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Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 2/23/17

LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER

This week's topics:

1. Ever been in a fashion show?
2. When were the "good old days?"
3. Ever participate in a scrap or paper drive? Memories?
4. Any of you play the sousaphone or tuba? The problems you had with its size, etc.
5. Photo albums - looked at them lately? Got the pictures labeled so your descendents know who is who?
Making hard copies of your digital albums?
6. Still got any toys you had as a kid?
7. Are kids nowadays taught that manual labor is not for them and they must go to college?
8. Are immigrants, legal or otherwise, taking jobs that Americans won't do? Why won't they do them?
9. Trump wants stuff made in the USA, but can those of us on a fixed income afford it?
10. Take time to vent! What are you unhappy with?

and responses:

Toni Weller Olsen

5. Photo albums -- My late mother-in-law had a "vast shoebox collection" of family photos. When she died in 2011 at age 91, my husband tried to sort through the photos. It was quite a job. He kept some of the photos which were dated on the back, especially if he remembered the relative in the photo. I've tried over the years to keep only family photos which might mean something to my sons. I have several photo albums, and it's fun to look through them sometimes. They start with photos of my dad in his Army uniform during WWII, my parents as newlyweds, and go right on through the years with our children and grandchildren. It sounds kind of old-fashioned, but the photos are dated and easy to look through.

Ursula Nogic

What would our wise high school teachers say?

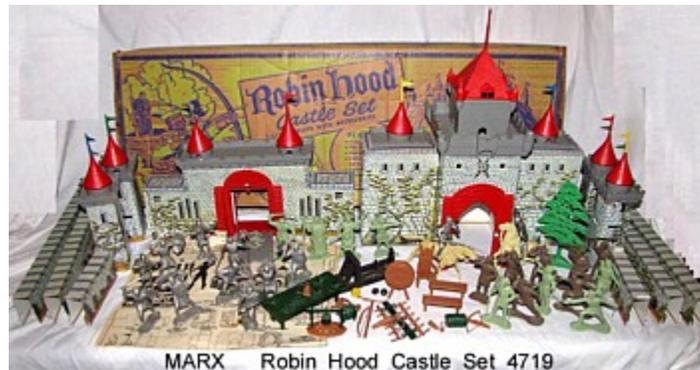
The most outstanding aspect of my education at Lincoln High was the emphasis our teachers put on drilling down in search of the truth. They required our rigorous study, regardless of subject, to reach a point where we truly had mastered the content. They did their best to show us how important it was to look at all sides and not to settle for a view that was most comfortable. And, as tough as it must have been, most of them maintained an incredibly positive attitude about life in general, and each of us in particular. It made many of us soar upon the wings they helped build under us.

I imagine that in these strange, uncertain times, our teachers would be counting on us to not be swept along by throngs of cheering crowds. Instead, they would be expecting us to think deeply, see beyond glib talk, refer back to historic examples of how the world turns and can spin out of control, and not to merely go along just to get along.

Perhaps I was in my own la-la land at the time, but I remember the kind, gentle environment they collectively created for us even as they taught us to stand up for what we believed. Especially now, I place them in the ranks of our founding fathers and mothers. They help steer me through the maze of breaking news to figuring out what is legit and how might it play out in the larger scheme of things.

Chad Lewis

6. I collect Marx play sets (Robin Hood Castle, Wagon Train, Blue & Gray, Fort Apache, Alamo, Roy Rogers Ranch and Western Towns).



Some of the individual figures can sell for \$200 or more and mint in-box sets have gone for over \$15,000. The fun is in the memories and the search for rare missing pieces.

Pete Smullen

In response to #9, sort of:

There have been quite a few scholarly papers, non-fiction books and novels written about workers being displaced by robots. The concerns go back decades; I remember reading a novel back in high school that presented a society where no one has a job because robots do all of the work. The only people who had jobs were the politicians and their minions. Scary stuff then. Even scarier now. How do we handle a society where only 5% of us need to work? It happened with agriculture due to the introduction of modern machinery and methods.

As artificial intelligence undergoes rapid advances, and the processing power of even the most basic PC today is greater than that of an IBM mainframe only 15 years ago, we are rapidly approaching that society. What are we going to do then?

Over the last forty years, many of our workers have been displaced by the rapid rise of cheap foreign labor. What happens when those very same workers are supplanted by even cheaper robots guided by the very capable AI that runs the factory?

I don't have any answers. Do you?

Jo Ellen (Davis) Immel (67)

4. I play the Tuba Christmas each year in Wausau and Point but I actually play the baritone.

Ron Feutz

Paper Drives: Our troop at Children's Choice loved the Boy Scout paper drives. I'm sure Kortkamp and Grunden remember. Every bundle of magazines that was thrown into the truck was immediately ripped open searching for girly magazines.

There were plenty there.

Marcie [Basler] Ortscheid '65

When someone gives me a school picture, I have them write the name and age of the person. My mom had a lot pictures and they didn't have names on them, when she passed away we didn't know who these people were so we just threw them away.

Number 8: In GRB, we have a beef packing plant and it's dirty and a hard job, the only people that will do that work are the Mexicans. The packing plant employs them because it is the only way to get the work done. I don't have a problem with anyone coming to the US and working, as long as they are here legally. My dad came to the US from Switzerland, but he learned the language and he got his American citizenship. That woman who is staying in that church in California, now that is wrong. She has been here 20 years, does not speak our language, has a raft of kids and I think is on welfare. I say to the church you keep her and the kids, you pay for her, as I am sick and tired of illegals getting food stamps, free medical and a cell phone. If you can't do it right stay in your own country.

Candace Caylor

1. I wonder if anyone else remembers this. I don't know which year I was in, but several of us from LHS were in a fashion show at Johnson Hills department store. That was quite a big deal and pictures were in the paper.

2. The "good old days" for me were definitely the mid '50s to mid '60s. A time when everyone felt safe in their homes and neighborhoods and playing outside until dark was our recreation. When it was time to go home, our moms just called out our names from the back door--and we had better get home. Then, high school always felt like a safe place, unlike today. At least, for me, it was carefree, safe, and fun.

5. Yes, I recently went through old photos and got rid of many. I have put many of them on my computer and then saved them.
