



Meet the Class of 2009 Wall of Honor Inductees Ceremony to be Held Saturday, October 3, 2009

Saturday, October 3, 2009, the following nine outstanding Parsons College students and alumni will be inducted onto the Parsons College student/alumni Wall of Honor at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow at the Fairfield Country Club and a tour of the Carnegie Historical Museum will be offered from 2:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. All alums, former students, friends and locals are invited. A \$20.00 donation is requested to cover the lunch and ceremony expenses. The Class of 2009 Honorees represents the inaugural group of what will now become an annual event. Watch the Parsons College Alumni e-News for more information.



Oscar Bernard "O.B." Nelson, PC'46... (posthumously)—O.B. was a legendary coach, professor and human being. He was as popular and well known throughout the Midwest as he was in Fairfield and the state of Iowa. As a player at Parsons College, he earned 10 letters in three sports. As coach and professor at Parsons College, he was a legendary winner, both on the hardwood and in the classroom. He also coached the football and baseball teams. His greatest year may have been 1956 when the Parsons Wildcats football squad went undefeated for the first time in school history and won the Iowa Conference under his leadership. But above all, despite his creative impatience and demands of excellence, O.B. Nelson was a legendary human being - warm, kind, and understanding. His selection to the Parsons College Alumni-Student Wall of Honor is merely a topper to his previous awards which include, being named to the Parsons College Football Hall of Fame (1967), Jefferson County Historical Society Sports Hall of Fame (1983), chosen Fairfield's Man of the Year (1950) and having a park - O.B. Nelson Park (1968) - named in his honor. O.B. Nelson, who was born in nearby Batavia, IA, loved his family, loved Parsons College and loved life. The only downside to the O.B. Nelson story was that it did not last long enough. Mr. Nelson died from a fatal heart attack (1968) at age 47. His wife Eunice is also deceased and they are survived by six children and a number of grandchildren.



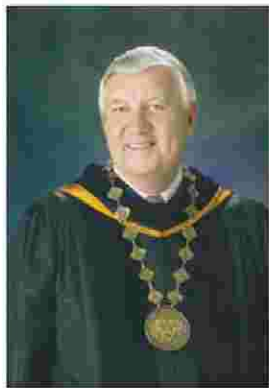
Verle G. Whittington, PC'52... (posthumously)—To reach upper management in less than 10 years at the Shell Oil Company was unthinkable. But Verle Whittington, a Fairfield native and graduate of Parsons, shattered that barrier. And then continued his march up the ladder to become Treasurer of the company, and later, Vice President of Employee Relations. In the twilight of his career, Verle also served as Trustee for several Shell pension funds. He was most proud of memberships to the Houston, Iowa State and American Bar Associations. In addition, Verle's a member of Who's Who in America, served on the Houston Loaned Executive Committee, the Business Round Table and Labor Policy Association, while taking on a number of other chair and committee responsibilities. Mr. Whittington's career started quite inauspiciously. He was a high school dropout who went back and successfully obtained his diploma. Then, after going onto, and graduating from Parsons, he earned a J.D. degree from the University of Iowa College of Law (1955). It was also around this time he discovered the Catholic church and that represented a significant change in his life. Later that same year, Verle launched his wonderfully successful Wall of Honor career with Shell Oil by storming into Wood River, IL, taking on the negotiations with 38 unions and restoring order. Friend and Fairfield resident Marty Taylor recalls Verle, saying, "He never forgot where he came from and he never let his head get too big. He was a loyal Parsons alum who was grateful for the opportunity Parsons provided to achieve his later successes." Verle, who died October 30, 1988, is survived by wife Pauline, four sons and two daughters, along with several grandchildren.

Inside this Issue...	
<i>Wall of Honor Inductees</i>	1
<i>Alumni Write</i>	4
<i>Publication Information</i>	5
<i>Greek and Social</i>	5
<i>Fairfield Memories</i>	6
<i>Letters to the Editor</i>	7
<i>John Blackstock</i>	8

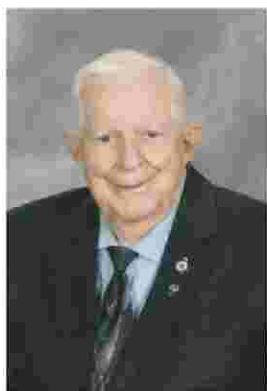
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Senator Allen E. Paul, PC'67... From the time Allen arrived at Parsons it was clear he was destined to become a leader. He was active in student government and went on to become president of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. But it's unlikely any of his fraternity brothers would have predicted Allen would become an Indiana State Senator and member of Parsons Wall of Honor. He grew up in Cambridge City, IN and appeared headed into the family's business of making caskets. However, following graduation, Allen joined the U.S. Army's 1st Air Cavalry Division and served in Vietnam. He made rank of sergeant, was discharged in 1970, and is a decorated veteran of the war. Allen was awarded the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge, 3 Air Medals for 75 combat assaults, and two Presidential Unit Citations. He wrote and published a book titled, 'Vietnam Letters,' which is now in its 4th printing. In 1972, Allen married his long time sweetheart, Beverly, and found himself working at a radio station doing sports and selling ads. They started a printing business which lasted until 1979 when Allen sold the business and divorced Bev. Next he founded a packaging company, became president and called it 'Innovative Industry Company.' In 1986, he became State Senator (Republican) and has held the position for 23 years. Two years later in 1988, Allen married Terri Mann and she became an active partner in the business which they owned and operated through 2004. Currently, the Paul's, who have one son, reside in Richmond, IN, where Allen continues his senatorial duties. And, as a hobby, he offers a consultant service to antique and memorabilia collectors. Looking back, Allen recalls very happy memories from Parsons, saying, "The experience taught me about life and gave me the foundation for my political career. I made lots of friends and I'm looking forward to returning to Fairfield in October."

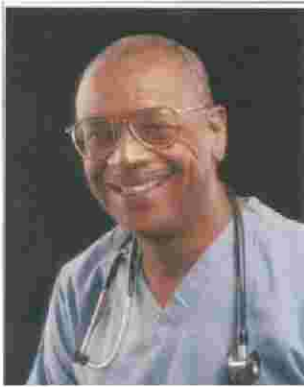


Dr. Edward J. Rogalski, PC'65... If anybody witnessed the 'good, the bad, and the ugly' at Parsons College, it was Ed Rogalski. If anybody benefited from the lessons learned, both as a student during Parsons prime, and as a college administrator during its demise, it was Ed Rogalski. Ed graduated in 1965, went to work for the college as Dean of Men, then moved up to Assistant Dean of Students. He witnessed, first hand, the rise and fall of Parsons College. What Ed learned over those years laid the foundation and spurred him onto an incredible career in higher education. He learned the 'do's and don'ts' of over extending a college financially, growing too big, too fast, and the pitfalls of an over imposing ego to the overall goals of an excellent college program. Parsons provided Ed the opportunity to obtain his Master's and Doctor's degrees from the University of Iowa. In 1968, following graduation from Iowa, getting married, and after numerous job offers, he accepted the position of Dean of Students at St. Ambrose College in Davenport, IA. Today, after a career that spanned 40 years, and included 20 of those years as President of St. Ambrose, Ed is now retired. During his tenure, he moved up the ladder quickly and took St. Ambrose with him. Dr. Rogalski is responsible for taking St. Ambrose forward to University status, while establishing academic excellence, campus and enrollment growth and maintaining financial stability along the way. Ed was a master at surrounding himself with good people, listening to his people, letting them do their jobs and providing excellent leadership. Ed Rogalski, who continues serving as President Emeritus, was the inspiration, spirit, and thrust, who drove St. Ambrose University to levels and heights never dreamed possible. He and wife Bobbi reside in the Quad-Cities area and remain active in numerous community affairs. They are the proud parents and grandparents of five sons and five grandchildren.



Wes Bartlett, PC'38... Whoever thought the President of Kiwanis International (1971-72) would be a kid who grew up in New Sharon, IA and graduated from Parsons College? Wes Bartlett is a humble man who currently lives in Algona, IA. Today at 94-years-of-age, and in relatively good health, he boasts 62+ years of perfect attendance to meetings - and counting. Wes' affiliation with Kiwanis began with the Algona Noon Kiwanis club in 1946. Over the years, he's served as club president, Lt. Governor of his division, and was NE-IA district Governor before taking on Kiwanis International Worldwide. Wes enrolled at Parsons in 1934 because it was close to home and had one of the strongest biology departments in the state. It also guaranteed him a job which would pay for his education. He majored in biology with double minors in math and chemistry and became a lab assistant. Following the Parsons graduation in 1938, Wes went on to teacher at Pramghar High School where, at one time or another he taught biology, and a variety of other subjects, including physical education. He assisted coaching football and basketball and was head baseball coach. He also taught at Iowa State Teachers College and Eagle Grove Community College before switching fields in 1945. It was then he purchased his father-in-law's furniture store and went into business for himself. Wes recalls working 12-hour days, making \$900 per year, and buying a used 1935 Ford four-door sedan with a new engine for \$400. Wife Mary passed away in 1997 and they have a daughter and two sons. Wes Bartlett was a born teacher and leader and it's with great Parsons-pride that he has become a member of the Parsons College Wall of Honor.

Continued on page three



Dr. Robert C. Scott, III, PC'63... Dr. Scott always wanted to become a doctor and help people. Looking back, he credits Parsons College for giving him the solid educational foundation to pursue his medical career. Dr. Scott had a serious desire to practice medicine in Oakland, CA area, the county's most ethnically diverse region. Initially, Dr. Scott, a Chicago native, moved to Oakland in 1969 to teach at Laney Community College. But plans changed and he went to Atlanta, GA and completed a Medical Internship at Emory University Hospital. Then he traveled back to Palo Alto, CA and completed his Residency in Internal Medicine at Stanford University Hospital. A month later, he shifted back to Oakland and opened a private practice. Dr. Scott currently has about 2000 active patients, 400 of which are treated for HIV/AIDS and related illnesses. In fact, Dr. Scott co-founded the AIDS project of the East Bay and maintains an active presence as co-chair of the board of directors. He is Medical Director of the Bay Area Consortium's HIV/AIDS services and also co-chairs the Allen Temple Aids Ministry. Dr. Scott is the only physician in the Oakland area who specializes in HIV/AIDS treatment and research. He reports, "I see patients beginning at 7:30am and continue to around 6:30pm each day." In 2003, Dr. Scott expanded his efforts worldwide when he received a medical license to practice in Zimbabwe, South Africa, where he now travels tirelessly four times a year. He is the only licensed African American AIDS specialist in that region. Dr. Scott is a noted speaker on the subject, has been featured in various publications, is a member of numerous HIV/AIDS related associations, and is considered a noted authority on the illness. And now he's a member of the Parsons Wall of Honor.



Rhine L. McLin, PC'69 ... In 1969 Rhine was leading cheers for the Parsons faithful as a Wildcat cheerleader. Her illustrious career has taken her from the family funeral service business, teaching at Central State University (Wilberforce, OH), to state representative, and onto the position of Ohio State Senator. And now, after being restricted from re-election to the senate by term limits, she's become the Mayor of the City of Dayton, OH. Rhine earned her BA at Parsons. She went onto Xavier University and obtained a Masters in Education degree and a Associate's degree in Mortuary Science. Rhine appeared destined to a dual career of teaching and working as a licensed funeral director and embalmer in the family business. This course was redirected when her father, an Ohio state Representative, died and she was appointed to serve the remainder of his term. She did so and has never looked back. Rhine was re-elected to the representative's seat twice, then was the people's choice to serve in the Ohio Senate. After two terms, the Democratic caucus named her minority whip. Rhine then advanced to minority leader, prior to running into term limits. Next she ran for the office of mayor of Dayton, won, and has been mayor ever since. Rhine has kept her city at the center of her life, focusing on its' people, its' growth and development and is looking toward a third term. Her "firsts" include, first African-American woman to serve as Ohio Senate minority leader, the first woman to serve as mayor of Dayton, and first African-American woman to serve as head of the Ohio Democratic Party. Rhine's Parsons College education provided an excellent launching pad to the Parsons College Wall of Honor. She credits much of her success to Parsons, saying, "The Parsons experience, unknowingly, prepared me, and helped to make me a well rounded person."



Lee Gobble, PC'37 (Honorary Degree '08)... The Gobble family has been synonymous with Parsons College and Fairfield, IA since the 1800's. As best the 95-year-old Mr. Gobble can remember, he reports he attended Parsons from 1933, about the same time paved roads were built in Fairfield, and into the late 1930's before going full time into the family's clothing business. Lee's father and mother also went to Parsons and graduated in the early 1900's. In one way or another, Lee Gobble and family touched almost every student who ever attended Parsons College. If you weren't buying your madras shorts, Gant shirts and Weejun shoes at the Gobble's fashion store on the square in the 1950's-'60's, perhaps you were renting, at a reasonable rate, one of his (at one time) 36 apartments throughout the city. And/or, in addition, maybe you were one of scores of Parsons students who worked at Gobble's and took home a paycheck to help fund your education. Lee Gobble was a fashion merchant, a friendly and understanding landlord, and the employer to many students. He and his family provided clothing, shelter, and a means for income. The past several years have been good to Mr. Gobble. First, he received major accolades for his role in restoring (erecting) the steeple to the top of the Jefferson County Court House, secondly, he was awarded an Honorary Degree for Special Achievements by the Parsons College Foundation and now, Lee is being inducted onto the Parsons College Wall of Honor. Lee Gobble had a tremendous impact on Fairfield and Parsons College in so many ways... and still does.

Continued on page 4



Marcia K. Wallace PC'64... Of the thousands and thousands of Parsons students and alumni, there are none more well known than Marcia Wallace. The Creston, IA native brought a friendly smile to Parsons, made people laugh, and put down the foundation for an outstanding career as a stage and screen performer. Following her 1964 graduation, she ventured to New York to pursue her dreams. Initially, Marcia survived on summer stock roles, selling bed sheets and substitute teaching. In 1968 she hooked up with an Off-Broadway comedy group called, 'The 4th Wall.' Along the way she met Merv Griffin, who convinced her to move to Hollywood. After a number of appearances on his show, Marcia was discovered in 1972 and cast for seven years in the role of 'Carol,' the chatty and funny receptionist on the Bob Newhart Show. Marcia is equally well known for her 130+ episodes, and Emmy winning role, as Ms. Krabappel (Bart's teacher) on the Simpsons. Along the way however, she hit a number of speed bumps and regards her greatest success as having weathered those rocky times. Marcia did a stint in a mental hospital and recovered. On the eve of her wedding, she discovered she had breast cancer. Marcia met and happily married Dennis Hawley and adopted a son. Her husband was then diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died eight months later. Marcia battled to stay on her feet, and next, her home was destroyed by fire. She's had to move on. Today you're liable to find Marcia appearing in any number of situations - on a sitcom, soap, acting, producing, doing commercials, infomercials, hosting, or lecturing. But, as a 20-year-survivor, she's most proud of her role as national spokesperson for breast cancer awareness. Marcia is also a motivational speaker and has written a book. Her speech and book are both entitled, "Don't Look Back, We're Not Going That Way." Marcia Wallace has been making people laugh for over 40 years and there's no end in sight.

Alumni Write...

Surprised to be alive

By Mike Ryan '73... Thanks for the newsletter. I left Parsons the day it was closed down for good (1973). Since that time and after transferring to Bradley University in Peoria, IL, I have led a very interesting life. I've worked and lived all over the world (as a civilian) and speak four foreign languages (Spanish, Turkish, German and Arabic). I was employed in Antarctica, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, S.A., Turkey and Aruba as a telecom contract engineer. The list goes on but basically I have gone to all of the dangerous places of the world for money and excitement... I was a member of Sigma Pi fraternity and worked at the college radio station. I attended Parsons for one reason - Dr. Benjamin Rogers - as he impressed me with his knowledge of history. He used to hold history class once a week at the campus bar, below the radio station. (I still have) some great memories about the crazy people I hung around with at Parsons... One of my fondest was going on top of one of the dormitories during a tornado. Obviously, with too much beer for false courage, and watching the tornado move closer and closer and then (finally) having the sense to get off that roof... Memories of parties, down-to-earth people and falling in love with Fairfield, then having to leave and enter the real world... I graduated from Bradley '76 with a degree in history, then a couple years later joined the U.S. Army (1979-'83), realizing history was not going to make me a living. I ended up becoming a microwave radio engineer... Currently, I live in Boca Raton, FL with my Turkish born wife of 22 years, who I met while working as a DOD contractor in Samsun, Turkey. I am almost 57-years-old now and I'm going back to Saudi Arabia for my last job - and I'm going for the big bucks!!! Bringing everything back to focus, I have very fond memories of Parsons College and am quite surprised I'm still alive...

From Park Avenue to Fairfield

by Frank Navedo '72... It was nice to read about our old school in the Iowa Source Magazine (article by Chris Hallinger '67-

'68). I graduated in one of the last classes at Parsons in 1972. It was nice to read about the Medleys, they were very entertaining. But the best professor of all times was Dr. Ruttger, who taught chemistry... In 1969, I first arrived at the Fairfield train station and met Diego Lopez, the class president and some of the students, who then escorted me to Howard Dormitory. As a West Point second year flunk-out from Park Avenue New York City, (you can imagine) I felt that I fit right in... I went on to become a high school teacher in Ottumwa, IA. I discovered that teaching was not for me so I went west to live in Reedsport, OR where I worked in a shipyard. Then I got a job on a King crab fishing boat and worked the Bering Sea in Alaska for five years. Next I returned to Iowa and became employed with Alliant Energy in their nuclear plant... I am now 60-years-old and retired from Alliant recently. I often wonder, how did all this happen so fast. Last year's devastating floods in Cedar Rapids took away my home. Too bad, so sad!! So now, I'm just a good ole boy, and not the Park Avenue playboy with the new Corvette. Well, take care everybody... Where the boys **were**!!!!

Faculty Member Checks-In

by Harry Cannon '70-'73 (Faculty)... I was at Parsons as Chairman of the Department of Business and Accounting from 1970 until it closed. Times were tough then in higher education. I stayed in Fairfield in management at local factories and served on the Town Council for eight years before coming to Des Moines in 1984. At that time I was appointed Deputy Director of the State Department of Corrections where I was responsible for Prison Industries, the Prison Vocational Education Program and the Prison Farms. I retired in 1997. Enjoyed your e-News...

Two Critical Years at Parsons

by Richard Trifiro '72... Just read the e-News - Fantastic job! What memories! Dr. Richard Barton's "Aardvarks," the Medleys, who, because of them I gained a great love of classic music. And I still think of the tidbit facts of the many pieces I listen to on my iPod, wow! Dr. Ken Roettger and Ms. Wilcox

in the chemistry department, the Chermocks (with cigarettes in hand) and Ms. McDonough in Biology. You always remember the great teachers. Unfortunately, some of the bad ones, too... but there are always lessons to be learned. I attended Parsons from the summer of '70 through the spring semester of '72 and was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. Those were two critical years in my education. I would not have gone on and succeeded as I have without the lessons I learned both in and out of the classroom (at Parsons College). When Parsons got into financial problems a second time, my folks made the decision I was going to transfer. I transferred to Purdue University in the fall of 1972. I'm now living in Houston, TX and my email is: rgrtrifiro@pol.net.

40th Anniversary Celebration... in France

by Bob "Pills" Pillsbury '66... John, thanks for the updates on the website. While I am a subscriber to the e-News, I think it's time to renew, which I will do today. Good news!!! My wife Tody and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary on August 16, 2009. To celebrate this milestone, we will be going off to France for two weeks at the end of September and returning in early October. I retired from the Herman Miller Company (commercial furniture) in January of 2007 after 15 years in the business. Since then, I'm enjoying retirement and currently an active member of the Excelsior Rotary Club of Lake Minnetonka, a board member of the Lake Minnetonka Association, and remain active in the community. I also stay busy with my church (Mt Olivet Lutheran) which boasts a congregation of approximately 12,000 members. I spend lots of time with family, friends and four grandchildren – boat on beautiful Lake Minnetonka, golf on the nearby courses – and enjoy spending time at our condo on Venice Island in Florida. I plan to make the reunion in Fairfield and look forward to more details...



Publication Information

e-News dues (July to July): \$5.00/year; donations accepted.
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Editor's Note: To submit Greek, social, or personal news for the e-News, please direct your request to Nancy Wirtanen: nwirtanen@yahoo.com or Doug Marion: dougmarion@aol.com for consideration. e-News reserves the right to edit all material and downsize where necessary due to limited space. The Parsons College Alumni e-News is **not** affiliated with the Parsons College Newslines or George Jordan III.

**Next Deadline: December 1, 2009
Parsons Forever!**

Greek and Social Club News

Zetas/Sigma Phi Epsilon... Lee Kane '55/SPE has announced



A "spur of the moment" phone call and the Sig Eps were off to a Mini Golf Outing at TPC Deere Run course in Silva, IL. Those attending (L/R): John Nair, John Bankus, Jim Cornick, Bob Habetler, Lynn Banta, Fred Ortiz and Neff...

the Zeta/Sigma Phi Epsilon's 6th Bi-Annual reunion will be held the June 7-10, 2010 in Ottumwa, IA. Past attendees have included a number of Zeta's and Sig Eps from the 1940's – '50's and early '60's. Lee promises a repeat of the usual – plenty of comradarie, two days of golf, plus other entertainment. He did not explain or expound on

"other entertainment!" If interested, please contact Lee Kane at FisherKane@aol.com... Dave Neff '69/SPE reports that sometimes "spur of the moment" mini reunions are also terrific experiences. Following a July 29th phone call, he was off to Silva, IL, August 3rd for an enjoyable afternoon of golf and fun with six of his Sig Ep fraternity brothers. They played the TPC Course at Deere Run and the (usually) modest Neff tells e-News that he won the "Longest, Straightest Drive Competition." The gathering included, John Nair '64, Jim Bankus '63, Jim Cornick '64, Bob Habetler '64, Lynn Banta '63, Fred Ortiz '65 and Dave Neff '69...

Where The Boys Are (WTBA)... Bill Healey '64,



WTBA's Lake George, NY gathering to welcome home Gregg Lott from New Zealand. Kneeling: Paul Garrison, Lott. Standing L/R: Niles Wheeler, Bill Deckelbaum, Chris Perry, Healey, Chris Wise, Lindsay Shannon and Captain Don Smith

williamhealy@comcast.net, tells e-News a group of WTBA's got together recently at the beautiful Lake George in New York, August 23-26. The spontaneous and impromptu get-together was prompted by Gregg's return to the States from New Zealand to visit his 98-year-old father. Calls were quickly made on short notice to rally up the WTBA members in

the Lake George area. Our host was WTBA member Donnie Smith of Lake George. Don also serves as captain of one of the lake's large tour boats and treated us all to a 1 ½ hours cruise on beautiful Lake George. A fun time was had by all, spending good quality time catching up, swapping stories, exaggerating and embellishing old stories and just simply enjoying the warmth of re-connecting with old friends. We had the pleasure of dining out at a local restaurant which was also owned and operated by Don Smith's family. All in all, it was a wonderful, relaxing and fun filled gathering in which we were able to reignite the Parsons/WTBA experience and visit with friends. Joining the festivities, in addition to Smith, Lott and Healey were, Lindsey Shannon, Chris Wise, Niles Wheeler, Paul Garrison, Kim DeKoning, Bill Deckelbaum, Chris Perry and Dave Wilber. So, for a brief few days... in August... at Lake George... "The Boys" were back in town...

Continued on page six

TKE's Frater Fest –2008... As reported by Jay Glasgow: On September 20, 2008 the 2nd Annual Parsons College Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity Fest convened on the beautiful shores of Sea Cliff, NY, nestled high above Long Island Sound. Some 15 fraternity brothers and their wives or significant others enjoyed a weekend of memories and old stories of our college days in Fairfield, IA. All attended Parsons from 1965-'70 and some even



Phil Como hosted a TKE Mini Reunion of 14 fraternity brothers, at Sea Cliff, NY, off the Long Island Sound.

stayed married to their Parsons spouses. The event was hosted by Phil and Peggy Como and attendees stayed at the local (right out of "Psycho") Moon Motel. The attendees included, the Como's (NY), Jim Nield (MI), Jack Williams (CA), Bill Eason (GA), Rich Rogers (NY), Frank Tyson, Mike Rapp, Ralph Campagne (PA), Pete Fink (CT, Glasgow (NJ), Jim Jenco (NJ), Paul "Buddy" Falcone (NJ), Bill Parsons (NJ), Greg Martucci (NJ) and Rick Bushnell (NJ). Wives and significant others attending this historic event were, Patsy Maxwell Bushnell, Jan McMahan Campagne (Alpha Xi Delta), Nancy Lewellyn Rogers (Alpha Gamma Delta) and Tina (?) Fink (Delta Zeta). For information regarding future TKE Frater Fests contact Jay Glasgow at 732-349-5132 or jay.glasgow@gmx.com. A 2010 3rd Annual Frater Fest is on the horizon –stay tuned...

Phi Sigma Epsilon... Ron Staggs '59 wrote to tell us he made a 10-day trip back to Iowa recently to attend a Phi Sig luncheon at the Amana Colonies. Bruce VanDever '58 organized the luncheon which was also attended by Paul Pethrick, late '50's, Ray Lindner, late '50's and Max Strang, late 50's. Max, who has had ALS the last five years, travels by wheelchair these days, is in great spirits, and tells us, if it wasn't for his nurse-wife, he wouldn't be here today. Surviving ALS for five years is huge – continued good luck to Max. A number of wives attended. Ron also took a side trip to Fairfield to visit the Parsons Alumni Hall and to check out Dr. Tree's portrait in 'Bob Tree's Green Room.' ... Other PSE news – The dates for the Phi Sigs 2010 Reunion in Fairfield will be announced in October. Following is a brief update of the status of some of the men who called themselves Parsons Phi Sigs – Paul Conboy '65 is facing some serious medical challenges at this time but he's upbeat and determined to battle on – prayers are welcome. ... Dan Squires '61, George Veselka '64 and Bob Normoyle '63 are all on the road to recovery from heart operations... Dick Barton '66, who retired to Rapid City, SD, has signed on as School Superintendent in DuBois, WY, "for one more year." ... Phil Suarez '64 has gone worldwide with his well over \$100M restaurant empire and just bought a million++ condo in New York City... And Phi Sigma Epsilon congratulates Ed Rogalski '65, who is being inducted onto the Parsons Wall of Honor in October. Ed was a social member with the Phi Sigs. He went onto become President of St. Ambrose University and enjoyed a very successful 40-year career in higher education...

Lambda Chi Alpha... Doug Marion '66 reports the Parsons Lambda Chi's are planning a 2010 Las Vegas Reunion in either late March or early April of next year. If interested, please contact Bill Winger '64, 2552 E Alameda # 116, Denver, CO 80209, phone 303-949-3803, or email wewinger@msn.com ...

Fairfield Memories

by Dick Sandler... Chris Hallinger, a high school classmate of my older brother, forwarded to me your recent piece about Parsons College. Wow, what memories it brought back. My family moved there in June 1969 so that my Dad could be closer to the family businesses. He operated the Co-Ed Theatre, the Drive-In and the A&W Root Beer stand that was just off the Parsons campus. My dad purchased the A&W when the college was booming. Shortly after, the school lost its accreditation and, as you would expect, business dropped. I worked at all three businesses while in high school. My first summer in Fairfield, I gained 15 pounds "working" at the A&W.

We spent four years in Fairfield and moved back to Des Moines two weeks after I graduated high school in June, 1973. Our last year in Fairfield we actually lived on campus in one of the old fraternity/sorority houses that they converted into apartments. There is a picture of one of the buildings on the Parsons College Foundation website noted at the end of your piece.

I remember going to Parsons College football games when we lived there. I recall one player in the early 70's, Art Walker, 325 pounds of nothing but big guy. I recall them putting Art in one game as a running back, hoping that he would break through the defense from the 2-yard line. As I recall, he never made it into the end zone in three tries.

Lee Gobble was an institution in Fairfield. We bought virtually all of our clothes there and became friendly with Lee. In fact, after my Dad died in 1993, Lee reached out to connect with my mother, even though we had not lived in Fairfield for over 20 years.

I recall Martin's Drug Store on the west side of the square. It was operated by Ed Martin, whose son, John, was a close high school classmate of mine. John moved back to Fairfield after college and eventually bought his parents home near Fairfield Country Club.

My younger brothers were too young to remember much about Fairfield. One was 12 when we moved away and the other was three. My older brother, a former journalist, would have loved the piece. He passed away two years ago in June, but I made sure his obituary was printed in the Fairfield Daily Ledger. He graduated from FHS in 1971 and was their commencement speaker in 1981.

Again, thanks for your e-News and the fond memories it brought back. Everyone should experience a "Fairfield" in their lives.

Parsons Alumni Association Board

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Letters to the Editor

As always, an excellent job!! *David Feldman PC67*

I've attached three of our classmates names and email addresses (Erminia Wooster PC'n/a – MrsWoo@verizon.net, Roy Wooster PC'n/a – rwooster1@aol.com, Tee Walker PC'n/a – bearty53@aol.com. Perhaps you could send them each a copy of the latest Parsons e-News. Thanks and keep up the good work. I enjoyed the latest (March) articles.

Jim Carroll PC'n/a

I will say to you what I said to John Blackstock. Those of you who have kept the legend of Parsons alive deserve to be listed in a special place on the (Parsons) wall of honor. Congratulations for all your hard work.

Robin Wilkins PC62

Thank you very much. I received the newsletters last evening and enjoyed looking at them and about all the work you and other alumni have put into this effort. I was only there for a short time. In 1965 and 1967, but they were very fond memories and very good times. I appreciate all you have done and look forward to keeping up with the newsletters. I did not have time to do more than glance at them last night, but will enjoy reading them over the weekend. Again, thanks!!

Diane Costello PC67

Thanks, great work!! *Charles Chrencik PC65*

I just received and immediately read the July Newsletter. As always it was outstanding. The evidence is overwhelming that Dr. Robert L. Tree was a great professor. We all owe him so much. The O.B. Nelson story was on point. O.B. made me realize that being a jock and an intellectual were not mutually exclusive. I am always shocked when I remember how young he was when he passed. It is so enjoyable to see the names of old classmates and teammates in the newsletter. I only wish we could locate Greg Wannamaker, circa class of '62. Keep up the good work. Speaking of debts, we, the alums and former faculty, owe you and your staff a big debt (of gratitude).

Patrick Gilpin PC61

Thanks for the newsletter!! Keep up the good work!!
Jay Glasgow PC'n/a

Hi Nancy, I know it has been awhile, but I can see you (all) have been super busy. You have done a great job with the newsletter. I am so proud of you. I also think you're a little crazy but in a good way. I hope everything else is good. Take care and I think about those (Parsons) days often, thanks to you. Love...

Allison Soowal Ruyenbeek PC73

Good afternoon! Outstanding (becoming a habit, ya think?) Newzletter!!! You're in a 'groove.' The latest edition of the PC e-News is amazing and is establishing a wonderful tradition for our defunct Alma Mater. Also most impressive is your – reaching out – and hopefully bringing – ALL constituencies together!! Moving forward, let's hope all will enjoy our very special memories, of a most special institution, which was way ahead of its' time!!!

Calvin Hill PC68

Great issue, thank you! *Frank Dennen PC68*
ps: 62-68- Six years, you say?? Yes, indeed so. I was having too much fun to leave...

Nancy, first, you and the group are doing a terrific job keeping the memories alive. I look forward to receiving the e-News each time! Second, "the check is in the mail."

Paul "Bud" Falcone PC/TKE PC68

Thanks, Nancy. Appreciate the great job you and staff are doing on the e-News. I hope to get over to Fairfield (from Chicago area) this summer and see the new convention center. Have a great summer, and let me know when dues are due again.

Frank Cummings PC'n/a

(Editor's Note: Frank, e-News dues are due annually in the month of July. If you paid then, you're covered, if not, please send remittance to: Marsha Roth, 201 S. Maple Street, Fairfield, IA 52556 (checks payable to: Parsons College Alumni Association). Please include your email address and years attended Parsons. Thanks!)

Wow! This is really great (Parsons College Wall of Honor). Kudos on the selections for the wall. Perfect! I plan to attend (the October 3, 2009 ceremony).

R. Michael Ribolla, PC67

I was sitting at work when I received the Parsons e-News. What a wonderful distraction. I read it on-line and couldn't help but visualize many of my Fairfield friends and instructors. It is remarkable how many images have remained so crystallized in the minds of Parsons alums. Thank you for your excellent work and the opportunity to relive – if only in memories – the Parsons Experience.

Professor Kerry T. Hinkle, Ph.D (PC'n/a)

Thank you for sending the latest reading. I thoroughly enjoyed its content and look forward to more. I have mailed my dues to Fairfield.

Jim "Mickey" Taliaferro PC63

Kudos on newsletter... great... the best... too fine... slick... mo'(re) better than any others... make it weekly... larger print...

Paul Garrison PC'n/a

The newsletter is great. I'm looking forward to future issues.
John D. Novak PC68

I was going to send you a thank you again for the interesting newsletter I received earlier this summer. You are doing a fantastic job and it is much appreciated – thank you! My best, PEACE!

Ron Staggs PC59

Thanks for sending newsletters. Nice job!! The featured article on you (Nancy) is also excellent and a good profile. It is wonderful that you (and your staff) have the talent and energy to put this out in the high-quality fashion that it is. Thanks again for your good work. Take care...

Bill Healey PC64

In Memoriam... Ric Boucek PC'69

It's been reported that Richard "Ric" Boucek of Allison Park, PA passed away suddenly on August 13, 2009 after suffering a heart attack while driving. Ric was a very likeable and popular member of the Parsons Phi Sig family and served as corresponding secretary. He spent four years in the U.S. Navy and was stationed in Naples, Italy. Ric referred to the Naples assignment as "hitting the lottery." Following his discharge from the service, he owned a contractor equipment rental store in the Pittsburgh area. But after 12 years, he sold the business and became a manufacturer's rep, selling equipment to rental stores, distributors and dealers. Ric was 25+ years into this job, which included the territories of western Pennsylvania and West Virginia and, as far as we know, he was still employed at the time of his death. Ric is survived by his wife, Marilyn, of 35++ years and son "RJ." The funeral arrangements were handled by the Devlin Funeral Home of Cranberry Township and a mass was held at St. Mary of Assumption Church in Glenshaw, PA.

John Blackstock - Parsons College - Phi Sigma Epsilon-1964



John & Rhonda Blackstock at the Dr. Robert L. Tree Dedication in May.

John Blackstock is deeply emersed in keeping the lifeline of Parsons College on the "front burner". There have been many alumni who love our college, but none of them have the passion and complete joy of sharing that love with so many alumni.

John is directly involved in three current phases of PC. He is working directly as a writer/editor with the Parsons College Alumni Newsletter, The Parsons College Foundation Fund, and the Parsons College Alumni Association. In addition to the above he is the alumni coordinator for the Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity and attends Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and Where The Boys Are (WTBA) alumni reunions. His presentation at the dedication ceremony of Parsons Alumni Hall in the Fairfield Arts and Convention Center, laid down the gauntlet to establish a Parsons College Alumni Wall of Honor. That dream will be a reality the first weekend of October, 2009, with the induction of the "Inagural Class". Let there be another among us that can say they have devoted that much time to such a variety of "keep the fire burning" efforts.

John grew up in Sewickley, PA and graduated from North Hills High School in West View, PA in 1960 and headed to Parsons. He was very much involved in a complete variety of intramural sports because he could participate in a number of sports and have more time for fraternity fellowship. He was active with the college newspaper (The Portfolio) serving as sports editor and later as managing editor. His fraternity brothers remember him as "Blackie".

John graduated from Parsons in 1964 and immediately took a job with the Boston Herald as a sports writer. This career path provided him with many first hand contacts with great sports events of that day. When you next see or chat with John, just ask an opening questions and he can quote you baseball history verbatim, without a blink of

those sparkly eyes.

His career eventually moved into the retail clothing business as a sales clerk and rapidly moved to sales management and eventually regional sales manager for the mid-west and Ohio valley for Lerner Company a subsidiary of The Limited Company.

John resides in St. Charles, Missouri with his wonderful spouse, "Rockin" Rhonda. You mention her name and the man lights up in a special glow.

We, the alumni of Parsons College, salute you, John "Blackie" Blackstock, for all of your efforts to keep Parsons College more than a passing memory. You are "The PC Man".



Want to Help?

If you want ot help support the preservation of the memory of Parsons College buy a brick.

To find out how, call or email Dave Neff today at: 1-888-218-6020 or dneff@isbff.com

Next Issue is December 20, 2009
Next Deadline is December 1, 2009

Photographs Wanted for future issues

Please submit as a JPEG and provide information about the photo. If you need help contact Pam Roberts Skinner at prfpams@me.com

Getting a new email address?

Please make sure to send your new one to Nancy at nwirtanen@yahoo.com so you don't miss an issue!