Let's take a walk down Memory Lane
From the Class of 1953 50th Reunion in 2003

By Clint Bliss, class of 1953

"Let's all pile into my car and cruise back to the early 50's. Here we are at the corner of 5th Street and 14th Avenue. Let's park here and hope we don't get towed to Kohler's Garage. We can start here and go towards 4th Street. We pass Headon's Book Store, Ed's Cleaners, and Mert's Grocery.

We come to University Florists... we can get our prom flowers there. Next are Twin Cleaners, Schwendfeger Meat Market and Jerome's Fashions. When we get to the corner we can look to the left and see Robinson's Beauty School, Crane's Gift's and Al Johnson's where we can rent a tux for the prom. Over the bridge is White Castle.

Going towards University Avenue we pass Crane's Gift's and Al Johnson's where we can rent a tux for the prom. Over the bridge is White Castle.

Across the street we can go to Perine's Book Store, Dinky Town Dime, and at the corner Gray's Drug. Around the corner we have our hotel, The College Inn. (I don't think it was ever rated five stars.) We could pick up some popcorn at Ortie's and take in a good movie at the Varsity. Oscar's Barber Shop is near the corner.

Across the street are Don's Campus Cleaners, C. B. Christianson Reality, Ideal Plumbing, Lou's Diner and Campus Jewelers where we can get our class rings. We go by Newberg Studios and arrive at Fanny Farmer on the corner.

Starting down 14th Avenue towards good old Marshall High, we pass by Schafer's Grocery Store, Krause's Bakery, Simms Hardware Store and Loughridge-Bengtson Photo Studios. Let's stop in for our senior pictures.

We end our stroll on the corner by the House of Hanson. If we listen really hard, we can hear Bob Hanson or Fred Leonard telling someone firmly or with authority to "take a walk."

Hope you enjoyed our stroll. And guess what? With the exception of the House of Hanson, all the other businesses have one thing in common. They're all gone. Ah memories!"
Notes from the "old" ahem, "former" editor

By Hap Corbett

Just when you thought you were rid of me 😊, here I am again 😊. I'll take this opportunity to share with you some of the mail I received after I thumbed my nose at the huge salary and resigned.

First, I'll tackle the letters that came back with no comment, other than (from the Post Office) “Return to sender — unable to forward.” If anyone knows the whereabouts of these alumni, contact them and let them know they have many more issues coming if they simply tell us where they're hiding.

These are paid for one more year: Mary Lee (Wall) Roop ’49, formerly at 307 107th Av NE, Blaine, MN 55434; Earl Erickson ’39, formerly at 28882 Prescott Drive, Carrollton, TX 75006-4814; and Daniel C. Schiavone ’53, formerly at 1610 Van Couver St, Winchester, VA 22601-3227. Then we have Marilyn (Helegson, Wilcox) Baran who renewed for three more years earlier this year but is apparently no longer at 19128 Prairie St, Northridge, CA 91324-2723.

If you can contact any of these people, tell them to send their new address to: JMHS Alumni Newsletter, 180 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. And to all the rest of you: if your address changes, send the new one to that same address.

One sad note before the happy ones. Barbara Lattimer, 3021 Tyler St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418, wrote telling us her husband, Richard ’50, died this past March. She's not a Marshall grad so she doesn’t wish to continue receiving the newsletter, but she kindly added, “I'm glad you're feeling better and that you found someone to take over for you.” I've included her address so those who knew him or them can send Barbara a comforting note.

A beautiful note from Marge Jelmeland Immer ’39 who liked my coinage of the new word “Marshally” writing that it says a lot about our school and the people it educated. Then she politely reminded me it was the class of ’39 not ’38 that started the scholarship fund drive. (Sorry, 39ers and thanks, Marge!)

Joe Polnaszek ’45, 103 Warwick St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414, sent us $30 and wrote, “I hope to be around for another three years to read about classmates I have not thought of for years. Sorry to hear about your health problems, but glad to see you’re accepting your situation so well.”

Then he added, “There were quite a few other Polnaszeeks who attended Marshall: his brothers, Paul ’41 and Adam ’42; his sons, Frank ’65, Peter, ’67, Thomas ’70, John ’74, Joseph ’76, Daniel ’78, and his daughter, Margaret ’81 — all those plus a nephew, Robert ’57. Wow! And double wow!

They might be pushing the Corbetts for the record. Besides your former editor, there were my two sisters, Juanita (Corky) ’47 and Marcella ’43, and my brother Dick, ’45, plus

Hap... Contiued on page 3
Skilled Writer Volunteers To Be Co-Editor

Tom Daly grew up in the Prospect Park area attending Sidney Pratt Kindergarten and St. Cecilia for Elementary education. He graduated from Marshall High School in 1955 as President of his class. Tom continued his education at St. John's University where he earned a B.A. in History and then attended the U of MN where he earned a M.A. in Educational Administration. He worked as a teacher/administrator for 39 years, the last 27 years with the Department of Corrections.

Tom and his wife Patti have been married for 44 years. They have four children and five grandchildren. They raised their children in South Minneapolis and now live in Bloomington.

Tom is currently a volunteer tutor with the Minneapolis Schools, a volunteer interpreter at the Minnesota History Center and a volunteer driver for the Center for Victims of Torture.

Tom's qualifications for co-editing this newsletter include his writing and publishing in 2004 "For the Good of the Women", a short history of the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Shakopee. I recommend reading his book.

Tom in his limited spare time grows tomatoes and dabbles in local politics. (RKH)

(We'll learn about co-editor, Bob Hayes in the next issue.)
REUNION NEWS
50th Reunion of MHS Class of '56
By Judy Brackney Waring

In late September of this year the long-awaited 50th reunion of our graduating class of 1956 took place, appropriately, at MHS grad, Dutch Cragun's resort in Brainerd, MN. Over the years I had been able to attend only one of these events and I had promised myself that I would make this one even if I had to be wheeled in on a gurney. Fortunately, I was able to arrive in a vertical position and was ready to meet old friends, many of whom I had not seen for the entire 50-year interval.

Our first gathering was scheduled to take place at 6 p.m. in the hospitality room. At around 5:15 an osprey nest fell onto the transformer somewhere nearby and threw the entire Brainerd area into darkness! So one by one, and in small groups, we worked our way down the corridor for the appointed gathering. The room was lit with candlelight, which turned out to be a blessing—we could all operate under the illusion that we were still 18 years old. This was great until suddenly the electricity was restored. Looking around was like a Steven King horror story! (Just kidding, I was surrounded by the beautiful faces of the friends from my youth.)

It was such fun to approach each other and try to identify who it was without reading the nametag. The air was filled with squeals and shouts of recognition. Some I could tell with a glance, others took longer. I still had trouble telling Donna and Doris Bixler apart, still identical twins. We calculated that the class of '56 had 174 graduates and disappointingly only 34 were able to join us, but that worked out well in that we were still able to visit longer with everyone.

We still had Saturday and Sunday to look forward to. Some signed up to play golf, others preferred to stay and visit more.

That evening we had the banquet. Lightning and thunder raged as we ate, a good old Minnesota thunderstorm that some of us living in other parts of the country don't often get to see.

The next morning we met for breakfast and goodbyes. But we aren't through yet—the 55th reunion is already in the making!

Send your reunion announcements or reports to tmdaly@worldnet.att.net or to robertkhdjh@aol.com

Class Reunion Announcements

The Class of 1947 will be holding a 60th class reunion for the Jan. and June classes on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2007 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at The Four Points at Sheraton Hotels, 1330 Industrial Blvd. N.E. Minneapolis. Cost will be $35/person. Contact co-chairpersons Char and Bernie Minichill: winter (239) 992-7997, summer (952) 938-4827.

The Class of 1937 at this point will not be holding a 70th reunion. "it is hard for me to ascertain where the energy or bodies for a 1937 reunion would originate" according to Felix Perry felixarm@aol.com

The Class of 1942 will not be holding a 65th class reunion "the money went on our last 60th . . . if you hear of a class that would like us to get together and combine we would think of the matter". According to Dorothy Lane Merrick jcpdorothy@att.net

The Class of 1952 will hold its 55th reunion September 14, 2007 at the Fort Snelling Officers Club. Social hour from 1:00-4:00 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm. Bee Manning McFee Beemc7@aol.com (RKH)
Reflections in the mirror

Most of us had a friend who did crazier things than the rest of us and often involved us the innocent. Ahlie (Ahlie, as in Kukla, Fran & Ollie and Stan and Ollie) was one of them. From time to time, we'll reflect upon Ahlie, and others we remember fondly.

Ahlie and a bunch of us guys were playing football on the U of M practice field located behind Cooke Hall, next to the Indoor Sports building. We were playing with Ahlie's football when it got kicked up on the roof of the sports building; the building has to be four or five stories high. We walked around the building, but found no way to get on the roof to retrieve the football.

That evening Ahlie braided a three-strand rope from his mother's clothesline and went back to the practice field. A light pole was positioned close, maybe a few feet, to the Indoor Sports building and extended above the roof. Ahlie climbed the light pole and tied his handmade rope on the pole about five feet above the roof line.

Holding the end of the rope Ahlie jumped across the chasm and landed in the three or four foot wide rain gutter of the building. After tying down the end of the rope he first found a U of M football—this really made his climb worthwhile. He also found his own football. He threw the balls down to the ground and proceeded to retrace his climb.

He tied the rope around his waist and sat on the edge of the gutter with his legs hanging over the side. It was dark, the light was lit and the ground looked a long way down. He decided to insure that he did not miss the pole in his swing back across the void; he would catch the pole between his legs. The short rope and the fast swing slammed him into the pole with his legs spread wide apart—major pain. Ahlie clung with his legs wrapped around the pole for many minutes until he finally caught his breath and the pain subsided. He slowly and carefully climbed down the light pole and painfully, but triumphantly, limped home. (RKH)

Witch's Hat Water Tower

The Witch's Hat Water Tower is located at the top of Tower Hill, where it is next to, and provides a unique playground, for Sidney Pratt Elementary School. Tower Hill was originally known as Prospect Hill; the name was changed to St. Anthony Heights Park and finally in 1908 changed to Tower Hill. The tower was designed by Norwegian architect and City Engineer Frederick William Cappelen, constructed by the city of Minneapolis in 1913 and opened in 1914 to provide adequate water pressure primarily for fire pro-

Reunion coming up? Want to Contact Classmates?
Maybe you have a personal story to tell.
Send your questions, comments or articles to the editors.

Deadlines:
October 15 for the January issue  February 15 for the May Issue
June 15 for the September issue
Legendary Coach... Legendary Game

Don Sovell began teaching and coaching at Marshall in the fall of 1952. He turned 24 in July, but looked older. It was unusual in those days for an inexperienced teacher to be hired by the Minneapolis schools, but Don had the academic credentials and had been a very successful athlete at Washburn High School and St. Thomas College. That first year he taught junior high math and science and coached the sophomore football and basketball teams. In 1953 Don was named head coach in basketball.

Don credits his own coaches with teaching him strong fundamentals and particularly strong defense beginning with his 7th grade coach at Annunciation Grade School and including John Kundla who coached him at St. Thomas College in 1946-47 before going on to coach the Minneapolis Lakers. Never-the-less, it was Don's idea to have his Marshall team stall for the whole game against Roosevelt in the District 17 playoffs. Don had tried the same tactic against North the previous year and it nearly worked then.

In 1955 Roosevelt had an extremely tall team. Don said he thought Roosevelt's starting five averaged 6'5" while Marshall's starting five averaged about 5'9' or 5'10". Marshall's leading players were Buzzy Rongstad, Dick Johnston, Dale Schiavone, Kyle Johnson, Dick Trumble, and Allen Kienitz. In those days once the offensive team brought the ball across the 10 second line at mid-court, they could hold the ball as long as they wanted if the defensive players did not come out to challenge them or tie them up. So Marshall stalled and stalled. It was an amazing thing to watch.

At half time the score was 5 to 9 in Roosevelt's favor. Don Sovell was not discouraged; he told his team to continue the stall in the second half. After all he told his players they were only 4 points behind. From Don's point of view, his players were better athletes and they could win. And win they did. The final score after 32 minutes of play was Roosevelt 15, Marshall 17!

Although Marshall lost to Washburn in the District 17 final, the Marshall team was awarded the runner-up trophy, and Washburn went on to win the state tournament. "Giffy" O'Dell, the athletic director for the Minneapolis schools, sent the story on the AP all across the country stressing the height difference between the two teams. Don Sovell went on to coach very successfully at North and South High School, but he remembers Marshall best. Don said, "Anybody that ever taught at Marshall will tell you...there was no school like Marshall." (TD)

Obituaries

Dale Hadtrath, '49, was vacationing with his brother Don in Mesa, Arizona when he learned in March that he had cancer. Dale died on April 12, 2006 at the VA Hospital at Fort Snelling.

Joan Ostberg Finney, '44, passed away on May 18, 2006. Her husband, Jerry Finney, '41, passed away on June 28, 2006. Joan and Jerry had been married nearly 60 years.

DID YOU KNOW...?

We want you to keep up with your Marshall classmates. That's why we are no longer asking you to subscribe to this newsletter.

IT'S FREE to you, but we're looking for patrons...

Please make a donation to MAEF
See page 7
Tower... From page 5

Protection to the University of Minnesota and consequently to Prospect Park.

In the early years, the city sprinkler wagons would ice the slopes of Tower Hill. Children and adults alike would slide down Tower Hill, along Seymour, down Franklin Avenue to East River Road.

The water tower was built with an observation platform allowing vistas of the Minneapolis and Saint Paul skylines. The view was breathtaking especially to a 5th grade student. When I attended Sidney Pratt, the door to the tower was always locked except for one day when word went through the school that the door had been left unlocked. At recess everyone raced up the hill to go inside the tower. It was pitch black inside as we ascended the stairs winding around the water tank; we would holler "going up" as students returning from the top were calling "going down". I was certain I could see my house on Oak Street as the view stretched past the University of Minnesota campus to downtown Minneapolis.

The water tower functioned from 1914 to 1952 and is being preserved as the Prospect Park landmark, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (RKH)

The MAEF Connection

The Marshall Access and Education Fund (MAEF) Team is happy to be assisting Tom and Bob with the production of the John Marshall High School Alumni newsletter!

The MAEF Team meets every second Tuesday of the month to discuss strategies for reaching our goals for the fund. From left: Lois Maturi, community volunteer and neighborhood resident, Harvey Johnson (class of '39), Peggy Mann Rinehart, Associate Director, Disability Services, Ruth Stone Stewart (class of '39), Tom Daly (class of '55), and Carletta Yancy, Administrative Assistant, Disability Services. Not pictured: Jennifer Eggers, Director, Annual Giving.

The first goal is to reach $25,000 — when the MAEF Fund will be able to begin awarding scholarships to students with disabilities. We're just about $4,250 shy of that goal. We would love your help in creating this wonderful legacy for Marshall students. Please send your donations to:

Marshall Access & Education Fund (MAEF)
CM9407
P.O. Box 70870
St. Paul, MN 55170-9407
Marie Leight Platt Keeps MHS Website

Marie Leight Platt grew up in southeast Minneapolis and attended Tuttle Elementary. She attended Marshall 7th through 9th grades and then went to Vocational High School, but feels strong ties with Marshall and maintains close contact with Tuttle friends.

Marie and husband Gary (who attended South High) have three children, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren. They lived in California from 1959 to 1967, moved back to Minnesota and have lived in sunny Orlando Florida for the last six years.

Marie has been doing child care most of her life and is currently caring for six children, five days a week.

Marie is attractive, youthful looking, thinking and acting. She maintains her excellent health through exercise, diet and attitude. Marie walks every weekday morning from one to five miles, rising early, between 5:00 and 5:30. She also walks on her weekends, visiting local nature reserves and parks, walking with the alligators and enjoying the wild life.

She has supplemented her already healthy diet with herbs and vitamins since the 1950's. She is a health nut, weighing herself every day and adjusting her daily diet accordingly. Her attitude is 'if you think young, you stay young'. She maintains a 40 year old life style.

In her spare time Marie maintains a website she started for Marshall High graduates: www.marshallhighschool.org. She provides class reunion information, a listing of Marshall grads who have signed on, and tidbits of past Marshall activities. Check her website out, you will return to it regularly. (RKH)