



*Greenwich High School  
Wreadin Writin n Wreminiscin  
Weekly Wreader  
23 May 2004*

*Where Are They Now*



William **CHRISTIANSEN** . Old Lyme . CT  
[wgc55@aol.com](mailto:wgc55@aol.com)

In an eMail from Doris Nusbaum, Arthur Gross's sister. Thought you might like Arthur's address:  
Arthur Gross  
Port Chester, Class of '43  
2500 South Ocean Blvd  
Palm Beach . FL. 33480  
[Clambox1@aol.com](mailto:Clambox1@aol.com)

Also, here's the Coach's new address:  
Charles Luce  
115 Progress Drive  
Doylestown . PA 18901-2560



*Jim from Phoenix*



James **NOWLAND** . Phoenix . AZ  
[jcnsgn@aol.com](mailto:jcnsgn@aol.com)

Reading the last WWNW you sent and was looking at two pics. Just wanted to remind you that I took the pic of Don Newhouse and the gang at Nielson's and the one of Christo and the gang at Manero's.

I was the class photog. I took almost every pic in the yearbook with the exception of the student pics, a few of the basket ball pics, and some of the group shots of teams and clubs. ALL the rest were mine. I had a ball doing it. Don't know if anyone remembers me taking all the candid, but I was showing up everywhere to take candid and "candid" (staged candid). I took every pic you see about the Senior Vaudeville too!

Does ANYONE know where one could possibly get a copy of the '62 Yearbook? Mine was stolen some time ago. I sure wish I had it!





Tris are for KIDS!



Run, Spot, see Jane run, run.

*Me  
Have fun in  
college in the  
future. Been fun  
in a. H. d. Good  
guy to a good  
love ya  
Pat  
(SHOCK)*



Griff who?



A little more leg, please!



Only three more rounds to go, Clarkie-baby.



Another John's Bargain Store!



Are you sure she's only a SOPHOMORE??



Just two tablets in a glass of water . . .



A little more mustard, please, Dr. Kildare.

## *Webbster n Bulton*



## *Castles in the Air*



Eugene **DAVINO** . Greenwich . CT + Chatham . MA  
[eugenedavino@aol.com](mailto:eugenedavino@aol.com)

Gene Davino was in town last weekend, we met for dinner, along with Kathie Temple Azoff, Ginny Theis, George Devol and Bill Christiansen. Bill and Gene "brought" dates. Gene gave me an envelope from JoAnn Lovetri Mandarano, which had a new s-clipping

JoAnn **LOVETRI** Mandarano . Smyrna . DE  
[Joannmandarano@comcast.com](mailto:Joannmandarano@comcast.com)



## *Greenwich Time*

February 1996

### *Their Home is Their Castle*

And it's for Sale at \$5.2M

By Susan Nova

About 23 years ago, Jean and Thomas Willers were looking for a three-bedroom cottage. Instead they bought the Castle on Brookside Drive in Greenwich, complete with 40 rooms and eight bedrooms. "We had lived in Edgar Manor in Greenwich in the 1960s," Thomas Willers said. "In the early 1970s we were living in Beverly Hills in a 26,00 square-foot home. Julie Andrews was one neighbor, actor Randolph Scott another."

But when the oil company he worked for merged with another, the family moved back east. "We wanted a three-bedroom cottage, so we stored our furniture and started looking."

What caused them to change their minds?

“After we got our first bill for the furniture storage, we said why not buy a house and put all the furniture in it?,” Willers said. “We looked around and found the Castle.”



The Castle set on 3.1 hillside acres, with a brook and a waterfall, is now for sale for \$5.2 million, according to the listing agent. The Castle was designed in Italian Renaissance style by architect and artist James C. Green as his own residence. Originally from Missouri, Green designed all three of Greenwich's Castles, Brookside Drive, Hemlock Castle on Hemlock Drive and Crowley Castle off Glenville Road.

Born in 1877, Green studied at L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and traveled throughout Europe, sketching chateaux and cathedrals, according to the Great Estates, published by the Junior League of Greenwich. The Castle, originally just 14 rooms, was a faithful reproduction of a 15<sup>th</sup>-century European castle-fortress, executed in stone and brick quarried locally in Connecticut. The Green Family lived for a decade at Green Castle, which was built between 1903 and 1906.

In 1916, it was purchased by Henry L. Brittain, an industrialist who owned ship-building, drydock and real estate development companies in Alabama, Florida and Georgia. Among his many accomplishments, Brittain was widely reported to be the creator of the ice-cream cone. At his concession stand of the World's Fair of 1898, he is said to have draped small sweet pancakes over scoops of ice cream. Under his ownership, the Castle was renamed to Castle Breatann and several rooms were added. But just 11 years after its purchase, Brittain sold the house to John T. H. Mitchell, president of a New York City advertising agency, Lennan and Mitchell. Mitchell Castle remained in the Mitchell family for the next 45 years, prior to becoming the Willers home.

Between them, the Brittain and Mitchell families more than doubled the size of the Castle and its dependencies resulting in an ultimate square footage, estimated to be just under 17,000. In the exterior courtyard busts of Bach, Beethoven and Brahms welcome visitors arriving under the porte-cochere, whose stone arches are decorated with putti bearing heraldic shields. Below the gabled tile roofs, towers and parapets are 15 fireplaces, 18 levels and rooms varying in scale from grandiose to intimate. Throughout the house are leaded-glass windows, inset with stained glass.

The living room is paneled in chestnut and floored in oak and has a beehive ceiling. There's a billiard room, whose ceiling is beamed, poly-chromed and decorated with putti and what appears to be moon-faced bas reliefs. A two-room Oriental bedroom suite with a moon gate and a red-lacquered Chinese opium bed, and a paneled library with leaded-glass-doored bookcases, window seat and fireplace.

The great hall with 20-foot ceilings, Tennessee marble floors and floor-to-ceiling Palladian windows, has a massive walk-in fireplace, with carved stone surround and spiral columns carved with floral motifs in the Baroque style. A marble staircase rises to the one-time minstrel's gallery that today serves as a television nook. The setting for a debut of the Mitchell's daughter, Ann, the great hall was also the scene of musicales during the Mitchell's tenure. Her mother Anna Mitchell, a pianist and composer, was known as Hart Mitchell, according to the Great Estates.

Formerly the chauffeur's quarters, the refurbished guest house has a living room, dining room, kitchen, petite pub, bedroom and both full and half-baths. The Willers spent five years restoring the Castle. "We rented a house for six or eight months," Thomas Willers said, "Then moved in, but we traveled extensively at that time. We did it room by room. We'd pick the tiles and materials for a room, tell the builders what we wanted done, and then off we went. The last room we did was the kitchen. The floor hadn't been cleaned, we had imagined in 20 years. We demolished the whole room and redid it. Now we just keep it all up."



Less immediately obvious work included three new furnaces, replacement of water piping and the addition of a garage. Outside the massive solarium is a colonnaded swimming pool, where once a sunken rose garden flourished. "One of the best things about the Castle is the quiet and isolation," Willers said. "I've never had a bathing suit on as long as I've lived here." Willers also said that the Castle swimming pool was of World War I vintage, and is believed to be the first private swimming pool installed in Greenwich.



Drained for the day, the pool served as a dance floor for Catherine Deneuve and Jack Lemmon in the 1970 movie "The April Fools". A number of Hollywood movies were filmed at the Castle, among them, "The Perils of Pauline", "When Knighthood was in Flower" and "Cinderella" with actresses such as Marion Davies and Mary Pickford. "We have been offered as much as \$100 grand to let the house be used in a film, but not while we are here," Willers said. The Castle may be imposing in size, but Willers describes it as "homey and comfortable," which he attributes to the decorating of his wife, Jean.

## *Back on the Soapbox*

A lot has happened in the past 12 Months since I started WW-N-W New letters on 01 June 2003, with a story from Ken Bennett [keb66@aol.com](mailto:keb66@aol.com) which read, "After 34 years in 5 different places (mostly New York) selling food for General Foods-Kraft..." and from there we arrive back at the end of the page "Asking for Stories". We have issued 72 editions of Wreadin Writin Wreminiscin, in various formats over a period of 12 months... that is 6 issues a month and I know many have complained about the frequency under which these things come into their eMail

inboxes, and the time it takes to download them, before you can read them. In fact I am aware that some of you may even be "shooting them like fish in a barrel". No matter what you do with them, I will persevere and continue to publish this "rag" until I go "bats" or they cut off my eMail account... whichever comes first.

So what is it that drives me to this insanity? Several of you have raised the question and I have answered them individually. But I will expound for you all, while I have your ear.

42 years ago around the end of June, we all left upon a journey that has taken some of us to the limits of time and place. There are several, who have not followed in our paths and we miss them as they will remain in our minds and hearts as fellow classmates, from a four-year period of time called High School. My chosen path was quite circuitous and so, it seems, has been that of others, that have chosen to write for the WW-N-W Newsletters. But what separates those from the others, is the significant reason for my selection to run a newsletter for a bunch of 60 year old teenagers. I have received numerous eMails that have thanked me for writing the newsletter and encouraging me to continue with my efforts... The one recurring theme in most of these communications, is the request for more of our famous story line requests:

## *What Have You Done With the Last 42 Years?*

This is the single most asked about feature in the WW-N-W Newsletter and yet it is also the basis of the original idea created by Ron Brander, last year at this time. He was wondering how could we have a "vehicle" for communication between old classmates and friends. At that time we had about 50 members on the eMails. Today, we have about 160 and growing, we have lost a few due to electronic "bugs" and changes of providers.

## *What am I Rambling About?*

If you like the Newsletter and don't wish to see it die after only one year of life, you'll take "keyboard" in hand and send us a little something... we even take ideas... we are open to suggestions, and we appreciate "kudos"... but we won't publish anything that is too racy for our 60 year-old blood, nor anything political or hateful. I may consider some racy material only if it includes "me"... In which case I will read it several times and send it back with a nice letter of apology for not publishing it.