

"WISE OLD OWL'S"

Official Newsletter of Lynbrook High School Classes of 1948 to 1959

Lynbrook, NY

December 2019

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"Hi" to all my classmates & alumni of LHS, I hope this finds you all well and happy. This is the one hundred & twenty-eighth edition of our class (LHS'52) and the twenty-fifth since we invited graduates from the years 1948 to 1959 to join us in keeping in touch with our alumni. Send us the birth and anniversary date of you and your spouse if you wish to be included in our monthly "Notable Dates" section. Please send in some news to share with your alumni !!! How is your job going? Have you scheduled a vacation? How was your last vacation? Any operations scheduled? Have you relocated? How do you like your new home? Are you in an assisted living home? Would you recommend it? Here is a format to tell us all about your life. A lot of us are interested in knowing how your life is going so submit some information to share. I'll repeat.. As Lew Ross (LHS'52) wrote..."I think it would be nice to hear what our classmates are up to and that they still remain on the right side of the grass." Let us hear from you! The class of '52 published a class directory which was distributed during our 50th reunion held in Port Jefferson, NY in Sept. 2002. The directory included spouses name, children's and grandchildren's names, address, telephone & email number, and a brief history of our lives since graduation. We invite our alumni to send in some information about their lives since graduation, are you married? how many children & grand children? where do you live now? would you like to submit a brief history about your life since graduation? The Newsletter is distributed by email once a month. All news received is "cut & pasted" into an email format for distribution. If you do not have email capabilities give me the email address of a family member or friend that would receive it for you & I'll send it there. We had decided not to include jokes (although several of us have our own distribution list for jokes). Any thing sent to me is included in the Newsletter unless you advise me not to include something. Please include your email address and year of graduation (LHS'52) etc. with your submittal. Several of our alumni have suggested that we include the town we live in so that we could see if any of our alumni live near us. I have this information for the class of '52 and will start adding this information. If others will let me know where they live I will add that also. I think this was a great idea and thank all that suggested it.

So that's it! We welcome our alumni aboard and ask that they notify their classmates of our existence and request for news.

Editing News Submittal: This newsletter is meant as a place you can reminisce about our high school days, to stay in touch with your alumni and to find out how their lives are going. Please do not send in political or religious notes nor other inflammatory statements, they will be edited out at the sole discretion of the editor. Thanks for understanding.

December Notable Dates

December Birth dates..... Pamela Fischer.....	
Dec. 1	
	Donald Carlsen.....Dec. 14
	Terri (DeRuvo) Weston.....Dec. 21
	Jack Weston Dec. 22
	Clare (Juddson) Kagel..... Dec.30
	Jack Mac Donald..... Dec.?
December Anniversaries Don Mitchell & wife Nan	
Dec. 5	
	Lloyd Gelb & wife Beverly.....
Dec 24	
	Neysa (Nadler) & husband Mike Lavenstein.....
Dec. ?	
	Paul E. Nehrich & wife Marilyn.....
Dec. 26	

December 2019 News Articles & Recent Letters to the Editor

Don Roth (LHS'58)

Lynbrook, NY

email: droth3740@verizon.net

(11/7/19)

Not sure if many of you follow politics but there was a big election yesterday at the West End Elementary School. West End is now grades 1-5 as the Kindergartners attend their classes at the old Atlantic Avenue School while the former Junior High, now called North/South Middle Schools, hold grades 6-8. Well, the West End class body voted for their School President yesterday and I am proud to say my grand daughter, Lily Sloan, was elected PRESIDENT OF WEST END ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. She ran on a platform requesting Mozzarella sticks as an added item for lunches , movies in the gym every other Friday night so classmates can "hang together" and the purchase of a volleyball net so they can play volleyball during recess time in the gymnasium or outside during the warmer weather. That all seemed to give her the edge over the other three nominees.

She is now working on her acceptance speech next week.

Don Roth

Class of 1958 and

Class of 1954 at West End.

(11/7/19)

It looks like the LIRR work has begun on the Lynbrook LIRR station. The workers are now dismantling the upstairs platform waiting rooms and new waiting rooms will be added along the way. It's a slow process as there is a lot of repair work to be done on the platforms, the ticket office, new escalators and the supports holding the tracks in place. I'd say maybe a year or longer before it is all completed but it's a start now at last.

Don Roth
Class 1958

(11/9/19)

Yes, the TOY HALL OF FAME has announced this years inductees into The Strong National Museum of Play located in Rochester, New York. The winners for the 2019 year were:: MATCH BOX CARS, (I had a few), Disney Coloring book (coloring books were started by the McLoughlin Brothers back in 1880's) and The card game Magic, The Gathering (never heard of it).

These three inductees narrowly beat out Care Bears, The Top, Nerf Blaster, Fisher-Price Corn Popper, My Little Pony and the Smartphone. The criteria to be selected are Longevity, innovation, ability to foster creativity and discovery through play.

If you have any of these put them on Ebay as they may be worth some bucks!.

BTW, I am saving my Hess trucks as one day they will be inducted for sure.

Don Roth
Class of 1958

(11/12/19)

The Fall sports season has ended for the Lynbrook Owls varsity teams. The football team finished with a 4-4 league record that was good enough for them to finish in 8th place in their league putting them into the Play-offs. The lost their first Play-off game to North Shore 34-12 finishing with a final record of 4-5 for the season.

The Varsity Girls Volleyball team was seeded second in the County in Class A Play-offs and lost to Southside in the Semi-Finals 3 sets to 1 set finishing with a 12-5 over-all record.

The Girls Cross Country team won their Class A Team Championship albeit they had nobody finish higher than 6th in the final race but did manage to have many of the other spots from 10-20 finishing with Lynbrook runners giving Lynbrook enough points tabulated to be declared the TEAM Class A Champion.

The Boys Soccer team made the Play-offs only to lose their first Play-off game to Lawrence 5-1. The Girls Soccer team just about managed to finish with an over all record of close to .500. The Varsity Girls Swimming team

for the first time in many years did not have any swimmers set any new records and finished with a record that put them in 4th place.

One of last years Girls swimmers, Sara Gaudet, is swimming for James Madison on a scholarship, if anyone living in that area wishes to go see her perform.

The Winter sports season begins November 4th with physicals and try-outs.

This was a pretty successful Fall season for the owls.

Don Roth

Class 1958

(11/15/19)

The Lynbrook School District was recent informed of the passing of former teacher MIKE MELKONIAN. Mike taught math, driver's education then was a guidance counselor for the remainder of his career at LHS. Mike had to be in his early-mid 90's at his passing. I do know he dealt with stomach cancer over ten years ago as I would often join Mike and a few other retired teachers for lunch at a local diner once a month. You wouldn't know the others as they began at LHS in the mid to late 60-70's.

Don Roth

Class of 1958

(11/19/19)

The latest LIRR news is that the railroad has decided to close 23 of their ticket offices at 23 stations including Lynbrook in that group.

Starting April 1, 2020 all traveling from Lynbrook will have to buy their tickets from the ticket machines located inside the waiting room area or outside if the waiting room is closed after a certain hour. Work is still being done on the track level waiting rooms and the down stairs room where the ticket office is now located, but won't be longer, and will get a upgrade in appearance and food stand.

Things are looking good for the Lynbrook LIRR station. Westwood won't be touched as it is a seldom used line. I wonder if the kids still put pennies on the tracks at Westwood waiting for a train to flatten them? Those were the days.

Don Roth

Class 1958

Jeanne (Graf)(Munz)(LHS'53) & husband John Engel

Vero Beach, FL/ Cape Neddick, Maine

email: jjmytime@maine.rr.com

(10/24/19)

Dear Jim,

Just read in the latest November WOO about your wife Marja's stroke. I'm so very sorry for you both. I just want you to know that you're both in my prayers. God bless you both.

Jeanne Graf Munz Engel, '53, Cape Neddick, Maine

Sandra (Hirsch)(LHS'55) Liss & husband Norman

Bronx, NY

email: sandiliss@earthlink.net

sandijliss@gmail.com

(10/25/19)

Dear Jim:

I am so sorry to hear of this awful pile-up of severe medical issues for Maria. Hopefully, your next news will be much much better. Best to you and Marja, Sandi Hirsch Liss ('55)

Raymond Barry (LHS'57)

West Hollywood, CA

email: raymondbarry@yahoo.com

(10/25/19)

Dear Jim,

At the age of eighty, I recently performed the leading role of 'Harry Byrd' in the film 'Free Byrd', shot this past September. After graduating from Brown University, did twenty-three years of New York stage, followed by some fifty films over the decades, including the role of Tom Cruise's father, 'Mr. Kovic', in 'Born on the Fourth of July', 'Walk Hard', 'The Ref', 'Interview with the Assassin' and four seasons on the television series, 'Justified', the role of 'Arlo', Timothy O'Leary's father. Have four healthy kids and married for thirty years to Robyn Mundell.

Yours truly, Raymond J. Barry, Lynbrook class of 1957

Laurel (LHS'59) Brake

email: l.brake@bbk.ac.uk

(10/25/19)

Until 29 Oct I will be intermittently responsive to email. Will be in contact after that date.

Laurel

Robert Gatland (LHS'58) & wife Nancy

Robert Gatland deceased 8/2017

Helen (Calaceto) (LHS'50) Crane

Ft. Meyers, FL

email: kranster32@aol.com

(10/25/19)

Jim, so sorry to hear of Marja illness I'm sure you both have the prays of all the WOO readers. God Bless you both

Betty (Jagel)(LHS'56) & husband John Lecuit (LHS '54)

Lindenhurst, NY

email: boopy496gmail.com

(10/25/19)

So sorry to hear of Marja's health issues....I can empathize with you....John (Class of '54) flee 7 years ago and sustained a traumatic brain injury, among other things. I took care of him at home until this past Feb when he had a stroke, and I realized I could no longer take care of him at home, even with aides. He is now in a wonderful local Rehab/Nursing Home, having lost most of the use of his left side. Placing him there was one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make, but at this point he is cared for by wonderful staff, attends daily activities to keep him stimulated, and is being taken care of better than I could ever do..I visit him every day, and we still celebrate our lives together...

So, Jim, I know you will be facing very difficult decisions..I pray that you and Marja will find peace and will be on the road to better health soon...Betty Lecuit '56....PS John and I just became Great Grandparents..our oldest son Johnny's daughter had Amelia Jean last week..of course, a perfect angel!!

Gene Kelly (LHS'49)

Crystal River, FL

email: ekelly854@tampabay.rr.com

(10/26/19)

Jim~~just to make a slight correction to the story about LHS Mrs.Slausons first name was Katherine..she was a special teacher!!!

Hank Kalbach (LHS'56)

Savannah, GA (note new address)

email: hankkalbach@yahoo.com

Connie (Inman)(LHS'59) Kalbach deceased 6/4/16

(10/29/19)

Hi Hank:

I resent the November WOO but just noticed that the email address I have for you is the same

as indicated on your latest email to me. So I have sent it but did you receive it??? If not please

let me know. I remember I had some problems in the past sending the WOO to "yahoo. com" addresses.

Take care.....Jim Ball

(10/30/19)

Hi Jim:

WOO received; thanks.

I have no idea why they just stopped but so glad to be back in the loop.

Hank

Jim Ball (LHS'52) & Wife Marja

Albuquerque, NM 84111

email: jmball10805@msn.com

(11/26/19)

Hi All; Thanks for your Prayers & kind wishes for Marja. We moved her to another full care facility, Shady Pines Assisted Living. She has been there since Nov 11. This is a 24 hour care facility which Marja requires. Her rehab exercises started 11/21, we hope these will bring back some of her functions.

Her voice has returned to near normal but her right arm & leg requires a lot more time & effort (if their functions will ever return).

Wish you all a great Thanksgiving, take care. Jim Ball

Trouble receiving WOO? Here's good news!

My daughter Patti is still working to come up with a method to ensure that all that want WOO can receive it. She just set up a web site, www.candothat.com/woo.html if you click on this web site then on "WOO Jan. 2018 "etc. you will open WOO in pdf format and you can print it out on your computer. A couple of our alumni have

already had success downloading WOO from this site. Patti will add each WOO as I complete it so there will be a WOO Jan. 2018 etc. We hope this works for everyone having a problem opening WOO. Patti has already added all of the 2017 to 2019 WOOs to this site, so if you missed any you can get them there.

My Help Locate Missing Alumni !!

Help Locate Missing Alumni !!!While we have reconnected with 40 to 90 classmates from several LHS classes, some classes are lacking in representation in the newsletter. The numbers contacted to date are: LHS'48, 10; LHS'49, 17; LHS'50, 20; LHS'51, 46; LHS'52, 42; LHS'53, 42; LHS'54, 24; LHS'55, 55; LHS'56, 38; LHS'57, 73; LHS'58, 89; LHS'59, 108. If anyone knows if any of these classes have had reunions & who the contacts were, let me know and I will contact them and attempt to obtain addresses for others., Here are the numbers from misc. years that have requested they be added to the distribution list for WOO: LHS'45, 3; LHS'46, 3; LHS'47, 5; LHS'60, 5; LHS'62, 3; LHS'64, 2; LHS'66, 1; LHS'68, 1; LHS'74, 1; LHS?, 8. Total distribution now 598.

The numbers of Alumni indicated in this paragraph have not been updated in several months so the totals are incorrect. Every time I try to update them, I get lost half way through and give up, please just use these totals as an approximation.

In Conclusion

So long for now, send us news about your life to be included in the next issue. If you are in contact with any classmates or LHS alumni (LHS'48-'59) with email addresses which I don't have let me know and I'll add them to the distribution list. Thanks to everyone that submitted news articles and to all that sent suggestions concerning this publication.

If you change email addresses or servers please let me know so we can keep in touch with you.

Please send some news so we can keep in touch.