



Parsons College E-News

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Spring 2011

Parsons Scholars Compete in GE's College Bowl...



A team of Parsons scholastic standouts were selected to appear on the nationally televised GE College Bowl during the school year of 1966. The Wildcats team of scholars was comprised of Ed Cochran, John Barr (Captain), Beth Phillips and John Rieser.

Athletics was not the only area of competition in which Parsons College made BOWL and TOURNAMENT appearances.

Yes, in 1966 there was a lot more to Parsons than a pile of students, showcasing sweatshirts from a vast assortment of colleges across the country, after being conjured into jumping in a pile at the request of writer John Froom and his team of sensationalists from LIFE MAGAZINE for what was supposed to be a fun photo shoot.

Without a doubt the ensuing article, "The Wizard of Flunk-Out U," which appeared in the June 3, 1966 LIFE MAGAZINE, did major damage and injustice to the reputation and credibility of Parsons College.

Had magazine officials done their homework and took note of the many, and obvious, great things happening on the educational side at Parsons College, clearly, the dastardly write-up would have been of a different flavor and color.

Just ask the scholars who represented Parsons in the nationally televised GE College Bowl's scholastic competition in 1966, the same year as the LIFE article.

Although the team of Parsons scholars - Captain John Barr, Ed Cochran, Beth Phillips and John Rieser - lost a close competition to Marietta College of Ohio, they represented Parsons well.

Flunk-out U colleges and students don't get invited to national television appearances and scholastic competition on programs like the GE College Bowl.

LIFE MAGAZINE flunked this assignment and missed a very good story!!!

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Parsons Alumni Website, As Promised, ADDS More Programs While Extending FREE 3-DAY Trial Viewing

The Parsons College Alumni website has announced the addition of 10 KCLS - FM Parsons radio station shows, six more basketball game videos have been added, along with a video of Barhydt Chapel. In addition, the Parsons College Alumni Association has confirmed the continuation of the FREE 3-day introductory trial offer to those who are exploring and considering signing up and joining the website (www.parsonscollegealumni.com) ...

Coordinator Ken Rice PC'65 reiterated that this site is an excellent means of finding past friends, classmates, as well as former professors. He also reports there are numerous photos of the Parsons campus, and memorabilia, you may have never seen before. After locating the site, you are requested to fill out your profile, update your email address and contact info, and advise us of any change. Meanwhile, the search continues for more videos (specifically football), Parsons photos, and memorabilia to add to the website.

The PCAA highly recommends you surf this site, and is confident you will be impressed...

Shelley Hodes PC'69 Joins PCAA as Recording Secretary

We are pleased to announce Shelley Hodes, PC '69, has been unanimously elected recording secretary and will assume her position on the Parsons College Alumni Association Board of Directors immediately. She replaces Marsha Palmer who recently resigned.

Shelley, who attended the Parsons 2010 reunion in Fairfield and reconnected with a number of friends while there, resides in Boca Raton, FL with her husband.

On her recent trip back to Fairfield, Shelley concluded, "It was wonder to return to Fairfield after 42 years and to get to see the town, campus, and old friends. I never thought I would have that opportunity when I graduated. I enjoyed every minute of it."

And we're going to enjoy having Shelley on the board and actively involved in our mission to preserve the communications, history and memorabilia of our beloved Parsons College.

Etch your family name in Parsons History!



Buy A Brick!

If you want to help support the preservation of the memory of Parsons College, buy a brick. To find out how, call or email

Dave Neff at:

888.218.6020 or neffacres@lisco.com

New Display Cases Installed At Parsons Alumni Hall Will Showcase Memorabilia From The College Days

The Parsons College Foundation in conjunction with the Parsons College Alumni Association have announced the installation of two display cases in the Parsons College Alumni Hall, located in the lobby of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center.

The display cases, purchased at a jewelry store closing in Mt. Pleasant, will be used to display Parsons memorabilia donated by alumni and friends. Mark Shafer of the Carnegie Museum and Suzan Bates Kessel of the FA&CC will prepare and place the displays and rotate their presentation themes several times a year. The cases will have prime exposure and are visible to all those visiting the Sondheim Center or attending one of the many performances at the center.

Working closely with the FA&CC, the combined and agreed upon simple mission of the PCF and the PCAA is to preserve and perpetuate the memory and history of Parsons College (1875-1973).

The Parsons College Foundation, spear-headed the purchase of the display cases. The PCF is the founding organization of the Parsons College Wall of Honor program. Their year-round efforts culminate each October with the annual ceremonial celebration that recognizes and brings our distinguished alumni back to Fairfield to their deserving home on the Parsons College Wall of Honor. The 3rd Annual Wall of Honor Induction Ceremony will be held the weekend of October 7-9, 2011.



The Parsons display cases arrived and are being installed in Alumni Hall. PCAA's Ed Longanecker located the cases in Mt. Pleasant, and teamed with PCF's Dave Neff to make it happen.

The PCF is also responsible for having raised over \$85,000.00 in donations from the alumni base, paving the way for the naming rights to Parsons College Alumni Hall.

The PCAA has been busily locating and connecting with alumni from coast to coast and has compiled 2,515 names and addresses to date. The PCAA also publishes a quarterly e-newsletter which is distributed to 1,450 alumni and friends. Clearly the spirit of Parsons College remains alive, as it is unheard of for a closed college (of nearly 38 years) to keep the communications fire burning for so many of its alumni. And to enhance that effort, a Parsons College alumni website has been established and you are welcome to join. Updates and member information is available at www.parsonscollegealumni.com.

Information regarding the Parsons Foundation and its activities can be obtained by contacting Dave Neff at neffacres@lisco.com, or 641-472-6414. To learn more about the Parsons Alumni Association, how to receive the quarterly e-newsletter, or to sign up for the PC alumni website, contact Nancy Wirtanen at nwirtanen@yahoo.com, or 602-242-4065.

DIGGING UP THE PAST... 1961 - A Very Good Year!!!

The year 1961 – 50 years ago – it was a great year.

It was terrific on many fronts, for a number of reasons, and for many different people and organizations including, John F. Kennedy, Alan Shepard, Roger Maris, Henry Mancini, the New York Yankees, Boston Celtics and the Detroit Lions. It was also a fabulous year for Dr. Millard G. Roberts and Parsons College.

With the previous fall's arrival of a freshman class of over 700 students, doubling the enrollment for the entire college, Dr. Roberts and Parsons shifted into second gear. After arriving in 1955, it was clear Dr. Roberts was on a mission to turn, what he perceived, a small, sleepy Iowa college into a self-sustaining powerhouse. Armed with a battery of innovative ideas and a new philosophy, he implemented his "Parsons Plan," a plan which, in the opinion of many, went against the grain of the traditional format of college education.

The fruits of launching an aggressive approach to expanding the college's recruiting and admissions department had begun to payoff. The new trimester system was in full swing – the "Parsons Plan" was taking hold – more and more top notch professors and PhD's were being hired each day – and a tutor program, featuring the team-teaching approach was established.

Initially, the world was introduced to Parsons College and the "Parsons Plan" through an informative and rather favorable article that appeared in the August 29, 1960 issue of TIME MAGAZINE. The article touted the "Parsons Plan" and emphasized small school, trimester program, first and second chance programs for marginal students and the tutor program. But most of all, it emphasized "ACCEPTANCE." In the early 1960's, it was not easy to be accepted to college. The emergence of the community college had not yet evolved to any significant degree. The general measuring stick for acceptance, or rejection, was based on SAT scores and college boards.

1961 "Satchmo" Arrives



Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong making the first of several visits to Parsons College

1961 Queen & Her Court



Homecoming Queen, Faye Sobaski (center) surrounded by her court. L/R – Pat Moore, Janis Bresser, Patti Winfrey, Carol Krajnovich and Donna Bozzi.

Dr. Roberts concept opened the door of opportunity to many, and the stampede was on.

But with the landing of the enormous freshman class, there were growing pains to be suffered. What had not kicked into second gear was the college's capability of housing such a throng of newcomers. The supporting infrastructure was missing, college housing was minimal and in short supply. Ten pounds of apples do not fit into a five pound bag, nor did this monumental number of freshmen students fit onto the Parsons campus. If you were a member of the student body in 1961, you experienced the rush.

(Continued Page 5)

**Happy Easter
To One And All...**

Drastic measures had to be taken and they were addressed. In an effort to accommodate the new arrivals, college officials went door to door throughout Fairfield, literally begging the town folks to offer housing to the students – commitments were made to the local hotels to make available large numbers of rooms. The scrambling chaos and desperation led to temporarily setting up cots on the floor of the old Trustee Gymnasium.

Most weathered the storm and were grateful for the opportunity to attend college. But some declared college not that important to relent to sleeping on a cot - on an ancient 50-year old basketball court - with scores of other strangers who they'd never met.

However, 1961 showcased the expansion of the Howard and Hoerner-Weissenburger dormitories, brought to fruition plans for additional housing north of campus (The Quads). Relief was on the way. While the excitement of Parsons permeated in Fairfield and was spreading nationwide, we watched John F. Kennedy sworn in as the 35th President of the United States. He established the Peace Corps, and for that, despite the embarrassment of our involvement in “The Bay of Pigs,” JFK was named Man of the Year.

Alan Shepard became the first American to be lofted into space as he penetrated outer space on the 5th day of May. ...

West Side Story was rearranged from theater to film. ... And Henry Mancini was busting the charts with a song called, “Moon River,” and the movie “Breakfast at Tiffany’s. ...

If you paid the buck or so to get into the Co-Ed Movie Theater, there's a good chance you were watching two of the year's best, “The Hustler” with Jackie Gleason and Paul Newman, and “The Guns of Navarone” starring Gregory Peck, Anthony Quinn, David Nevin and a host of others. ...

To the major delight of all, Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong paid a visit to Parsons College and brought the rafters down while playing to a capacity audience at Fry-Thomas Fieldhouse.

On the national sports scene, the Boston Celtics made short work of the St. Louis Hawks to claim the NBA title winning four of five games – Roger Maris blasted 61 home runs, broke Babe Ruth's record, and helped the New York Yankees defeat the Cincinnati Reds and win another World Series Championship – and the Detroit Lions edged the Cleveland Browns, 17-16, to claim the NFL Championship.

Meanwhile at Parsons, the 1961 N.A.I.A. Wildcats football team posted an undefeated 9-0 season, won the Iowa Conference championship, and was ranked 10th in the nation. Their achievement was rewarded with an invitation to the Mineral Water Bowl in Excelsior Springs, MO. They played a tough game under adverse weather conditions, but were edged by Northeast Missouri State Teachers College (Truman State), 22-8 --- a sad ending to a great season. ...

Led by the “Twin-Towers,” Dennis Edwards and Claude Ervin, and a number of sharpshooters including, Roger Sherrard, Al Wardlow, Jim Wake, Marv Hite, and Chad Coffman, O.B. Nelson's hoopsters also won the Iowa Conference basketball championship with a 19-6 record.

1961 – “Best of the Best”



The entertainment provided by this unique quartet of co-ed's, (L/R) Kaye Sobaski, Boochie McNeil, Judy Wigglesworth and Faye Sobaski, was simply outstanding.

(Continued Page 6)

1961 - DOA



Charlie Barnett
Director of Admissions

If you were one of the fortunate's with a new car, you purchased it for around \$2,850 and were paying 27 cents a gallon (today, \$3.69 - you must be kidding??). If you had access to a radio, "Theme from Summer Place" and the "Theme from Exodus" were dominating the charts. In addition, the following song titles should sound familiar and draw a few memories: "Will You Love Me Tomorrow?" – "Pony Time" – "Stand By Me" – "Runaway" – "Let's Twist" – "Runaround Sue" – and "Hit the Road Jack."

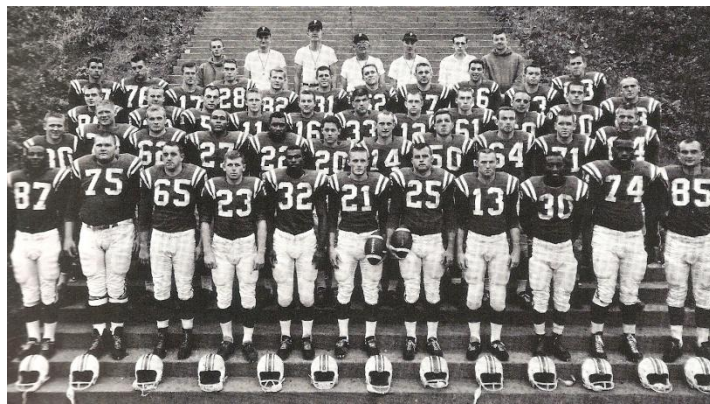
In 1961, Parsons was on course. Dr. Roberts and Director of Admissions Counselor, Charlie Barnett, had recruiters working virtually every large city in the United States. Offices had been established in New York City, and it was the belief of many that Parsons ranked right up their with Stephen's College of Columbia, MO as one of the top college recruiting and admissions department's in the nation. This sleepy-eyed little Iowa college was well on its' way to recruiting a student body which would eventually be represented by students from 45 of our 50 states, plus a number of foreign countries.

The trimester program was an experiment pioneered by the University of Pittsburgh and Parsons College. Initially, PITT dropped the program and concluded trimesters (3 semesters per year) would not work. Dr. Roberts made it work, and the rest is history as others followed suit.

The focus in 1961, as it was every year, was education, and being the BEST. The efforts of Dr. Roberts and his staff were geared to making Parsons the BEST school – with the BEST professors – the MOST PhD's and the BEST paid – fielding the BEST sports teams – producing the BEST theater and drama entertainment - while also having the BEST team of tutors available to HELP students achieve their goals.

Did we party?? "Absolutely" we partied. Show us a college or university that doesn't party. Were there extremes and extremists?? Of course!!! But, it was a forgone conclusion, "Parsons may have been easier to gain admittance than other schools, but if you didn't study, and did not make your grades, it was extremely hard to graduate. Parsons College was not a 'Diploma Mill' in 1961, or any other year!!!"

1961 Iowa Conference Basketball & Football Champions!!!



The O.B. Nelson led basketball team, and the Gary Nady coached football squad, both excelled and brought home the GOLD to the Parsons College trophy cases as CHAMPIONS of the IOWA CONFERENCE.

(Continued Page 7)

Digging Up - 1961 (cont'd)

The year 1961 had its' downsides, but they weren't at Parsons College. It was the year the Berlin Wall was deemed necessary and subsequently constructed in Germany. ... And the dreadful decision made on December 11, 1961, signaled the United States official entry into the Vietnam War. Little did we know where that would take us. ...

It was the year we lost actor Gary Cooper, writer Ernest Hemingway, baseball great Ty Cobb, and political icon Sam Rayburn. ... The new arrivals included, Wayne Gretsky, Eddie Murphy, George Clooney, Michael J. Fox, Dan Marino....and Barack Obama...

Parsons College was looking good... and looking strong... and on target to reaching its' goals!!

Yes, 1961 was a very good year!!! It's hard to believe it's been 50 years...

The Graduating Class of 1961



Graduation ceremonies, led by the Marshall of the College, with the staff of General Lewis Baldwin Parsons firmly in hand, followed by the procession of faculty members and graduates, winds across campus and into the Barhydt Chapel.

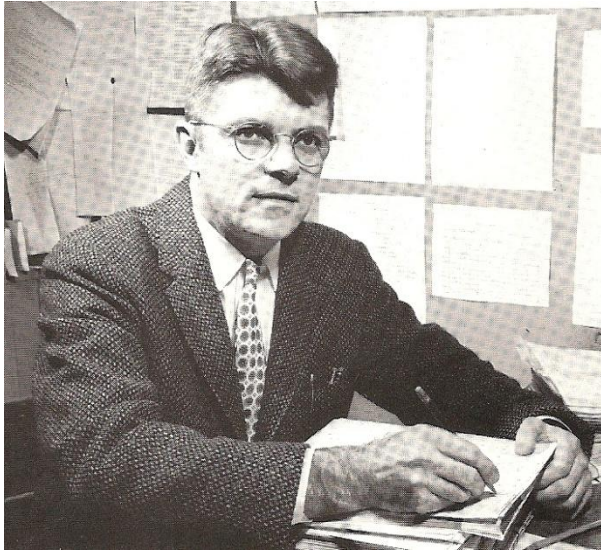
Spotlight... Dr. Warren S. Walker

For a brief span of four years, 1961-1964, Dr. Warren Walker taught English Literature at Parsons College.

Dr. Walker arrived from Blackburn College in Carlinville, IL where he served as a teacher and administrator. Dr. Walker bought into the "Parsons Plan" and joined Milliard G. Roberts growing collection of teaching PhD's.

He was a talented and enthusiastic asset to the English Department who earned his B.A. and Masters degrees at New York State College for Teachers in Albany, NY, and obtained his PhD from Cornell University.

The Walker's were happy in Fairfield. But Dr. Walker received a unique offer from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. He was not only presented the opportunity to join Texas Tech's English Department, but in addition, offered the challenge of expanding and furthering his interest in Turkish literature and folk literature.



Dr. Warren Walker, while at Parsons as Professor of English Literature.

The prospects were too overwhelming to refuse. He accepted.

Dr. Walker immersed himself in his new assignment, and eventually co-founded and developed the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative (ATON) at Texas Tech.

His career of teaching, research and writing canvassed 58 years - 41 of those years were highlighted with the accumulation of thousands of Turkish tales, collected orally, translated to English, and written down.

As Dr. Walker was putting the project together, the Turkish Ambassador to the United States visited the center, lavishing it with praise and blessing. Today, the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative is permanently housed in the library of Texas Tech University.

In their later years, Dr. Walker and wife Barbara, also a co-founder, made time to author 37 children's books, donated their time, effort, and passion to working six hours a day in the library without pay. This archive is now regarded as one of the largest and best collections of Turkish literature and folk literature in the world.

For his work, Dr. Walker was honored as First Horn Professor Emeritus of English at Texas Tech. He is the founding editor of "Twentieth-Century Short Story Explication."

And, in his honor, the "Warren S. Walker Award for Critical Writing" is presented annually to a deserving student as determined by a faculty committee...

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Spotlight (cont'd)

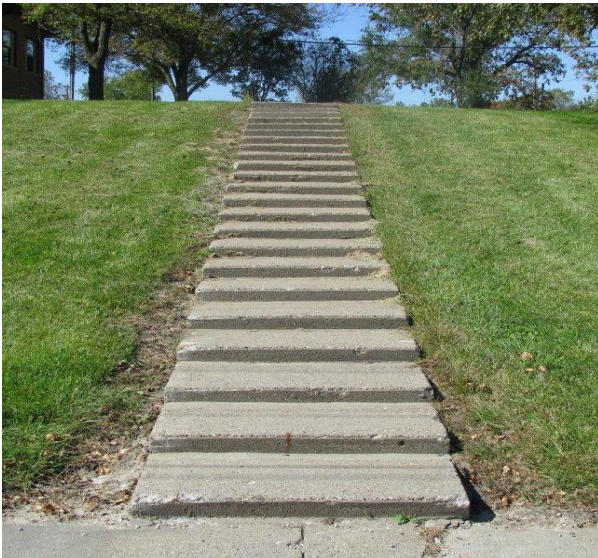
The Warren Walker story commenced March 19, 1921 in Brooklyn, NY. Dr. Walker passed away on November 22, 2002 in Lubbock, TX. He donated his body to the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. Warren Walker was 81.

The distinguished career successes - and the outstanding contributions to the communities - of those who passed through Parsons College are endless... AND those successes and contributions are not just restricted to the students and alumni... If there was a Parsons College Faculty Hall of Fame, Dr. Warren S. Walker would be an outstanding candidate...

(Editor's Note: Dr. Walker's wife, Dr. Barbara Kerlin Walker, passed away January 24, 2007 at the age of 85 in Lubbock, TX. They have a daughter living in Metairie, LA, and a son, who preceded them in death.)

The Mystery Quiz???

Steps to where???



THE ANSWER IS: If you would have climbed these steps in the early 1950's on Highway 1, across from the entrance to Carter Drive, you would have been on the porch of the Davies House. In the later '50's, prior to moving to the QUADS, the steps led to the DELTA ZETA sorority house. During fraternity 'Hell Week', as part of their initiation, fraternity pledges were required to push a penny from the top step down to the street with their noses. Blood was shed and the next day the scabbed noses identified those who passed the test...

Can you identify this building???



THE NEXT QUESTION: This is not a photo of a contemporary house, nor is it a wily character from Star Wars. It is the store front of one of the most popular businesses in Fairfield during the "Roberts Era." It was a frequently visited social establishment where many credits were earned. But certainly not the type of credits needed for graduation. Can you name this building? If not, read the 2011 SUMMER issue of the e-Newsletter to find out the answer...

REMEMBER WHEN... with Doug Marion '70

The Ballard Hall Student Union was a unique gathering place.

It was located on the first floor of Ballard Hall, and the site where all the pre-1963 students convened early and mid-morning for a cup of coffee, a lunch time sandwich, a snack, or to listen to the tunes blaring from the jukebox between classes.

It was a quaint and smallish little room, but after the new and larger Student Union was built in 1963 at the curve on Carter Drive, it became obsolete. We missed the quaintness but cherish the memory.

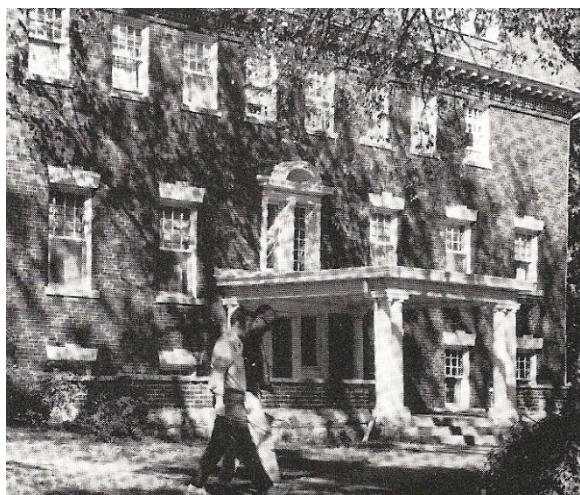
Those who worked the popular little room were multi-taskers. They did everything from cashiering to sandwich-making.

One of the favorite workers was Bill Porter's mother. She lived nearby in Libertyville. When Ms. Porter was on duty you knew you would get exactly what you ordered, and it would be done exactly the way you wanted it.

Yeah, we all graduated and moved on in our lives, but "many a little thing" at Parsons College we will fondly remember... and the Ballard Hall Student Union is one of those little things...

Another great and interesting memory relates to off-campus housing. In the 1960's it was a necessity for the college.

Due to an over-abundance of new students, or an under-abundance of housing (or a combination of both), many students found themselves in the joyful and quiet splendor of living off-campus during their first semester in college.



A glimpse of the south side entrance to Ballard Hall, constructed in 1901. It served as a women's dormitory and housed the busy Student Union.

From the apartments near the town square, to single rooms in private homes, to entire one and two-story student-only homes near campus (where two or more shared every room), a college life offering quiet and privacy was readily available.

Many athletes also chose off-campus comfort, and forged new friendships in student-only housing along the way.

And guess what? It goes without saying, the stories and memories are endless. Most we can't divulge. Others are best told by the actual doers or doers.

Rooms all over town were readily available.

We vividly remember (and lived in) several of those rooms, rooms which featured tilting floors, leaky windows that rattled during the cold winter months, and vibrated incessantly with the passing of each roaring freight train.

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Next E-News Deadline - June 1, 2011

But the price was right. I recall sharing a one-bedroom triple bunk bed apartment with two high IQ Bostonians. The top bunk was toasty and proved a real challenge and test of coordination during the night as you climbed down and back up.

That apartment cost \$1.00 per day and included utilities. Split three ways, the rent was \$30.00 each, per month. Aaaah, the rigors of off-campus housing life back in those days – they were beautiful. But the bottom line, Parsons College did indeed meet the needs of almost everyone, and it did not hold your hand, making sure you attended classes.

Later, with the creation of social groups and societies which leased / rented vacant farm houses out of town, the way was paved to indulging in some of the best fun times known to man, or woman, for that matter. We didn't have to drink, have a date, or a bank roll to have a good time. Just being part of the crowd and watching everybody do their thing was another ever-lasting memory of Parsons College to behold... (More to come next issue)



Courtesy of Dennis Marandos '69

I'M TIRED OF WINTER

*I'm tired of winter.
The crusty snow
The dingy, clouded sky,
The smoke-encircled house tops.
Why must it last?
Spring should be here,
Cold winter past.
But still it stays.*

*I'm tired of winter.
The dirty snow still lingers,
Blacker, sootier day by day.
The ice-covered paths,
The slush-filled streets.
Will it never go?
Spring should be here
Not winter's snow,
But still it stays.*

*I'm tired of winter.
The smoke-encircled houses
Repeat the eerie tale
Of never-ending winter.
Cold weather -- go!
Spring should be here,
Not crusty snow.
But still it stays.*

*I'm tired of winter.
I've talked so long,
A crocus just burst through
Springtime's flowers begin to bloom
Warmed by April's kiss.
Spring should be here.
She is!*

Mary Jane Williams, Sewickley, PA

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The Alumni Write...

Benny Belch, PC'61-'63 writes... Mrs. Belch and I want to congratulate you and your staff on the wonderful e-newsletter you edit. Parsons College was truly a wonderful place, and time of our lives. Although Mrs. Belch and I never graduated, we enjoyed our years (circa 1961-'63) at Parsons and in Fairfield. You do a great service to all of the Parsons folks. The memory of Dr. (Millard G.) Roberts, et al, is secure. Again, thank you very much.

(Editor's Note: The above message was submitted on behalf of Mr. & Mrs. Benny Belch by Pat Gilpin, PC'63 – pgilpin@sbsglobal.net)

Bill Rodner PC'65-66 writes... I would like to provide some information on the late Frank Iacovazzi'70 who died on August 10, 2009. Frank was born in Binghamton, NY, graduated from Binghamton Central High and became an outstanding percussionist. He was a musical perfectionist and demanded the highest level of musical skills not only of himself but also from his musical peers. Frank graduated from Parsons and became a music teacher in the Des Moines Public Schools. He was a dedicated teacher who inspired his students to learn their instruments, and perform as a team to their highest level of ability. For unknown reasons, Frank left teaching, became a site surveyor for American Moving Service, then went to work for JCPenney in sales. But he never abandoned his interest and involvement in music. Frank's affection for jazz surfaced and he joined the community band. He was called upon to lead that band and studied music scripts like one would read a book. After much encouragement and developing a plethora of lifelong friendships with fellow musicians, he was encouraged to retire in 2009. Unfortunately, it wasn't long after that, Frank was diagnosed with multiple cancers. He underwent radiation and chemo for a period of time but ultimately lost his battle to the dreaded disease at age 63. Frank was an all-around great person, inspiring teacher, and an optimist with great integrity. He was a valued friend, sibling, husband and father. Over the years, we remained in touch until the very end. Frank loved Parsons College and was proud to have graduated from there - he will be greatly missed. Frank is survived by wife Mary and two sons, Peter and Joey...

(Editor's Note: See Memoriams – Iacovazzi obituary)

Joseph Toubes, PC'n/a writes... I am very happy to have the email and e-newsletter. Perhaps one day someone could write about the teaching and learning aspects of Parsons College. Remember the brochure - Scholars Who Teach. Millard (Roberts) brought in, or bought, some quality people to teach us. I boast to this day that I had PhD's teaching me who were experts in their areas. Dr. Rakoff, Roettgen, Nichols, Grotz, Roberts, Stamper, to name a few. Remember Dr. Box? She wore out her cars checking on us student teachers to be sure things were great. So, how about it (writing more info on the educational qualities of Parsons)??? Seems of late, I read about the drinking and the parties. I grow weary of it!

(Editor's Note: Good suggestion – you can check us out by starting with page one of this issue)

Go Wildcats!!!

Greek & Social Clubs



Looking Back...

< The creative boys of the Town and Country Tappers appear to relish the annual staging of the Peira Yearbook photograph.



Members of Tau Kappa Epsilon pause to give their crest a shine.



Lambda Chi Alpha's win top honors in Greek Week '65.



Housemother Mom Gayman looks on as Phi Sigs pack up pledges for a ride.

Spread the Word!!!

WE NEED YOUR HELP, as your e-News wants to reach as many former Parsons alums and friends as possible. We are asking you to PLEASE forward a copy of the e-NEWS to at least five (5) people and/or pass along five names with email addresses to Nancy Wirtanen (nwirtanen@yahoo.com).

Also, our distribution list is nearing 1,500 and we are asking you to PLEASE keep your email address current and notify us of any changes. This will insure continued and uninterrupted receipt of the quarterly e-NEWS - last month we had a number returned due to invalid addresses. For your assistance, we say, THANK YOU!!!!

Publication Information

E-News dues (July to July): \$5.00 /year; donations accepted. Mail to: **Marshan Roth '73**, 201 S. Maple Street, Fairfield, IA 52556.

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*Editor's Note: To submit Greek, social, or personal news, please direct your request to **Nancy Wirtanen '73** nwirtanen@yahoo.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.*

Letters-To-The-Editor...

Writing to tell you what a pleasure it is to receive the Parsons E-News. Although I don't know any of the graduates and staff mentioned, I still enjoy reading each article. I am astonished at the detailed information you provide, as well as the recent activities in Fairfield commemorating Parsons. It's obvious you all invest a great deal of time and effort into each edition as well as keeping the many fond memories alive...I am hopeful someone will provide photos of the campus and its buildings, from late '60's, prior to closing.

Bill Rodner, PC'65-66 - wdrodner@juno.com

(Editor's Note: We endorse your suggestion of campus photos. First up, catch Ballard Hall on page 10)



Another terrific piece of work. It was my pleasure to meet you all at the October, 2010 reunion, and Wall of Honor ceremony.

Philip Como, PC'65 - philipcomo@yahoo.com

This issue is wonderful. I will send something to help \$\$\$ with the Barhydt monument at the corner of Washington and Court Streets by the old Carnegie Library in the downtown area. Thank you for doing all this! **Caroline Dickey, PC'n/a** - caroline1@iowatelecom.net

Thanks - you do a great job! When I get the e-newsletter, I send it out to about 200 more alumni through my Sig Ep (Sigma Phi Epsilon) data base. **Larry Marino, PC'66** - ebbtidesam@aol.com

Great job!! Thank you very much. We enjoy the publication. **Tom and Zilpha Grooms, PC'60** - tboxster6@aol.com

Another exemplary issue!! A great read - alumni responses - and photos with great clarity. As "Parsons Bill" (LaRue) would say, "Goooo Wildcats!!!" May the momentum continue.

Dave Neff, PC'69 - neffacres@lisco.com

Thanks for the e-newsletter. My brother asked if anybody might have any old recordings of the Parsons College KCLS-FM radio station shows. I think Mike Miller was Station Manager around that time. I had a show on the Friday's during the summer of 1970. It would definitely be a "trip back" to know if anyone kept the tapes of those shows and if they are available.

Boyd Martin, PC'70 - boyd@drumanimal.com

(Editor's Note: Boyd, it's your lucky day. Ten shows from the Parsons KCLS-FM radio station have just been recovered, posted to the Parsons Alumni website, and are available for review. See the announcement of the find in this issue of e-news and go to www.parsonscollegealumni.com for a FREE-trip to that site)

Thanks for the hard and good work!

Arnie Rothschild, PC'n/a - rothnorm@aol.com

I read all the Parsons e-newsletters. Great job by you and the staff, I might add. This class of 1961 grad has enjoyed each issue. (I remember Dr. Tree very well). And Ol' Dr. Tree would not believe that Bob Lowe went onto get a PhD in School Administration from Iowa State University in 1977 and became a Full-Professor at Angelo State, which is now part of the Texas Tech system, and has been for over 15 years.

Robert Lowe, PC'61 - drrobertlowe@yahoo.com

Good newsletter and well put together!!

Chick Faunt, PC'n/a - chickfaunt@comcast.net

Thanks for the e-news and to all of you for your hard work on this project. I will mail a check out to you, for I have not contributed anything to date, but intend to do so, and have enjoyed each and every e-newsletter very much.

Lester K, PC'n/a - Lskart@comcast.net

In Memoriam...

Stephen L. Hori, PC'70-'72 died suddenly from a ruptured thoracic aneurysm on January 11, 2011. Scott Hori emailed friends with the sad news of his dad's passing. Stephen and his family resided in Skokie, IL. He was 57 years of age. During his short time at Parsons College, Stephen made a number of life-long friends. He is the son of Hisa and the late Katsu Hori. In addition to son, Scott, Stephen is survived by wife Debbie and daughter, Jill Hori. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Donnellan Family Funeral Home of Skokie, IL and the interment was private. No further information is available at this time. If you wish to pass on condolences, or contact the family, you may do so by emailing scott.k.hori@gmail.com or writing the Hori family at: 4711 Greenwood Street, Skokie, IL 60076...



Stephen Hori

Frank P. Iacovazzi, PC'69... E-news has just learned of the passing of Frank Iacovazzi, 62, of Des Moines, IA, on August 10, 2009. Following graduation from Parsons with a BA degree in Fine Arts, Frank became a teacher and band director at Stuart-Menlo Schools, as well as, the Anita and Creston School Districts. Frank was a Site Surveyor for American Moving Service and worked briefly at JCPenney prior to retiring earlier in 2009. He loved his music, especially jazz and classical, was a fine musician, and played the drums in the Community Jazz Band of Des Moines. Friend, Perry Beeman, described Frank, who originally from Binghamton, NY, by saying, "He was a great teacher, a great student of jazz, a wonderful drummer, and a great guy. This is a huge loss for the jazz world of Des Moines." Frank is survived wife Mary of 32 years, and two sons, Pete and Joe. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Anthony's Church. Brooks Funeral Care of Des Moines provided the funeral services... *(Editor's Note: See Alumni Write – Bill Rodner)*



Walter Shipman

Walter Shipman, PC'n/a, of Fairfield passed away February 18, 2011 following a long bout with cancer. He was 71. If you frequented the Walton Club in recent years, you undoubtedly were served the beverage of your choice by Mr. Shipman, the part time bartender, who attended Parsons briefly in the mid-1960's. During the early 1970's, you will remember him as co-owner of the Cascades Lounge & Elite Billiard's Parlor on Main Street. Mr. Shipman graduated from Alliance High School (Ohio), and served in the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division from 1957-1963. He loved Fairfield and the many friends he made over the years - belonged to the Elks Club - and served as commissioner of the local Veterans Affairs Board. Mr. Shipman also worked as a manager at the Fairfield Country Club for several years before incurring health issues that led to his 1994 retirement from full time work. He is survived by wife, Ann, five children, 13 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren. Condolences may be sent to the Shipman family at: 2125 241st Street, Fairfield, IA 52556. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Behner Funeral Home of Fairfield...

(Continued Page 16)

Paul Swanson, PC/Zeta '47, who grew up in Fairfield, died August 25, 2010 in Akron, OH. Paul attended Fairfield High School, and following military service in the U.S. Army Air Corps, enrolled at Parsons and graduated in 1947. While at Parsons, he was captain of the football team and was a member of Zeta Theta Gamma fraternity. Paul continued his education after Parsons and earned a civil engineering degree from Iowa State University. With the Army Air Corps during World War II, he was a Lieutenant and a pilot. He flew over 50 combat missions. Paul received the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart (for injuries received when his P-51 was shot down over enemy territory) and the Air Medal with clusters for his service. Following the Army Air Corps, Paul was employed at Goodyear Aerospace for 30 years. Then for the next 16 years he was an engineer for Summit County, Ohio. In addition to wife Phyllis (nee Scranton), (PC/Elzevir'47), two children, Michael and Ruth, and six grandsons, Paul is survived by a host of family members who attended Parsons College including, a sister, Mildred Swanson Belew, PC/Elzevir'47; and brothers Robert PC/Zeta'49 (deceased), Ray, PC/Zeta'57; and Gary, PC/Zeta'59. If you wish to contact the family, send condolences, or obtain further information, please do so by emailing Gary Swanson at: garyswanson@uwmail.com...



John Watson

John A. Watson, PC/PSE '58 passed away peacefully January 28, 2011 at his Iowa City home surrounded by family. He was 75-years-old. John was born and raised in Ft. Madison, IA and attended Parsons College, where he served as president of the Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree and returned to Ft. Madison to begin a career in education. John continued his schooling at Western Illinois University, earning a Master's degree. Shortly after, he entered the University of Iowa and later was awarded a PhD in Educational Administration. He served as an administrator in the school districts of Oelwein, Muscatine and Cudahy, WI, prior to retiring from Educational Services in 1996. John made an impact on those he touched. The overall consensus was that his honesty, common sense approach, and positive attitude toward problem solving, made educating children so much more effective. John had a distinguished athletic career at Fort

Madison High, earning numerous letters in four sports. He was inducted to the school's Sports Hall of Fame. In the community, John was a member of the Elks Club, and served on various Parks & Recreation Commissions throughout Iowa. During his retirement years, he enjoyed his involvement with the grandchildren, family vacations to Sunset Beach, NC, and occasional visits to a number of the Presidential Libraries across the country. John is survived by his wife, Mary Jo (Krogmeier), who he met in Ft. Madison and married in 1958, six children, 14 grandchildren and one great grandson. A visitation and memorial mass were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Arrangements were handled by Lensing Funeral & Cremation Services of Iowa City...



**Next Issue – Summer 2011
News Deadline is June 1, 2011**

Photographs Wanted for future Issues.
Please submit as a JPEG and provide information about the photo.
If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen nwirtanen@yahoo.com

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