

Greenwich High School  
Wreadín Writín n Wreminiscín  
Weekly Wreader . Volume I  
04 July 2004



## A New Look



Bob **McMILLAN** . Scarsdale . NY  
[bcmillan@bbbarch.com](mailto:bcmillan@bbbarch.com)  
[ghs1962reunion@acedsl.com](mailto:ghs1962reunion@acedsl.com)

As we enter a new year of publishing, we are out to freshen up our image and bring a little light into the dark tunnels of our minds to see if we can find some of those lost veins of memories. It has been a busy week leading up to the Holiday, and we have been swamped with responses to the Picnic at the Point coming up in October.

Last Sunday, we had our third Dinner at the Diner, to our surprise, we were met by Bill Vanneman and Bud Titsworth Class of 1961. Of course Bill, flew down from Boston MA and "yes, his arms were tired", but he had the help of his own plane. Bud was there at the airport in Bridgeport to bring him to Stamford.

My assignment was to find out what we could do for the Saturday before and the possibility of upgrading the picnic to a clambake. Below is my report from Fjord's Fisheries in Cos Cob.

The day before... Saturday... "Public Boats" (Non-Leased) are only available for Sunday Brunch, or Monday, Wednesday and Friday Night Dinner Cruises... all of which will curl your socks... but they don't have a Saturday "Public Boat"... If you want to rent... the boats start at \$2,850.00 plus the food at the \$59 - 75 per head... booze is additional at \$12.00/head for beer and \$32.00/head for the Hard stuff

### Sunday Brunch

Made to order omelets, raw bar, assorted quiches, bagels & muffins, pastries & croissants  
waffles & pancakes with strawberries & cream, french toast, smoked fish station  
carved chateaubriand & spiral ham with complementing sauces  
imported & domestic cheese display, green salad, sliced fruit platter  
assorted homemade cookies & fudge brownies, coffee service  
two complementary drinks  
\$59.00 per person, \$25.00 per child  
(tax additional)

The clambake at Tod's, will cost \$52.00/head for food and \$12.00/head for beverage (beer, wine and soda) \$32.00/head (Hard Stuff). Then on top of that, there is an 18% surcharge for the trucking and delivery to Tod's. In all it would come to \$75.00-100.00 per person... a far stretch for our \$25.00 Budget.

We will be having the next Dinner at the Diner on Sunday 25 July 2004 to hash out the arrangements for the Saturday events and develop a "menu" for the picnic. We welcome any and all suggestions.

## New Kids on the Block



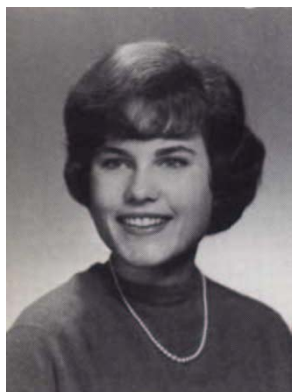
Frank **HOFFMEISTER** . Oshkosh . WI

[hoffmeis@uwosh.edu](mailto:hoffmeis@uwosh.edu)

The American lyric tenor Frank Hoffmeister has performed as soloist with many prestigious organizations throughout the USA, Europe, and South America. He has sung with many major orchestras including: the Boston Symphony – with whom he recorded Stravinsky's Oedipus Rex under Leonard Bernstein, Rome (Italy) Radio Orchestra, American Symphony, Oregon Symphony, and the Saint Louis Symphony. Mr. Hoffmeister has performed as guest soloist with ensembles such as: the Handel and Haydn Society (Boston), the Opera Company of Boston, Grant Park Concerts (Chicago), Baroque Institute (Oberlin, Ohio), 20th Century Consort and Smithsonian Chamber Players (Washington, D.C.), Waverly Consort, New York Chamber Soloists and the Newport Music Festival. Included among his 21 recordings are best selling albums with the Waverly Consort, Bach's B minor Mass (BWV 232) and Magnificat (BWV 243) with Joshua Rifkin's Bach Ensemble, and recordings with Lukas Foss, Peter Schickele, and the late Leonard Bernstein. He has also collaborated with conductors Sergiu Comissiona, and Gerard Schwartz.

Recent performances include: Bach Chamber Choir (Rockford, IL), Elvehjem Museum (Madison, WI), Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra, WI Public Radio (Madison, WI), Lakeshore Chorale, Wabash College, and recitals in England (London, Cambridge, Colchester) and North Wales. In October 1997 his new CD "August Was Foggy" was released. On the CD, Mr. Hoffmeister sings vocal chamber music of John Harbison, Michael Cunningham, Bruce Wise, and Lester Trimble.

Frank Hoffmeister is currently Associate Professor of Music and the coordinator of the vocal division at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.



Susan **HOWARD** Blake . Santa Fe . NM

[wbb@cybermesa.com](mailto:wbb@cybermesa.com)

## Listed Among the Missing

As the snail mail continues it's excruciatingly slow process across the "American Landscape", the ripples settle back on the shores of Tod's Point and the beaches at Old Lyme. The amounts of returns are dwindling and the rise of "receipts" appears to have won the battle. Bill Christensen

reports: "two more "missing in action" letters were returned by the post office. They are, Barbara **DEANDRESSI** Mescall and Christian **JACOBSEN**. Then in from Kathie Temple Azoff, we have Pamela **CUMING**, Janet **HURLEY**, Thomas **RUTTKAMP** and William **YANTORNO**.

## Webbster n Button



## Mindy n Button



Flanking K. C. Remington are Mindy and Button, the real life characters behind Webbster and Button.

Our cartoonist K.C. Remington (REM) has created a new character. He will appear off and on as a new friend of Webbster and Button. We like him a lot. Frankly, between us, and not to be spread around, he does not seem so bright and somewhat sleepy. However he is a lovable, likable, nice character that we all would like to get to know.

REM does not have a name for him. Webster and Button seem as perplexed as the rest of us.

He needs a name and you can help! Please send your suggestions to:

[wbcontest@alachuahumane.org](mailto:wbcontest@alachuahumane.org).

The best name will be selected by a panel of eminent judges. The person whose name has been selected will receive a personalized color copy of the cartoon shown. REM will inscribe the cartoon to the winner of our contest.

## North Street School and George Devol in a Dress

Yes that's right, He's in there and so are a lot of you.



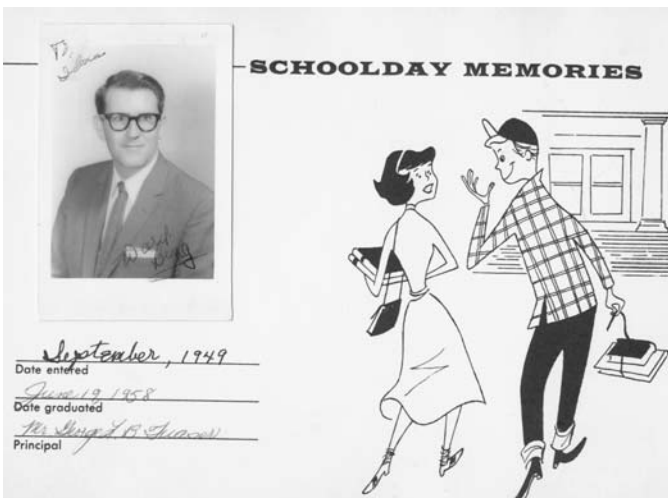
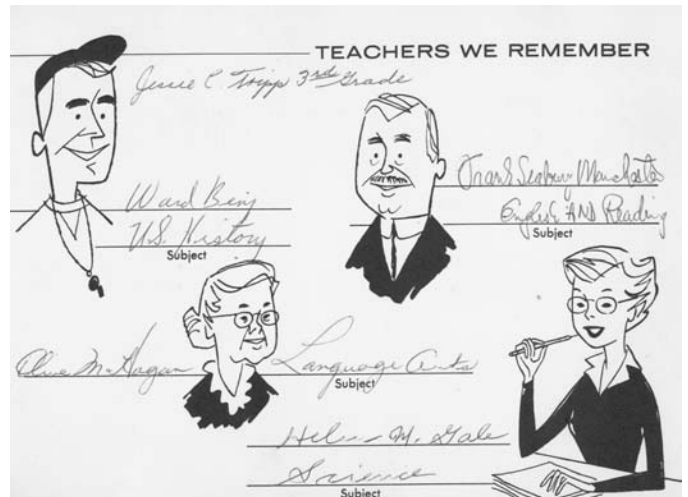
# Byram School - A Memory in Passing



Ilona **GALASSO** Mendicino . Lecanto . FL  
[gypsyfl@yahoo.com](mailto:gypsyfl@yahoo.com)

(Editor's Note: I normally do not list the "praises" that I receive for doing the "newsletter", and tend to gripe about those not sending in their 42 years, but over a period of several days, Ilona Galasso Mendicino and I shared some of our experiences of growing up in Byram. I was not a member of the class at Byram School, but I knew the building and this past weekend, drove by the location where it once stood. It's now home to Multi-million dollar Condominiums.)

WOW! and Whew! I've spent many hours reading through all the back issues of the newsletters. How can I ever thank you for 1.) taking the time to organize & write all these issues and 2.) to patiently email all the back issues to me. I'm humbled by your dedication & thoughtfulness. In some respect this has been a trip down memory lane, but also it has been gratifying to read about the wonderful & diverse lives so many of our classmates have lived and are continuing to live. The accomplishments of our class have me in awe. I'm grateful for those "special" friends who saw my email address & have taken the time to email me. Renewing these old friendships and "catching up" on 42 years of life has put some new meaning into my life. For this I am ever grateful.



In case, you don't remember me... that's ok. I was the quiet, shy one who always had her homework done & never made any waves. Teachers loved me! Stands to reason that teaching has been my lifelong career... next to motherhood. But my life for the last 42 years is a topic for another email. I'm still trying to figure out how to compress it into a reasonable readable format and not ramble.

I was pleased to see so many of our class have migrated to Florida over the years. Kent Remington lives just "up the road a piece" in Micanopy and Ron Fuller lives about an hour and a half south. Most of the others are farther away. George Lamonica is in Ft. Lauderdale and since my son lives in that area and will be getting married in November, I will plan to make a visit to George's Restaurant on one of my trips "south".

On the topic of old yearbooks...I have the Byram School Yearbook for 1958 along with several other classroom photos of the members of that class. The names are even there! If you will send

me your snailmail address, I would be happy to send these to you for you to scan. You can even solicit comments for the newsletter. Here is mine:

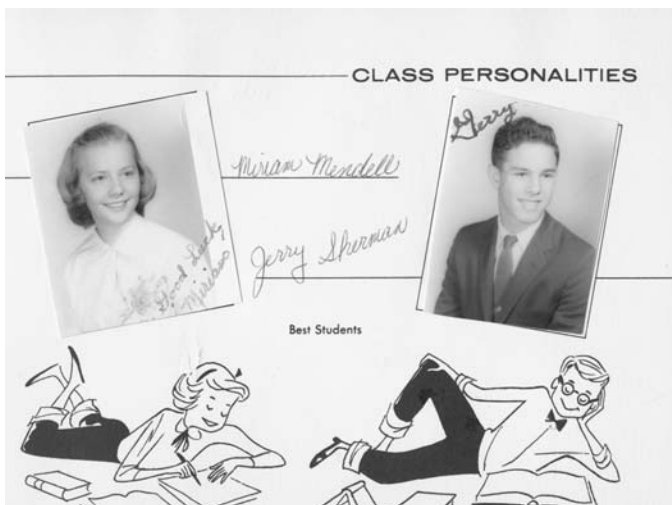


Remember "Friday Nighters" at the (?)Park dancing to a jukebox. It always started with the girls on one side of the room & guys on the other. Of course, I also remember our "ugly" gym suits that had to be starched & ironed and the "dance" lessons we were forced to take. What fun!"

"Byram School was a warm, happy and safe place for me. Our classes were small & our teachers were great. Who can forget Mr Frasier, our principal? Or Mr. Manchester, our 8th grade English teacher. (Were all the girls "in love" with him or what?) He used to close all the shades, shut off the lights and read us Edgar Allen Poe by candlelight. What about Mr. Yantorno?



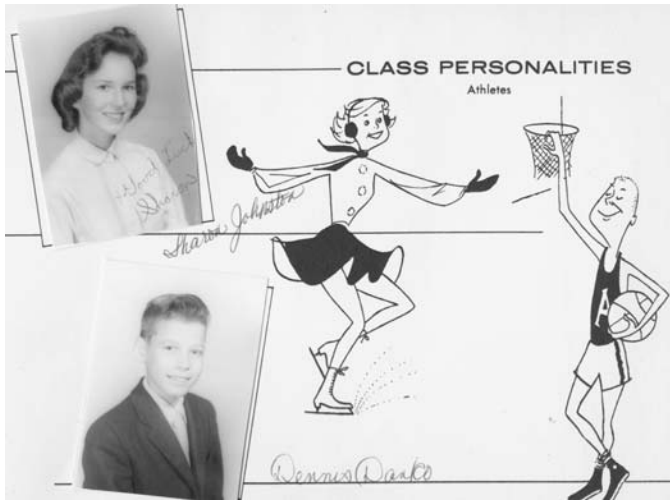
On the weekend of the Dinner at the Diner, I drove up to Stamford, taking a detour through the roads of Byram, primarily off the Post onto North Water and down through the village to South Water. Along the way I passed, Byram School, Jack Belicka's House and where his dad used to have a his Shop, Bruce's Grover C. Cunningham's Body Shop, Sacred Heart Church up the Hill, Interstate Lumber, (where I worked on weekends during the day, before going up to the Clam Box to work nights), and Rudy's Bait and Tackle. And the place hasn't changed one iota.



Byram School holds many fond memories for me. It's sad to think that it is no longer a school. My dad worked for Interstate Lumber for about 40 years until he died at age 57 in 1963. (I was 19 at the time.) So there is another memory. I think the church you are referring to be the one I attended.. Sacred Heart Catholic Church. I made all my sacraments there... including the marriage that didn't last! I remember Jack Belicka, the name but not much else after all



these years. I was at the 35th reunion & drove around the area that weekend. You're right not much had changed. It was like stepping back in time. I will get the yearbook & some other photos in the mail to you this week.



Some other recollections, I remember Ward's Castle was just up the road from my parent's house on Hickory Drive. For a long time when I was young it was a fun spot to sled until someone bought it & closed it off. There were only a couple of streets on my side of the Byram River (across the river from Pemberwick) that were in CT. The rest of the area was NY. I think we had to actually drive into NY to get out of our road. I had to walk from my house to down past the little bridge on Pemberwick Road, near what used to be Homelite Industries, to catch the bus. Talk about having to walk up hill both ways in the

snow! My kids still don't believe me. I also remember the Old Post Grill ( we called it the OPG ) & the bowling alley...the dividing line between NY & CT.



Judy Dudas

Russell Monahan

Nancy Freccia

Nick Zarra

Rosemary Finocchio

George Svorka

Janice Campiformio

Houa Galasso

Romy Fuller

Jean Danko

Mr. Ward O. Ding  
Teacher

Arthur Studwell

Jo Ann Tripodi

Joseph Chairat

Gerry Sherman

Sharon Johnston

Keith Schubert

Dennis Danko

Mary Zumbo

Jackie Belicka

Pieter Breilner

Frank Nantorno

Anthony Gasparino

Richard Pitocco

Clifford Barber

Lionel Raymond

Robert Backlund

Thomas Manuli

502  
80  
Pilot

June 1958

Yes, I noticed in the newsletters that some of our classmates had gone into education as a career. I think one of the strengths of a good school system is how many of the high school graduates come back to teach or going into teaching on any level. Several of us (Chris Zygmunt, Lynn Sarafin) went on the Central Conn State after high school. I had to drop out for awhile (for about 2 years) after my dad died...no money to continue. However, after I married (1965) I went back & really took some heavy loads & graduated only one year late (1967). It was well worth the sacrifice.



Yes, I remember the skating on the frozen Byram River. Unfortunately I was never much of a skater...bad arches & a fear of falling & embarrassing myself...so I mostly stood around & tried to look happy. How amazing that you worked for Interstate Lumber! My dad's name was Angelo. He was the foreman & then draftsman in the mill around the time you would have worked there. That was me driving the BIG pink & black Buick to pick him up . He & I shared a car. More later... I promised my daughter I'd proof read a paper she just finished for one of her graduate classes.

Now we really have a lot in common... The Big Pink and Black Buick was most likely a 1955 Buick Century because my Father who was a builder and used Interstate as his home base used to drive a Baby (powder) Blue and White version of the same car... Also if you read the attached Editorial issued back in July of Last year, you will see that I too attended Central Connecticut State College... And we both experienced the Cuban Missile Crisis in the same location.... It's funny, but that was one of the only memories I have of CCSC, and that I lived on Sachem Street in New Britain, for 9 months of My life...





Yes, I remember reading that you had attended CCSC if only briefly. And yes, I remember the Missile Crisis and also the BIG East Coast Blackout. Funny, about the Buicks. I remember driving it to high school & parking it along one of the side streets across from the high school because I was embarrassed to park it among the MGs & Triumphs! I was just a poor kid from a working class family, too. Bet our fathers knew each other from Interstate dealings. Small world!. I guess since we did not go to the same "grammar" schools, we did not know each other. GHS was a pretty big school. The school I work in now has about 1350 students and that is really too big. It

was nice when it was under 1000. It was easier to know the kids & keep tabs on everyone. Times have changed SOOOOOOOOOO much.