, PC'67 writes... To everyone responsible for the *E-news*: It's just fantastic! I know how much goes into doing what you all do on a regular basis. Just incredible! The reactions to the anti-Parsons op-ed piece were right on. While negative and inaccurate (the Laura Crossett piece), it drew attention to Parsons and its mission... **Doug Marion's** hard work in "Remember When??" is invaluable. I continue to pitch your efforts and those of the Alumni Association, but the media -- including NPR -- don't have the human resources to get it done. I've not given up... *E-news* serves as a pick-me-up and a downer at the same time (for me). It is so wonderful reading about "our" accomplishments and the impact Parsons alumni have had in the United States and abroad. So many have paid it forward. The downer is reading about those we have lost. As I read about (the loss of) **Dave Hubler**, who we saw just a couple of years ago, and **Charlie Williams'** passing, and reminisce about **O.B.** and **Chelo, Joe Lutz, Lee Gobble** and others, I say, "Thanks for Memories." Each touched me (and my wife Nancy) in their own way. It was an honor to know them and -



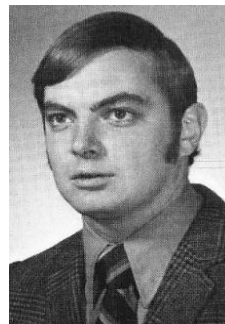
KMCD: "Spilman & Litwin"

- in fact -- play for Coach Lutz before announcing the games (KMCD). I could go on and on. Suffice to say, I am so proud to be a Parsons graduate

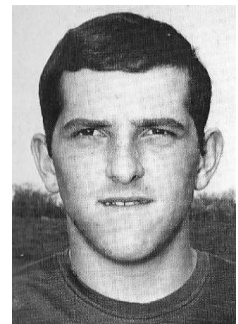
and Nancy considers herself an alum as well, although she earned her degree elsewhere while following me around the country as I changed radio jobs. Please keep doing what you are doing. We will see you in October. I'm attaching a pix (taken by **Doug Pocock**): **Dave Spilman** (l) and I at KMCD in May 1966. The best for health and happiness to you and the entire PCAA board. **Go Wildcats!!! Larry Litwin, PC'67**

Wildcats teammates voted to Pennsylvania Coaches Hall of Fame...

Two former Parsons football standouts were voted into the coaches hall of fame. It's just been learned that **Tom "Woody" Salisbury, PC'71**, and **Rich Pavlisko, PC'69**, will be inducted into the Tri-County Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame of Western Pennsylvania this fall. Tom, who played on the final Parsons teams in the late 1960's, went on to coach in the metro Pittsburgh area for 37 years. He spent 19 of his years coaching at Frazier School District. Tom also coached at Belle Vernon and Hempfield High Schools. Over his coaching career, he posted 130 wins, went to the playoffs 6 times and won 4 Conference titles. Both Tom and Rich were voted to the hall of fame by their peers and will be honored at the BeeGraphics All-Star Football Classic this fall. ... Rich, a star running back on the Wildcats 1967 team, who is also from Western Pennsylvania, was one of the six inductees of the Class of 2016 to enter the Tri-County Football Coaches Association's Hall of Fame. Rich has amassed 44 years of coaching/teaching, 37 of those years were spent in the Keystone Oaks School District. He coached 10 seasons at Bethel Park High School and is currently in his 5th year as an assistant coach for the Peter's Township High School Indians...



Tom Salisbury, '71



Rich Pavlisko, '69

Good news for "Wildcat Jocks" living in Tampa/St. Petersburg area...

Maclin "Mac" Stewart, PC'69, has some good news for Wildcat football and baseball players and WTBA's from the 1967-1969 era. He reports that up to 28 Parsons football/baseball players gather regularly at the St. Petersburg Dog Track. If you are interested in hooking up with Mac and the boys, here's his contact info: **5001 Addison Court Tampa FL: 33624; ph: 863-651-6923; email: maclinstewart@aol.com.**

(Continued on page 14)

PC Grad: Former Senator Allen Paul receives Honorary Degree from IU East...



Allen Paul, PC'67

Allen Paul's commitment to his city, Richmond, and his state, Indiana, have been a constant throughout his life. In addition, he has been instrumental in the evolution and growth of Indiana University East; in the sponsorship of legislation with broad statewide impact and appeal; and also in addressing the needs and issues of veterans. Allen has been awarded an Honorary Degree – Doctor of Humane Letters - from IU-East, recognizing his contributions. In 2009, Allen, PC'67, was inducted to the Parsons Wall of Honor with the inaugural class. His tenure in the Indiana Senate was distinguished by his service as majority whip along with expertise in complicated matters assigned to insurance and financial committees. Allen served in the First Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam and is a retired Brigadier General of the Indiana National Guard Reserve. He has been awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Bronze Star with Valor, and the National Guard's President's Award for Service. Allen remains active in a number of service clubs and organizations.

He has served as National President of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, of which, he was a member at Parsons. Allen serves on a number of boards and is involved with the Richmond Chamber of Commerce. Perhaps the highest recognition and honor he has received is the "Sagamore of the Wabash." This is the highest civilian award that can be bestowed on an individual in the State of Indiana. It is awarded by the Governor of the state. This award recognizes and encompasses statewide contributions and leadership. Without recanting Allen's many accomplishments and contribution to his city, state, and his people, perhaps the best way to close this Allen Paul update, is to share the observation of State Representative **Tom Saunders**, who said, "As a former state senator and Vietnam veteran, Allen has always proven that he has the people's best interest, and their freedoms, at heart." Congratulations, Allen Paul...

LIFE MAGAZINE changed his life...

Thanks for another wonderful issue! I do feel the need to say something about the 'infamous' LIFE magazine article. In the summer of 1966, I was adjusting to flunking out of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY after my sophomore year. Although much important research was being done there for the space program, computers, communication, etc., the lowly students were forced to suffer through lectures & discussions taught by mostly graduate assistants who usually had English as a second. Language! Since I didn't believe the rice fields of Vietnam would be a good career option for me, I was seeking another college. The "College admissions Center" in Illinois was a clearing house for hundreds of small colleges and universities. Parsons College was interested. Just as I got the good news so did the LIFE article. Having been at an urban university in NEW YORK where the state drinking age was 18 for all forms of alcohol, I quickly realized that NO school in rural IOWA could be as bad as the article stated. Here's the important FACTS that were in the article that changed my life... As I recall, it stated that Parsons had the third highest paid faculty in the country with all kinds of benefits for the faculty as well. There was no "publish or perish" clauses in their contracts but a directive to either be teaching, or in their offices available to students 9-5, M-F. After two years of bad graduate assistants, these facts made my decision to come to PC easy. I was accepted and came to Fairfield in the fall of 1966. Like so many, Parsons changed my life. I was on Dean's list for 6 straight trimesters (no summers) and graduated in June 1969 with a BA in Business Administration-Accounting. I have been a tax preparing accountant ever since. If it weren't for the LIFE article though, I might never have come to Parsons. I may be the only person connected to PC singing the praises of the LIFE article, but it was truly important for me. *Schuyler "Sky" Wilder, (CPA), PC'69* - skywilder@verizon.net

"If there's a word bigger than MODERATION, please tell me what it is!" 65'nWise

Alumni Registry Climbs to over 3,400

PCAA President **Nancy Wirtanen** reports that through her continued efforts to seek and find missing Parsons College alumni, she has now amassed over 3,400 names. This includes status and/or contact information now recorded in the Parsons alumni registry. Nancy began her quest to locate our missing alums nearly 10 years ago and has been relentless in her pursuit.

E-News Editor **John Blackstock** observed, and recently stated, “Nancy is really on a mission. First she was hoping to get 2,000 alumni names, then when she broke that number, she set her sights on 2,500, then 3,000. Now that she’s over 3,400, who knows how many more alums she’ll find. Nancy is a fanatic. She collects names and addresses like I used to collect baseball cards as a kid. Kudos to Nancy and her lasting efforts...”

A MESSAGE FROM NANCY:
“We’ve all taken different paths in life, but no matter where we have gone, we’ve taken a little of each other everywhere with us. Please join us in helping to keep the spirit and the memory of Parsons College alive, and the contacts and connections to old and new friendships active and on-going. Remember, a new friend is valuable and old friends are priceless. Please send us the names and contact information of any newly located alumni.”

The Spring Mystery Quiz - THE ANSWER???

Congratulations to **Margaret Weiss Bloebaum, PC’65** for her recollection and identification of “The Boys Who Served Them Up” at the popular Flamingo Bowling Alley Bar, west of town. Margaret has a memory like a steel trap and she even identified **Andy Pesez** (*far right*) of the WTBA’s, who apparently kept her well supplied with Whiskey Sours (*see more in Letters to the Editor*)...



Parsons College Alumni Website

Check out our **FREE 3-DAY** trial viewing of the Parsons College Alumni Association website at:
www.parsonscollegealumni.com.

(For information as to how to access this site, how to use this site, and how to pay to enroll and become a member, **CONTACT KEN RICE**)

It’s a WINNER!!

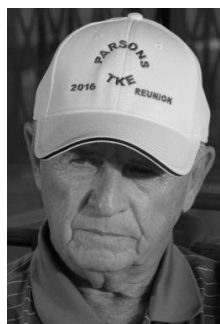
Greek and Social News...

TKE's roar into Arizona in numbers...

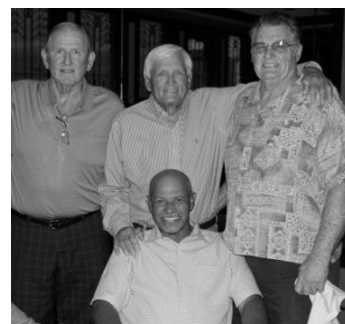
The boys of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity who affectionately call themselves “the fraters,” have a good thing going. Every two years they reconvene under the leadership of **Gary Ratkin**, and with a little help from **Barth Holohan** and friends. The TKE's have really gained some reunion momentum. What started out as a gathering of a few fraters (and friends), playing golf, drinking beer and telling lies, has turned into an event of large numbers. With each reunion the numbers build and according to Ratkin, “we even expect larger numbers in 2018, as the good times roll and the popularity grows!”

The April/May reunion attendance, after adding spouses, significant others, and, yes, even a couple grandkids, was estimated at well over the 50 mark. The TKE's attending were: **Ratkin, Holohan, Jon Eisenhaur, Bill Eason, Phil Como, Don Hartmann, Tom Lolos, Fred Kmetz, Jim Rose, Tom James, John Matthews, Rick Bushnell, Mike Rapp, Dick Vitolo, John Logan, Jim Nield, Steve Harms, Paul Falcone, Bill Parsons, Carl Wilderotter, Jim Jenco, Frank Tyson, Allen Paul, Rich Rogers, Bill Atkins, Todd Kantorowicz, Jack Williams and Bill Jordan**. The guest list included: Sig Eps, **Chris Adams, Steve Gilliat, Hank Brenner and Chuck McKelvy; Ken Rice**, Theta Sigma Chi and **Cary Dockery**, Independent.

The festivities kicked off Wednesday evening with cocktails and dinner at the Marriott Hotel. Thursday most of the boys played golf, then went down to Chase Field to watch the Arizona Diamondbacks defeat the St. Louis Cardinals. Friday was another day on the golf links and a trip to Maggiano's Italian Restaurant for dinner. Saturday was kickback day with many of our guests doing the tourist bit prior to traversing to a poolside dinner at the Marriott. Another day of golf was on the board for Sunday as many of our friends said farewell. Results of golf competition were: **Eisenhaur** won Longest Drive; **Adams** and **Dockery** won Closest to the Pin; **Falcone** was Low Net to Handicap for the weekend and was the recipient of the coveted Green Jacket. The last of the attendees departed Monday as the reunion came to an end...and was deemed by all to have been a resounding success. Photos were taken and available through **Bill Jordan** and through **Barth Holohan**. **Final Note:** If you have not done so, please send your email address and cell number for the TKE Registry to **Karen Knott** at: kknott@holohangroup.com.



Gary Ratkin (left photo) has once again hosted what has become the Bi-annual TKE Reunion in Arizona. Johnny Matthews (right photo) is surrounded by Kenny Rice, Hank Brenner and Bill Atkins...



TKE Fraters: L/R – Bill Parsons, Mike Rapp, Jack Williams, Paul Falcone, Carl Wilderotter, Rich Rogers and Frank Tyson take a short break from Happy Hour to pose for a mini group photo...

Sig Eps: Time to pick up the phone and call Mr. Hobie Bannister!!!!

Remember the Alamo!!! Look out San Antonio, Texas...the Sig Eps are coming! If you're not yet saddled up and ready to ride you'd better call **Hobie Bannister** pronto! Plans for the 6th Bi-Annual Sigma Phi Epsilon reunion are underway and being planned for the last weekend of October, 2016. This has become an every two-year event and they seem to just keep getting better and better.” Plans are currently coming together and if you are interested, it's time to get off your diarrhea (ass) and contact chairman **Hobie Bannister**: hobieanddawnb@g.com for more information...

(Continued on page 17)

Letters to the Editor...

Regarding the Mystery Quiz and Flamingo bartenders, I knew **Andy Pesez** well during my last semester, Summer '65. He saved my life by keeping me well-supplied with Whiskey Sours. The poor guy didn't know I was only 20-years-old - every time he asked, my friend **Pam Plummer**, who usually accompanied me on my Flamingo runs, would say, "Andy, she's about to GRADUATE!" Andy was a really nice man - I've often wondered what became of him. He was originally from Slingerlands, NY... The passing of **Ed Snee** brought back a funny story of his wedding. His buddies painted **HELP!** on the soles of both of his shoes, clearly visible as he knelt at the altar during the wedding service. (Funny what odd factoids we remember...)

Margaret Bloebaum, PC'65 - margaretbloebaum@gmail.com

A big kick for me. I just received my Parsons T-shirt yesterday. I put it on and went for a ride in my 1971 Malibu convertible! What Fun!!!

Mike Ribolla, PC'n/a - ribolla2@msn.com

Great job on the Spring letter..love reading about all the characters that graced the campus of PC....always brings back fun memories....Very happy that Gary "Goo" is doing well...I was worried about him but glad he is better....very sad to read about **George Veselka** passing...good man...tough when the legends bow out... Will send a check tomorrow to help with the **Lee Gobble** statue effort...loved the guy...speaking of legends... Leaving Florida and spending the summer in the northeast...

Mason Delafield, PC'64 - <mailto:oneiron33@gmail.com>

THANK YOU for your continued work on the Parsons newsletter - Another one well done -

A side note to the *Life* story about Parsons, I was told by a friend (who will remain anonymous), who worked at *Life*, that more subscriptions were cancelled because of that story than ANY other story ever printed by the magazine!

Marilynne Wepsala Urquardt, PC'65 - marken@olympus.net



I attended Parsons from October, 1966 to February, 1968, when I graduated. I was not with any social or Greek organizations. (Perhaps you can help) I lost track of my Parsons roommate, **Barbara Gill**. She married **Paul Zahn** a baseball player on the Parsons team. There's not a lot you can do when someone quits sending out Christmas cards! Let me know any other information you might need (to update my information).

Carole Ann Shepard Gilliard, PC'68 - catsewus@yahoo.com

Thanks I very much enjoyed the wide range of articles and made my brain work again trying to remember names and faces in the Newsletter.

Jeff Mazer, PC'n/a - j.mazer@earthlink.net

I want to thank you and the other members of the board of directors for all the hard work, time and passion that goes into the creation and publication of the Parsons College newsletter. I always look forward to receiving the newsletters and read them from beginning to end. I am wondering if by chance any of you have heard from a young man that attended Parsons the same time I did in '65-'66. I have lost touch with him and would like to try to track him down. His name is **Herb Thomas**. Please let me know if you have any contact info for him. I would also love to have any contact info you might have in regards to my two roommates, **Sue Chase Curtis** and **Kim Larson**.

Linda Horton Javier, PC'65-'66 - LJavier@rwglaw.com

(Editor's Note: If anyone knows the whereabouts of Herb Thomas, Sue Chase Curtis and/or Kim Larson please contact Linda Horton Javier via her email address.)

In Memoriam...



Kent McGlincy

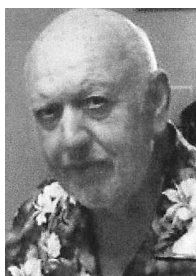
Kent McGlincy, PC'61-'63... formerly of Champions, PA, passed away near his home in Sebring, FL, June 22, 2016. Kent was born in Butler, PA where he attended high school and became a state champion swimmer. In addition to swimming, he skied, golfed, marched, drove, rode and flew around the world throughout an adventurous life that served as the basis for many short and tall tales that he boisterously shared with family, friends and strangers alike. At Parsons, Kent was affiliated with the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and later with Where the Boys Are (WTBA). Following Parsons, he became a ski school instructor at Seven Springs

Mountain Resort in Pennsylvania before entering the US Army. Kent served in Vietnam, received a Purple Heart and was awarded a Bronze Star when he retired from active duty in 1968. He created camaraderie and fun times wherever he went. Kent did not know a stranger, and got great satisfaction out of helping fellow veterans access and obtain the military service benefits of which they were entitled. He is survived by a daughter, Meredith, a son, Kent, Jr (and families), a grand daughter, Pippa and the mother of his children, Linda Belle McGlincy. Kent was laid to rest in the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA on July 25, 2016...

Ronald "Rock" Kester, PC'57... of Ottumwa, died on July 9, 2016 at Hospice House in Ottumwa. He was born July 9, 1931 in Winfield, IA and married Janice Hart-Martin September 22, 1973. He was 85. Ron graduated from Winfield High School where he played basketball for the state tournament qualifying team and became a member of the Iowa High School Basketball Hall of Fame in 1989. Ron served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955 and was stationed at Ft. Riley and Ft. Leonard Wood. Following his discharge, he went back to Parsons College, was a member of the Zeta Theta Gamma fraternity and graduated in 1957. Ron worked for Champion Sparkplug in Burlington and operated 3 I (Iowa Industries, Inc.) Credit Union. He then served in the Merchant Marines for five years, followed by 18 years at John Deere Ottumwa Works. He retired in 1993. Ron attended Fort Madison Living Hope Nazarene Church and for 42 years Trinity Church of the Nazarene in Ottumwa. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles #1287 in Fort Madison for close to 50 years. Ron volunteered and helped with relief efforts, and provided sewing machines in Haiti. He enjoyed traveling, which included traveling around the globe to South East Asia, South America, Europe and Russia, and his family hosted two exchange students. Ron is survived by his wife, Janice; his "boys", Sami Chin, the Shih Tzu and Rocky, the Maltese; and a host of other relatives. A memorial services was held at Trinity Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Mark Eigsti officiating. Military services were conducted by O.B. Nelson Post #3 American Legion and Walter B. Schafer Post #775 Veterans of Foreign Wars...



Ronald Kester



Ron Grant

Ronald Grant, PC'73... of Madrid, IA, passed away June 5, 2016 of Alzheimer's disease. He was 75. He attended Madrid Community School and went on to Parsons until its closure. Ron then transferred to Peru College in Nebraska and graduated with a BA in Physical Education and History. He later returned to Peru State College, completed his teaching requirements and earning a BS degree. Ron taught Social Studies, Physical Education and coached football, wrestling and track at Madrid Junior High for 28 years. He later became head coach of the girls varsity basketball team and was loved by all as a teacher, coach and friend. Ron enjoyed traveling the world and sharing his stories with all. He is survived by his wife Judy (Anderson Glass), who he married in June of 1972, and a number of nieces, nephews and friends around the world...

(Continued on page 19)

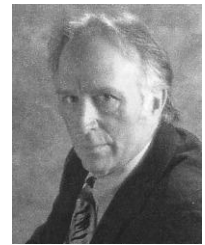


Salli Jane Ray
Govatsos

Salli Jane Ray Govatsos, PC'65... of Canton and South Chatham, MA, passed away peacefully on June 27, 2016 surrounded by family after a long, heroic battle with Multiple Systems Atrophy (MSA). She was 70. Salli is the beloved wife of **Gerald Jerry Govatsos** and was married for almost 49 years. She will be greatly missed by her two daughters **Stephanie Govatsos Candon** and **Alexandra Govatsos** and her four grandchildren along with a number of relatives. Salli was raised in Ashland, MA and a graduate of Ashland HS'64. Always an independent soul, she accepted an academic scholarship to Parsons and joined the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. Upon leaving Parsons, Salli joined Eastern Airlines as a Flight Attendant. Salli and her husband Jerry met on Cape Cod in 1967 and married

shortly thereafter. Because of her job she and Jerry traveled the world for the next two years. After the births of her two children, Salli devoted all of her time to her favorite role as a mother and housewife. She also worked for many years with her husband while he established his business. Salli's lifelong desire to own and ride horses became a reality in 1990. Besides four-wheeling with her family to Nauset Beach, the horse barn is where she wanted to be. In 1995, Salli had a serious accident while riding and during the recovery process, started showing symptoms of MSA. In 2004, she got the definitive diagnosis and bravely took on the challenge of facing and coping with this debilitating disease. Beautiful, loyal, disciplined, sweet, caring and devoted wife, mother and friend is what family and friends will most remember of Salli. Funeral service and burial were private.

Donald Van McLeod, PC'69... of Concord, NH passed away July 18, 2016 at Concord Hospital. Cause of death unknown at this time. He was 70. While at Parsons, he was involved in the drama program and was a member of the Alpha Psi Omega thespian group. Van McLeod was the long-serving Commissioner of New Hampshire's Department of Cultural Resources. The steward of New Hampshire's cultural and historic resources held that position for 24 years. Van McLeod was an iconic state commissioner who promoted the state, its beauty and its diverse arts community. As Cultural Resources Commissioner Van McLeod traveled the world to promote the state as a great place for the arts and to do business. He oversaw the State Council on the Arts, the Film and Television Office, the Division of Historical Resources, the State Library and the Commission on Native American Affairs. **New Hampshire Governor Maggie Hassan** said McLeod was the longest-tenured state agency head currently serving and "a steadfast steward of our cultural and historic resources in the Granite State. He was a wonderful person and a incredible asset to New Hampshire over his 24 years." In 2007, McLeod received the NH Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award at the Theatre Awards. A year later, the Film Festival created the annual Van McLeod Achievement Award in his honor. "We represent filmmakers from the state and from all over the world and Van was integral in getting it started and building it up into what it has become today," a spokeswoman from the festival said. He served as producing director at North Country Center for the Arts and founded and acted as producing director of First Night Concord. If it had anything to do with promoting New Hampshire as a great place for the arts, Van McLeod was in the middle of it all. "The Department of Cultural Affairs (and) library would not have their prominence that they do if it had not been for his work," said, **Senator Lou D'Allesandro** (D-Manchester). Van McLeod leaves behind his wife Joanie and daughter Chelsea. The governor has ordered flags to half-staff later this week for his funeral...



Van McLeod

(Continued on page 20)

"GOD gave us only so many miles, so don't waste them all on the treadmill!!"

65'nWise



Marv Hite

Marvin "Marv" Hite, PC'59-'61...of Vinton, IA passed away peacefully from natural causes May 28, 2016. Marv was born in Vinton, graduated from Washington High School, where he starred in football, basketball and track. He was later inducted to the WHS Hall of Fame. Marv attended Parsons for two years and was a scrappy hustling guard on O.B. Nelson's Wildcats basketball team. He was also an active member of Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity. While at Parsons, Marv met and married **Jane King (Delta Zeta)** in 1961. They were later divorced and he remarried **Marilyn Mahr** in 1978. Marv, who spent virtually his entire life in Vinton, worked as a heavy equipment operator for B.L. Anderson, Vulcan Materials and Sending

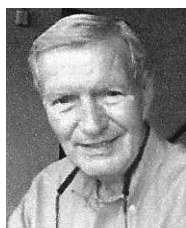
Quarries. He retired in 2001. Marv's passion was golf, and over the years, he amazingly recorded 6 hole-in-ones. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, two sons, two daughters, a step-daughter, 11 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and numerous other relatives. A celebration of Marv's life was held at the First Christian Church and funeral arrangements were handled by Van Steenhuyse-Russell Funeral Home...

Harry J. Shapira, PC'n/a... executive vice president of Heaven Hill Distilleries Inc., the country's largest, family-owned and operated producer and marketer of distilled spirits, died October 13, 2013 after a 10-year battle with cancer. He was 66. Harry helped create and design the company's two new modern attraction centers: the Bourbon Heritage Center in Bardstown, KY and the Evan Williams Bourbon Experience, which opened in Louisville. The company is reportedly now the country's sixth-largest spirits supplier and second largest holder of aging bourbon. Harry was a significant Philanthropist in Louisville. He and his wife donated generously to numerous organizations and charities in the Louisville area.



Harry Shapira

Harry was president of the Shapira Foundation and served as a board member for the regional cancer center corporation at the James Graham Brown Cancer Center at the University of Louisville, where he was also a major donor. He served for several years as president of Keneseth Israel Congregation and was a former president of the Eliahu Academy, the city's Jewish Day school, and was a Bellarmine University trustee. In 2012, after Heaven Hill began making kosher products, Harry received the Aaron Chase Award from the Louisville Vaad Hakashruth organization, which provides Kosher certification in the city. He was born in Louisville and his father co-founded Heaven Hill Distilleries shortly after the end of Prohibition with his four brothers. The five Shapira brothers took a gamble and after several years bought out the other investors and began growing the business. Harry and his cousin, the company's president, represent Heaven Hill's second generation of leadership. After he graduated from the University of Louisville's College of Business, Harry served two years in the U.S. Army at the Pentagon during the Vietnam War. Before he went to work for his family's business, he worked in the retail clothing business for several years. During his brief time at Parsons, Harry was affiliated with the Alpha Epsilon Pi's (AEPi's) fraternity. He is survived by his wife, Judy of 42 years, and was most proud of his two sons (families) and three grandchildren...

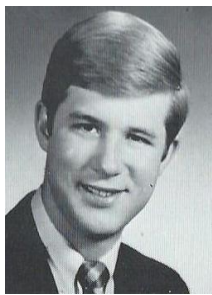


Gary Mann

Gary L. Mann, PC'67-'68... of Longwood, FL passed away July 23, 2016 after a valiant battle with cancer. He was 69. Gary was born in Baltimore, MD, graduated from Towson Senior High School and attended University of Maryland prior to enrolling at Parsons. During his college years he was a member of Phi Sigma Epsilon and also served in the Army National Guard. Gary was an excellent golfer and enjoyed a long career in sales. He worked for McCormick Spices and Mann-Holly, selling food packaging equipment. Most recently, Gary was employed in the automotive industry. He loved the game of golf and was fortunate to have spent time with Shell's Wonderful World of Golf where he traveled the country and around the

world. Gary served as an elder at the Maitland Presbyterian Church. Through the church, he organized a number of golf tournaments benefitting Habitat for Humanity and other local charities. Gary was a positive person who was an "upper" to all those he came in contact with and will be missed greatly by friends and family. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Nan, a son Lee, a sister, Carol, two brothers and two grandchildren. A service and gathering was held at the Maitland Presbyterian Church in Orlando, FL on July 28, 2016...

(Continued on page 21)



James Lieblang

James Lieblang, PC'65-'68... passed away May 11, 2016 at Capital Health Medical Center in Hopewell. James, 69, was born in Trenton, NJ and spent most of his life there. He attended Hamilton HS West, Washington & Lee University in Lexington, VA and graduated from Parsons. James then enlisted in the U.S. Army, did basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Officers Training at Fort Sill, OK and was assigned to the 11th USA Missile Detachment, 559th Artillery Group in Bressanone, Italy. He was later transferred to Schweinfurt, Germany where he was honorably discharged. Upon returning to the US, he worked for Xerox and Miley Corporation, then attended Rider University to pursue a financial degree. James was employed as an accountant with the Atlantic Foundation in Princeton and, most recently, as controller of the Community Blood Council of NJ in

Ewing. He was a member of the Vereinigung der Donauschwaben, the German American Club, and the Commemorative Air Force (preservation of historic aircraft). James is survived by his wife, Kathleen (Ryklicki), his mother, a son and daughter-in-law, three grandchildren and a host of other relatives...

(Editor's Note: An edited version of Maruta Rubens Gardner's obituary appeared in the Spring edition of E-News. At the request of Katherynne N. VanderMolen, we are republishing the complete unedited copy of that obituary.)

Maruta Rubens Gardner, PC'69... was tragically killed February 13, 2016, by a road-rage-fueled hit-and-run crash involving a drunk driver. Maruta was 68 years old and lived in the Mission Beach community of San Diego with her husband of 44 years, **William H. Gardner (PC '65-67, Sigma Pi)**. Maruta graduated from Parsons College in 1969 with a B.A. in Education. She was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority and served as its president. Maruta was a member of the Green Key, Monx Head and Omicron honorary societies. She served on the Pan-Hellenic Council and was involved in student government. She was a member of the Iowa State Education Association. Upon graduation from Parsons, Maruta pursued a career in education. In 1976 she obtained a master's degree in Administration and Supervision from San Diego State University, and later served on the university's Education Doctoral Committee. In 1988 she was awarded a Doctorate in Administration from the University of Southern California. Maruta joined the San Diego Unified School District, first as a teacher from 1971 to 1975, then as Lead Teacher, then Vice Principal and then Principal. When she left the San Diego School District in 1995, Dr. Gardner was the Principal of Mission Bay High School. She then served as Area Superintendent for the Poway (California) Unified School District. In 1998 Maruta returned to the San Diego Unified School District as Instructional Leader, a post equivalent to Assistant Superintendent. Following this, she was named Deputy Executive Administrator for Student Support and Special Education. When Maruta retired in 2008, she was the Executive Director of the San Diego County Office of Education, Juvenile Court and Community Schools. During her tenure in education, Maruta Rubens Gardner was awarded numerous honors including: Outstanding Educator by the Association of California School Administrators, 1988-1989; Distinguished Leader by the San Diego Administrators Association, 1989-1990 and 2005-2006; Administrator of the Year by the Council of Exceptional Children, 1990; Woman of Achievement by the San Diego Council of Administrative Women in Education, 2001; and Tribute to Women and Industry Honoree, 2005. Maruta was a member and a past president of the Mission Beach Women's Club and served on the Mission Beach Council. Maruta was site captain for I Love A Clean San Diego, a program that offers environmental education to local schools at no cost. In 2003, she was named Volunteer of the Year by the Mission Beach Town Council. Maruta was an organizer for Honor Flight San Diego. She also was a member of a city group that reviewed city grant requests for San Diego. The San Diego City Council declared November 3, 2015, "Maruta Gardner Day" to recognize her graffiti-clearing efforts and other efforts to renovate and upgrade her beloved Mission Beach. Maruta was following her passion of removing graffiti from a public site at Mission Beach when she was killed. A memorial service for Maruta was held March 4 at Mission Beach and was attended by family, friends, colleagues and local dignitaries. Besides her husband, Willie, Maruta is survived by three sisters and a brother...

Bring it on! You send it, we'll print it! No more deadlines!!

THE PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA SHOP...

COLOR US COOL, GREEN & WHITE WITH MERCHANDISE FROM THE MEMORABILIA SHOP...

You keep supplying the demand, we'll keep supplying the merchandise. We're maintaining Lee Gobble's offering and we've set up NEW ordering and shipping procedures with the actual producer of this memorabilia, which is FAIRFIELD LINE, INC, located in Fairfield. The photo items shown below will now be available in ALL sizes (S through 3X), and in both green and white. So if you've ever thought about, or contemplated, owning a piece of Parsons College memorabilia, there's no time like the present. You can now own that Parsons College T-shirt, golf shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie, hat or visor, and at a reasonable price. Here's how to order: (SEE BELOW)



\$15.00



\$15.00



\$15.00



\$20.00



\$20.00



\$50.99



\$35.00



All HATS and VISORS \$15.00

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS:

Go to www.fairfieldlineinc.com – CLICK ON THE PARSONS TAB – FOLLOW THE SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS. MAKE SIZE, COLOR AND QUANTITY CHOICES, SELECT METHOD OF PAYMENT AND YOUR ORDER IS COMPLETE. SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES WILL APPLY TO ALL ORDERS. Fairfield Line accepts checks and most credit cards. As this is a new procedure, if there are any difficulties or problems with the ordering process, contact Dave Neff at: neffacres@lisco.com.