

Greenwich High School
Wreadin Writin n Wreminiscin

Weekly Wreader

08 January 2005



The Ray Malone Scholarship Fund



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I received this email tonight from a late 60's GHS grad. Ray Malone taught our class at Riverside and Eastern. When Mr Mack left he went to GHS. I'm sure many Senior Choristers started with Ray Malone and would be interested.

TO ALL FORMER STUDENTS OF MR. RAY MALONE:

We want to let you know about a scholarship, the Ray Malone Award for Excellence in Choral Music, which is being established by Greenwich High School in honor of Mr. Malone. It will be given annually to two students who, in addition to being fine vocalists, also demonstrate the teamwork and professional performance standards required of all music students. It will be the choral department's highest honor.

The creation of this award was proposed by several choral alumni from the Class of 1969 who have become reacquainted in the last few months. Through correspondence with each other, it is apparent that we share very special memories of our time in the GHS choruses and that we remain inspired to this day by Mr. Malone's love of music, positive attitude and zest for life. It is fitting to honor new generations of talented students by recognizing one of the school's finest teachers.

We know that Mr. Malone's influence extends well beyond our small circle and so we are trying, with the reach of the internet, to spread the word about this effort. Please forward this email to anyone you know who would be interested (former students at Eastern Junior High or Greenwich High, parents of students, colleagues and friends) and ask for their support. Contributions may be sent to:

The Ray Malone Scholarship Fund
c/o Patrick Taylor, Director of Choirs
Greenwich High School
10 Hillside Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING US TO HONOR THIS GREAT TEACHER!

Contributions are tax-deductible and a receipt will be issued.

The Ray Malone Award for Excellence in Choral Music will be formally dedicated and the first recipients announced at the GHS Choral Pops Concert on June 8, 2005 at the school. All are invited to attend!

For further information, please contact Patrick Taylor at GHS at (203)863-8809 or Joan Lash, GHS alum, at (919)933-1266.

Would You Buy a Car From this Man



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Okay, I know a lot of you are not too excited about this, but I bet almost all of your parents bought a car at one of these places while you were attending school in Greenwich.

When you are a kid there is always something that sparks your interest and continues with you into your adult life. Perhaps the interest developed into a career, or maybe just a favorite hobby or pastime. For me it was cars. My father always tinkered with cars, but he didn't do anything to encourage my interest in them. Rather, I think it was where we lived in Greenwich that got me interested in cars. We lived on Brookside Drive, the section north of the Post Road, not the section that was near GHS. We lived there from 1948 until 1967 (in my years from about age 5 to age 23). We lived in a garage apartment on a piece of property that was about 4 acres in size. A family named Rice owned the property. You couldn't ask for a better place to grow up. The property was just a few driveways down from the Post Road and there was a long driveway going over a bridge (over Horseneck Brook) to the house. Once you were on the property you would never know it was so close to the Post Road and Town. It was beautifully landscaped and the owners pretty much let us play around any part of it. On one side was Brookside Park, a small private areas with about four or five houses, the other side for most of the time we lived there was wooded property that went down to Edgewood Drive, and the other part parallel the commercial area of the Post Road - an area close to many of the car dealerships. I always enjoyed walking around and exploring the back areas of the dealerships, looking at the new cars and checking out some of the old trade-ins.



From my memory (please correct me for any errors or spelling of names) this is how I remember them. Starting from the Port Chester line and working towards Greenwich on the Post Road, the first dealership was on the left hand side just past the top of the big hill. I think it was on the corner of the Post Road and Weaver Street. It was Paul Bruck and Sons, the Nash and Rambler dealership. Later they also were the first dealership for Datsun (now known as Nissan). A little further up on the right hand side in a building that I don't exist any more was Luigi Chinetti Motors the Ferrari dealership. [\(Editor's Note: Luigi Chinetti was a famous Le Mans racer, with several victories](#)

[including the Alfa Romeo in a painting called the "Spirit of Le Mans" in 1934, at left\)](#) About a mile past this on the left hand side almost across from where McDonald's is located was Bridge Motors, which sold Dodge, and some Chryslers. They had an odd arrangement as it was a very old dealership that could sell some competing Chrysler products that other Greenwich dealership had, but not some of the others - all very confusing. Just down from it was the dealership for International Motors. They also owned the school bus company which I think was called Mead. A little further down on the same lefthand side was McKeever Chevrolet, which later became Seymour Chevrolet. Next door to it, at the corner of the Post Road and Edgewood Drive was Eastman Motors which was the Lincoln and Mercury dealership. Just up on the right hand side was Blanchard-Pray (later Pray Motors when Blanchard was killed in a racing accident) which

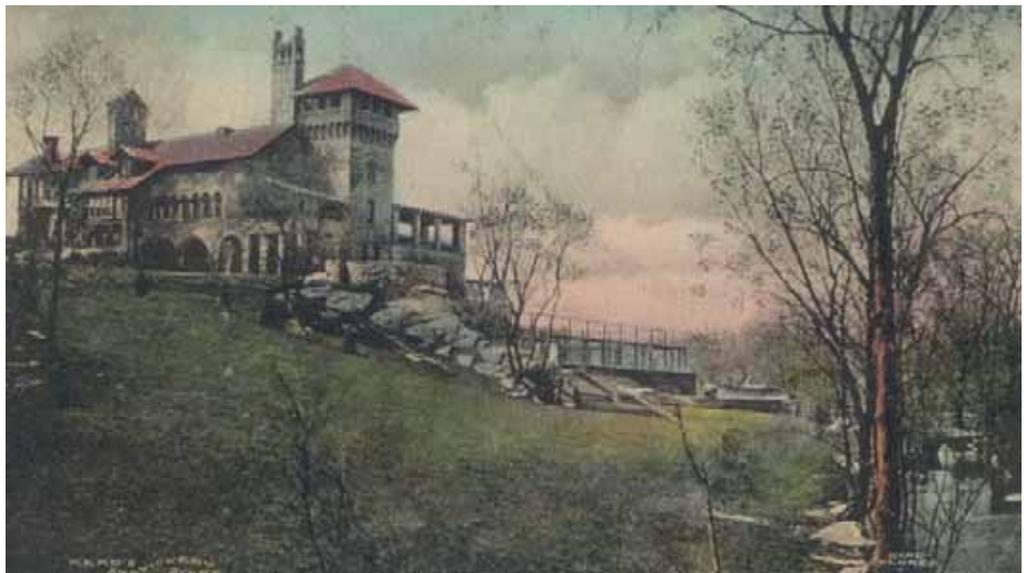
was the VW dealership. Across the street and adjoining the property where I lived was the Edsel dealership which was owned by either the step-father or uncle (I can't remember which) of classmate Biff McGilpin. Continuing up the Post Road, past what is now the Library was New England Motors which was the Buick and for awhile Studebaker dealership owned by the father of class of 61' Hank Minchin (Hank I believe still owns the Buick and GMC dealership in Stamford). (Editor's Note: Before the Minchin Brothers dealership was an Allen Brothers Oldsmobile-Cadillac Dealer, where Jeff Tunick's Father [or Uncle] had a standing deal to replace his Caddy with a new one at the beginning of every model year. Secondly, the McMillan family only owned Buicks and they only came from the Minchins at New England Motors. In 1962, the Buick, like the one at the right side of this page, was fighting for the first spot in the parking lot at GHS. Bob Cassone had the next spot). Going further up the Post Road and down on Church Street was Peabody Motors. Peabody was (and still is) one of the best places to buy a used car in Greenwich. The building was originally stables for horses and carriages. For a period during WWII, Dave Peabody told me that Eastman (of the mentioned Lincoln/Mercury) used that building for the Packard Dealership it ran.



The next area of car dealerships was concentrated along and near Railroad Ave. At the corner of Arch Street was the Chrysler/Plymouth dealership owned by Mike Marano. Across the street and at the corner of Arch Street was the Cadillac dealership (I think it is now the Lexus dealership). The building had a second floor where cars could be driven up (I think it and a few others along Railroad Ave where carriage stables at one time. It would make sense being so close to the train station). Almost next to it was Greenwich Motors which was the Pontiac Dealership. Going past Greenwich Ave on Railroad Ave up to the corner on Mason Street was D'Elia Motors which was the Dodge dealership (they sell another brand now). Just past it on Milbank Avenue was Town & Country Motors (Now Griffin Ford) the Ford dealership.

Perhaps the oddest place for a dealership was Allen Brothers, the Oldsmobile dealership it was located almost in an alleyway next to Greenwich Drug and it occupied a three-story building! Cars could be driven up to the third floor. Later I think they moved to a building that used to be a bowling alley that was next to what is now the Greenwich Library. It later became Grassi Cadillac, but it since has been torn down to expand the library.

Rather oddly, I can not recall any car dealerships in Cos Cob, Riverside, Old Greenwich, or Glenville. I also don't recall the dealerships (if they existed) in Greenwich for Kaiser/Frazer, Hudson, Willys, and Studebaker prior to Minchin selling them.

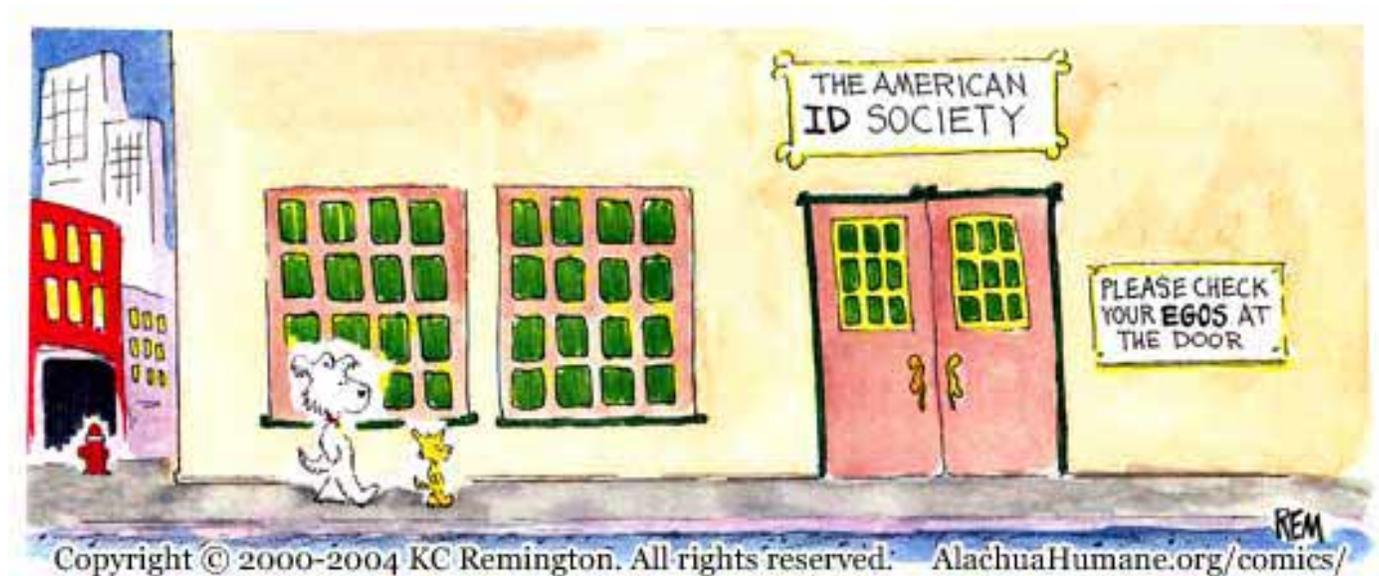


The best part about exploring all of them was that each car was different, not at all like today's look alike cars. The dealerships were also a good place to shop for a used

car. Many of them always seemed to have some \$25 or \$50 wonders (you wondered if they would run for a day or for a year) for us highschoolers who couldn't afford anything else.

Also, my brother mentioned to me that the Castle on Brookside Drive recently sold for \$4-5 million. A low price considering it is Greenwich, but perhaps not surprising as it is a style of home not in high demand today and the upkeep must be staggering. Uncommon today for Greenwich is that I believe the people selling it were only the third owners. It was started by a man named Greene around 1910 (I think), then the Mitchell's owned it up to about the late 60s when the present owner purchased it.

Webbster n Button



Perrot Library Marks Century

By Sabrina Banes Staff Correspondent
The Greenwich Time

08 January 2005

In 1904, five women from Old Greenwich banded together, determined to establish a local library in their neighborhood. The group was successful, and this year the Perrot Memorial Library is celebrating its 100th birthday.

The library will mark its centennial with a yearlong celebration that kicks off at 2 p.m. tomorrow with a talk by local historian Anne MacDonald.

Philanthropist Annie de Camp Porter made Perrot a reality when she donated \$1,000 to the effort under one condition: The



institution must be named after John Perrot, Porter's great-grandfather. Perrot moved to Old Greenwich in 1767, and after his arrival he opened a private boy's school in the area.

The library opened Oct. 5, 1905, at Sound Beach School, and in 1916 moved to a Sound Beach Avenue storefront between a grocer and a coal-yard office. Over the years, the Perrot family continued to support the institution, and after several large donations, the Perrot Memorial Library opened at its current location at 90 Sound Beach Ave. in 1931. The new building, on land donated by architect Dan Everett Waid, was modeled after Thomas Jefferson's home at Monticello, VA

Librarian Edythe Black, who ran the library with her sister Peg Black from 1929 to 1957, said in her oral history that when Perrot first moved to 90 Sound Beach Ave., it was a lonely time for the library staff.

"People hadn't gotten used to walking all that way. They thought the library was so far out of town," She said. "We felt a little bit lost for awhile because we were so used to being in the center of things. Then people just flocked through there and were happy to do it."

Nowadays, Perrot gets almost 210,000 library visits a year.

"It's really the centerpiece of our community," said Karen Taggart, co-chair of the Perrot Memorial Centennial Campaign and secretary of the library's board of directors. "You can walk in here and see people of all ages, and invariably you know somebody."

Brad Fisher, president of the library's board of directors, added that the library is not only a place that fosters community in Old Greenwich, but is also a comfortable, quiet place to relax.

"Whenever I have some serious work to do and I don't want to be interrupted, I go there," he said.



Another of Perrot's highlights is its children's program, said centennial campaign co-chair Debby Southwick. She began patronizing the library when her children were babies, she said. Her oldest is now 14.

A separate children's wing was completed in 1998, which Director Kevin McCarthy said came about as a result of the popularity of children's programs at the library. Other than the addition of the children's wing, the library looks much the same today as it did when it was first built in 1930.

Perrot Memorial Library is affiliated with the Greenwich Public Library but is a separate entity supported by the Town of Greenwich.

Perrot will hold events throughout the year that highlight the library's history, including a May 22 lecture by author Mortimer Frank, a June 12 family storytelling festival, and the Oct. 15 gala cocktail celebration, which follows the library's official Oct. 5 birthday and is the culmination of the year's activities.



Do you recognize anyone in the three photos above, the dates are reputed to be in 1962 and 1963. It's my best Guess that the person center in the lower photo is Linda Williams Smiley

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