



GFI

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Webbster & Button



Kent **REMINGTON** . Micanopy . FL
surf@pig.net
blackhawk@mfi.net

About **REM**

Article reprinted from the Gainesville Sun.

K. C. Remington (right) presents Executive Director Bob Grant with a signed Webbster & Button print.

K. C. Remington, who lives in Micanopy, created the strip

“Webbster” a year ago. The title character, a philosophical canine inspired by Remington's dog Mindy, pals around with a cat named Button, whose real-life counterpart was originally named Butt-in-face (his favorite petting position). “That name didn't stick to such a regal cat!” he laughed.

The two characters enjoy fishing, although they've never been known to catch one, and walking on the country lanes of their idyllic town, which often resembles Remington's corner of rural Micanopy.

“Webbster is much more literate than Button, who would rather sit around and look at a lava lamp than read Thoreau,” Remington said. “Button is more of an idea cat, but his ideas are rarely practical.”

Webbster likes to read and quote the classics, a point that Remington is proud of. “I want kids to notice that Webbster is a reader and that he gets a lot of pleasure from it. That's why I often show him with a book or newspaper in his hands, I mean, paws,” he said.

Remington started drawing cartoons as a child, encouraged by his father, a carpet designer who painted in oils on weekends. He went on to study at the New York School of Visual Arts, where “Tarzan” cartoonist Berne Hogarth was his anatomy professor. “He'd draw a torso in a minute and a half, and you just wanted to throw your pad in the air and never come back. He was one of the best,” Remington said.

He majored in film, and upon graduation made documentaries until The Vietnam War intervened. Remington was drafted, but his cartooning skills got him out of a tank division and into the U.S. Army Pictorial Center.



"I did some cartoons on Bainbridge Board for decorations at a high brass retirement party. After that, they were so happy with me, they signed my transfer to The Army Pictorial Center at U.S. Army Europe. I wound up filming everything from the Russian May Day Parade in East Berlin to Generalissimo Franco at the palace in Madrid. There were guys with machine guns everywhere! And they weren't smiling!"

Remington eventually returned to the States and worked on movies such as "Five Easy Pieces," "Easy Rider" and "War Games," and TV shows like "The Love Boat" and "Dallas." Remington returned to the Northeast, then found his way to Florida in search of better weather. "The choice between mowing grass and shoveling snow was a no-brainer," he said.

He is now an independent stock trader, working from his home with three dogs and seven cats while developing "Webbster." "All were orphans," he said. "Mindy was adopted from the New London CT Humane Society, and Button was adopted from the Humane Society in Sarasota. The others came by Divine Intervention."

Although the pressure of coming up with ideas for a daily comic might seem daunting, Remington said it's his highest hope for the strip. "I asked Fred Laswell, who does 'Snuffy Smith' and must be pushing 80, what a typical work week was like for him. He said, 'Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we think up ideas. Thursday we draw 'em, and Friday we mail them off and head for the bar. 'I thought, 'Well, I can do that!'"



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The South Will Rise Again



Harry **NEWMAN** . Alexandria . VA
harrynew@cox.net

After reading that other classmates also remembered the skating pond that I called the Wertheim estate (now known as the "Pomerance Property") in Cos Cob, I decided to do some Googling to see what happened to that property..

The result was very good - the Town recently bought the 118 acre property for parkland. Articles referred to it as a "popular skating pond". It adjoins the Montgomery Pinetum, so there will be continuous public open space.

I'm sure the Greenwich taxpayers paid a very high price for that land, but, it's great to know that future kids will still have it to enjoy.



Sheila **RICE** Evans . Chapel Hill . NC
sheilarevans@yahoo.com

My husband, Seth , and I are leaving for a journey around the world this Saturday !! Seth is a Professor at the University of North Carolina (UNC) and through the Univ of Pittsburgh we are taking a group of students on " Semester at Sea". We leave from Nassau and travel to Cuba, Brazil, Cape Town, Kenya, India, Viet Nam, China, Korea, and Japan and home to Seattle. I have taken a leave of absence from my nursing position and have trained a nurse to fill in for me while I am gone for the semester. We travel on the S. S. Universe Explorer which houses 30 professors and their spouses and approx. 600 students from all over the US. Days at sea are class days and days at each port are open for trips and safaris. We feel very fortunate to be part of this group. I look forward to catching up on the GHS e mails when we return at the end of April. With best wishes to everyone in our class, Sheila



Kelley P. **KAUFMAN** . Boca Raton . FL.
sunnykids@adelphia.net

First I want to give accolades to Bob for the magnificent eReunion he has created and to thank him for the generosity in time.

I wish I could redo the past 41 years and make certain changes in my life, especially those that turned out to be bad choices. However, for the most part, I have been blessed with good health (so far) and a life of good friends and pleasures.

Many of you may remember one of the most beloved stores in Greenwich, which was located at 321 Greenwich Avenue, exactly opposite the Post Office. I am speaking about my family's store called THE MUSIC SHOP, which my parents owned and successfully operated for 25 years. Local celebrities, politicians, businessmen, housewives and students were joined by visiting celebrities and tourists to spend many an hour purchasing the latest LP's or the newest Hollywood or Broadway Soundtrack. There were names like Sinatra, Como, Paige, Duchin, or you might be in there to buy sheet music or to replace a broken guitar or violin string. Of course my family had everything you could want in the world of music. You could purchase a new piano or rent one. The best part was that you could just drop in to visit with Alice and Irving (my parents) and share in the friendly environment. It was a complete and total music store, complete with instruments to buy or brought in for repair, radios, hi-fi's and much, much more. Everyone in THE MUSIC SHOP was always in a good mood. The store went "dark", permanently in 1969 when my parents retired.

In one of the newsletters George Devol wrote of houses having "character" in the neighborhood of Field Point Road, Brookside Drive, Soundview Avenue and Railroad Avenue. George could easily have been describing our home on Field Point Road. Eventually the house became " too large" for my parents to maintain, so they moved to a local condo and sold the property. As time goes on, the house was demolished during urban renewal and replaced by several Townhouses on the



Dining Out with Kelley and Ted



You inquired about our BREAKFAST WITH GEORGE (LaMonica) yesterday (Sunday 18 January 2004) at his restaurant "Mom's Kitchen" in Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Simply put: good food, good service and a great visit.

Walking into the restaurant you are greeted by a hostess to take your name because there was a line of customers waiting for a table. George was sitting behind the register taking in the bucks. We hugged and kissed and I introduced him to Ted. We took 2 pictures together. We chatted and caught a bite, when our names were called for a table. Our simple breakfast choices were really delish and the decaf kept on coming. A large restaurant with an overflow crowd sitting outside waiting for their name to be called for a table. Business is good. Wrong, !!!GREAT!!!

Before we left we read several newspaper reviews of his former restaurant and this place. The writer gave high marks for a warm atmosphere, where folks like to gather to meet friends and dine together and high marks for a homemade type of food that tastes good at reasonable prices. We found all the above true and we will return again. Probably for lunch.

We continued our conversation with George, after we finished our meal. George looked in good health and very happy. His dog "Snuggles" was curled up on a chair with a comfy pillow under her. We returned to our conversation about Greenwich and old times, had a load of laughs. But in time, we had to get going. The restaurant was still packed to capacity, when we left. We considered ourselves lucky to have gotten a parking spot within walking distance to the place. Had it not been for your e-reunion I never would have known George was so near by. Ted and I look forward to visiting with him soon, when we go for lunch at his place.

Gulliver's Poets and the Building of the Week



Tom **GORIN** . Old Greenwich . CT
saxotom@aol.com

Gulliver's came well after we were out of GHS (1972). It was at The Old Post Grill location on the Post Road at the bridge. I played in the house band there in 1972 and 73. It burned down in June, 1974, killing 24 kids, including 2 from my band. I was not in there that night, but did watch the fire from across the street. Some poor kid from nearby Pemberwick was arrested for robbing the cigarette machine in the adjacent bowling alley and setting a fire to cover it. The A/C ducts filled the club with

thick smoke, and the fire spread before everyone could get out. Very sad. I may still have a "Poets" pin.

I will have 2 photos for you soon: one is 1959, John Campbell, Jim Johnstone and me at the St Paul's Fair in Riverside all duded up with clothes bought for 50 cents at the "nearly new" booth, and the



other was taken last weekend in Chicago at Jim's daughter's wedding. The three of us re-shot the photo (in tuxes this time) in the same pose... 45 years later.

By the way, the latest post card is the Havemeyer Building on Greenwich Avenue. Part of GHS when we were there and formerly an elementary school. It had a neat small auditorium with a stage (I remember taking PSAT's there) which held the first Greenwich Philharmonic concerts. It now holds the Board of Education offices. There is a statue of Colonel Bolling in front, which Bob Maxwell and others once improved by painting its nose.



John **McLANE** . New Canaan . CT
jmdane@stauntonmdane.com

The building that was the HS before ours, across the street behind the then town hall and police station had a variety of town offices, including the recreation department. I can remember having meetings on the top floor (read attic) of the

non-air conditioned building on Saturdays in June when we started the town rec soccer program in '59/60. And, in the "remember when" category, each of the 6 teams had to go out and get its own sponsor to pay for uniforms and referees, etc.



Also, the bowling alley on the NY line was the OPG Lanes, where we bowled in youth leagues on Saturday mornings. I think OPG stood for Old Post Grill.