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NYACK HIGH SCHOOL
Class of '55

Tower

1955

"55@55"

55th Anniversary Reunion

October 16-17, 2010



55@55

*Nyack High School
Class of 1955*

55th Reunion

October 16-17, 2010

Thanks....

...to all of you who have taken time this weekend to help us share our 55th reunion from Nyack High School. What wonderful memories we have shared through the years – especially those from 1951 through 1955.

And thanks to all of you who made calls to your classmates, supplied e-mail addresses and phone numbers or just added your encouragement.

Special thanks to Bill Schnakenberg for producing the badges and cover artwork, as well as continually maintaining our class website – www.nyack55.com.

Look to this website to see pictures of our 55th reunion. Please send information to Bill (willshak@hvc.rr.com) if you would like to add or update your 'highlights' on the web. We will keep this site going as long as possible.

Classmates attending the reunion

Saturday

Bob and Marge Merkert
Bill Schnakenberg
Bob Samuels and Karen Brown
Mary (D'Auria) and Roy Kesting
Fred Fenton
Carl Fabend
Helen (Sauter) Coyle
Connie (Gaeta) Pepe
Ann (Tribert) Dinen – (St. Ann's)
Frank Welles
Betsy (Mettler) Growney
Donald De Noyelles
Marge (Ziegler) Arlt
Lilyan (Schiebel) Gray
Alison (Church) and Arthur Hyde
Carol (Dec) Streichert
Cristina Biaggi
Helene "Ginger" (Neuman) Stoltze
Naomi "Lovey" (Waldman) Bash
Nancy (Jersey) and Michael Bachleda
Pete and Mary Valligny
Barbara (Costino) and George Morgan
Irene (Komonchak) and Steve Rossi
Vikki (Colorito) and Tom Desmond

Sunday

Bob and Marge Merkert
Bill Schnakenberg
Bob Samuels and Karen Brown
Mary (D'Auria) and Roy Kesting
Fred and Mary Fenton
Firth (Haring) and Carl Fabend
Sonny Schneider
Pat (Trubiroha) VanderBeek – (St. Ann's)
Ann (Tribert) Dinen – (St. Ann's)
Frank Welles
Betsy (Mettler) and Mike Growney



Classmates who can't attend but responded

I'm stuck in Florida and won't be able to attend.
Please give my best to all.

Pete Crane

I'm disappointed that I will not be able to make this reunion. As I mentioned on the phone last week my one son and his family are moving back to New Hampshire after 20+ years in Santa Cruz, CA. They are moving about 35 minutes from us. My oldest son is also coming home for a visit that week from Seattle. To top it off my two sisters - Pat and Eileen and my brother Toby are coming to visit that weekend too. My oldest sister Reen died last May and this is the first time we have been all able to get together since. We will raise a glass of good wine to my sister and I will add a second glass for the reunion. Hope all there are doing well, and my prayers for those who won't be there. We have a great group in our class. My sister Pat is still going to here reunions which is 4 years ahead of me. Bless you all and say hi to Pete Crane if he shows up - I'm still a Pro-Crane guy from St. Ann's.

Jim O' Mahony

Last Mon. I had cataract surgery on my right eye. This coming Mon. the left one is being taken care of. I am in a position at this point that I cannot commit yet. Hope that's okay, although I am sure you would love to have a total count right now!!

I will not be able to come back – darn!!! The 2 surgeries went well, although I seem to be having some trouble going from reading to watching TV. I think it comes with the territory. Am happy though with the reading vision - it's great and it's still too soon to tell what the long range outcome will be. I have a follow up appt. on Oct. 19th. Sorry to hear about Jean's shoulder. Yikes, it's tough to be "getting older", but we have to be grateful that we are, huh?

Did you receive the book from B&N? Hope you like it. I have written another one. It is out to the publishers now. Waiting....

Hope your weekend is going well.
Thanks again, Bob.

Georgia Maskell Whitten

I'm sorry that I haven't responded sooner, but I was trying to work things out so I could attend the reunion. Alas, can't make it. I'm in the middle of moving that week. Hope all is well with you and Marge. Please convey my very best to all of the class of '55. Best,

Eric Schweikardt

Thanks for organizing yet another reunion. I'm so sorry that I won't be able to make it this time. It would be great to see everyone, but we've family obligations that weekend.

Joan Sewart Willey

Just a short note. I will not be joining you at the reunion this year. We just arrived back in Florida after traveling for 2 1/2 months. Doug and I have permanently moved here. Yes, we left our beloved Rockland County. And for a side note: We became great grandparents 2 weeks ago. Where did the time go? Hope all is well with you and your family. Say hello to everyone.

Betty Nagy Coyle

I thought I could make this one, but unfortunately I will be in Boston.

Bill Williams

Still on the fence about attending - getting hit by 3 hurricanes and a triple bypass in fall of 2004 left us edgy - you are doing a great job as usual; THANKS,

Barbara Graham Beresheim

Due to a conflict we will not attend. I hope you have a successful event.

Helen Pforte DeGraw

Nice work in gathering our class together once again !
I have contacted Janet (Ripsey Chesnut) and Zita (Abel Emerson) and neither can make the trip (long for them since they live out west). Thus it doesn't look as if I will be coming either, although I may change my mind at the last minute and come for the day (the brunch). Best,

Karen Dablberg Vander Ven

It's still college soccer season, and this is her last year so that's what we will be doing for that weekend...But it is the last year...and next time we'll be free for sure.

Helen Jean Traverson O'Gorman

I would really love to make it to the reunion. (However I am scheduled for shoulder surgery). I am hoping all goes well, and there isn't too much pain. I know of two people who had the shoulder surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery, and they both said there was very little pain.

(Update) I go this Friday (15th) for the surgery, and will be in the hospital Saturday and Sunday. They will be doing a reverse total shoulder replacement on me. This should be interesting, but the Doctor told me that before I left the hospital I would be able to raise my arm over my head. Wish me luck, and have a great reunion.

Jean Lemm Jansen

We are all booked up for September and October. Hope everyone has a very good time.

Froing Pollard

Thanks for your letter. Sounds like a great weekend. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend as I will be in California child, dog and house sitting for my daughter. Sorry I have to miss it! Sincerely,

Joan Priest Jamison

I received your letter about the class reunion on the 16th and 17th of October. I regret I will not be able to attend this year as I will be away on a trip. This will be the first one I will miss. The only weekend I would have available is Oct. 9-10 and I will be in Nyack at that time.

Ward Cottbaus

David and I will be unable to attend. We already had a cruise planned when we found out the 55th schedule. Pass on to everyone I am still here and wish them all a great time. Keep me posted on the happenings.

Millie Vice Dunn

Thanks for your letter about the reunion -- and your email address! John and I will not be attending the October affair. I hope all goes well with your planning and you get a wonderful response and attendance! Hope all is well with you and yours,

Mary Leaycraft Turner

Wonderful talking to you (Bill) and just visited the great Nyack55 web site (need permission to enter for address list). Sorry I am going to miss the reunion—our annual European vacation. I just retired as Associate Director, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution (over 20

years Federal Civil Service there and in Defense Department). My first retirement was over 20 years ago after 30 years in the Army. My address and phone and a picture of wife Judy and I (at a wedding a month ago) are below.
(It is now on our www.nyack55.com website under Alexander's 'Highlights' section.)

Alexander Beim

Thank you for all you do and have done for the class. I will not be able to attend this year, but keep me posted for any future events. Thanks,

Bob Mock

Having a 55th is a great thought. Sorry to say, but I'll be in Florida celebrating my cousins 90th birthday. I hope everyone attending has a good time.

Jaye(Justine)Fenning Mutinsky

Hi all, have a good get together.

Larry Glatt

Bob, and 'mates - You're doing a great job!! Unfortunately, we're headed to Key West at about the same time. Please let me know if you happen to be in the keys in the winter - would love to see any 55ers. Regards,

Roger Kostmayer

I'm afraid we will be away in Lake Placid that weekend as we are committed to attend the wedding of the daughter of one of our close friends. Best regards,

Bill Weschler

Although I do not have it in the budget to travel back to the reunion, I would be happy to help solicit others that do. Let me know what I can do.

Whitney Lewis

I regret that I will be out of the country at the time of the reunion. Plans for the get together sound great and I'm sorry I can't make the trip from Florida to attend. Best of luck.

Mickey Walter

On the weekend of the '55 reunion all our children are convening in Rye for our 50th wedding anniversary. Our family plans conflict with yours. I am so disappointed. Obviously I had not written down the dates or I could have urged everyone to come a different weekend. The flights are already booked. So disappointed. Regards,

Stephanie Peterman Jachetta

It's good to hear from you and know that the Class is still active.

Unfortunately I again have to be on the MIA list as we will have four grandchildren and their parents visiting us from Tennessee. I think you could call that a priority obligation.

I hope you are doing well, and I look forward to reading any info and/or feedback from the planning and, of course, the event itself.

Bob Dallow

Unfortunately we will be in Florida at the time of the reunion. Have a great one!

Bernie and Kathleen (Honey Laracy) Kaplowitz

Sorry, but we already have a family commitment the weekend of the reunion. Give my regards to all.

Matt Clark

We just got back recently from our annual vacation. Sorry but we cannot make it this time. Have a great reunion.

Jim Clark

Have a great time at the reunion. Unfortunately I can't be there this time as I am in Florida.

Bill Bacon

I would love to be there but I am part of a federal disaster team and cannot come at this time. But I would love to hear from anyone. Just call me (503-629-9197) and I will call you back as I have an unlimited phone plan. I retired three years ago and miss it somewhat. But my volunteering now takes up a lot of my time. Have a fabulous reunion.

Elaine Alpert Lawrence

It's a long way for me since I'm in Tacoma, WA. I was 'found' recently and have sent in a picture and write-up (which is now up on www.nyack55.com). Please think of me as you are having a wonderful time at the reunion. Bob and I reminisced over our days in Latin class with Mr. Callahan, Alison, Helen, Hope, and Jamie MacArthur (first year only).

Carolyn Cummings Grain

Please pass on my good wishes to all at the reunion.

Roberta Frae Mathsen

I would love to help with calling etc. if I could, but at the moment I am sole caregiver for my Mom who will be 101 in 3 months. She is alert and does pretty well, but does need help. I guess the air in Rockland County was good to her. If I can help some time down the road I will email you.

Charlene Palmatier Niland

I would love to be there but this is a busy time for me in the medical year, including speaking at medical conferences. Please give my best to all and have a great reunion. I hope that we will have another one soon. I will continue to support our Class of 1955 scholarship and hope that others will too.

Ralf Taupmann

I will not be able to attend either function as I am back in Florida. Have a great reunion. My best to all

Virginia (Babe) Moore Shorter

I am sorry that I can't attend. I really enjoyed the 45th reunion. My regards to all for a wonderful reunion.

Catherine Lang

I don't think I'll be able to attend the reunion this time. The last two were great. My regards to all from up here in Massachusetts.

Steve Denker

Unfortunately, some of us living west of the Hudson cannot join our classmates; we really need about a year to plan. However, I can bring you up to date on the past 10 yrs. which have been interesting!

(Sandy's write-up of these ten years are included in her "Highlights" on our website – www.nyack55.com – Bob).

Though missing in person next weekend my thoughts and wishes for a fabulous reunion for each of you are from the heart.

Sandy Hill

NHS Class of 1955 Scholarship

At our 50th Class Reunion a group of us got together and discussed the possibility of setting up a Class of 1955 Scholarship for a graduating senior from Nyack High School. By 2007 we had the program in place. With your support we have raised close to \$10,000. \$3,000 of that amount has been given distributed since then.

With interest rates being down these days we can't count on that to fund the coming years. So we ask you once again to help with your generous support. We intend to give out \$500 a year until the funds run out – hopefully a long time from now. We have at least another 14 or 15 years with nothing being added. Hopefully we can continue to make this grow by more contributions and by interest growth.

You can make your contribution by sending a check made out to "Nyack High School Class of 1955 Scholarship"....and mail to –

Ms. Gloria Menoutis
Nyack Public Schools
13A Dickinson Avenue
Nyack, NY 10960

Thanks for your help,
55 Scholarship Committee
Alison Church Hyde
Bob Merkert
Ralf Taupmann

NHS Class of 1955 Scholarship Award Winners



2007 Award winner Prashant Bendala with Bob Merkert and Betsy Mettler Growney



2008 Award winner Jessica Gilpin with Betsy Mettler Growney and Firth Haring Fabend



2009 Award winner Yong Kim



2010 Award winner Dylan Sansone with Bob Merkert

Please help us support more students

Classmates address, telephone, and e-mail directory

Our Class of 1955 Directory is located on our website (www.nyack55.com). Bill Schnakenberg maintains this site for us. So please send your changes and updates to him at willshak@hvc.rr.com.

To get to the site use your browser to get to www.nyack55.com.

Next, click on the "button" labeled 'Address List' – (Please note that this a private list and should only be used for personal matters. Thanks)

You will be asked to enter a Username and Password.
These should be entered in lower case only.

The entries are –

Username: for Class of 1955 only (e-mail Bob Merkert – rjmerkert@aol.com)
Password: for Class of 1955 only (or e-mail Bill Schnakenberg – willshak@hvc.rr.com)

You need these only for the Address List. All other "buttons" can be freely entered.

Hope you enjoy the site.

We would love to have your help in locating the classmates that have moved or those of whom we have lost track. We were able to get some updates this time, but there are more that need to be found.

Look for reunion photos to appear on our site in a few weeks.

Thanks for your attendance and support.

Regards,
Bob Merkert
rjmerkert@aol.com

