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To: Undisclosed-Recipient;;
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 11/5/15

Lincoln High Newsletter

New reader:

Pam Brusoe Steinke LHS class of 70 - tompam@cox.net
Her brother Mike, who does not have access to the internet, is class of 64.

Response to previous topic:

Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley - TOYGUY5538@aol.com

Shirley and I were in business together when we lived in Tennessee in the '90s. She had a craft business, and we were part owners of a store in downtown Franklin, TN called Heart & Hands. Our craft business consisted of selling doll furniture (sized for the American Girl doll) in the store as well as at local craft shows. It was fun, interesting, taxing, time consuming, and profitable. Heart & Hands is still operating, although we are not involved in it any more.

My role in the doll furniture business was driving the truck and installing the hinges and hardware. I enjoyed the truck driving part. I would drive my pickup to an Amish farm and wood shop near Lyles, TN and pick up unfinished doll furniture that we had designed and they built for us. I think there were about eight different pieces like a wardrobe, vanity, school desk, wash stand, etc. We would then finish them in one of three different finishes, white and two stains.



The Amish family had a wood shop on their property where they made the furniture. They also had 14 children. There was a trough in the concrete wood shop floor through which a drive shaft from the diesel engine would run. From that shaft, wide belts would power saws, table sanders, and various other pieces of woodworking equipment. There were no

belt guards or safety features. Their power sanding table was about 12 feet long. There were benches of various heights all along both sides to accommodate their various sized children that worked there. They could not have electricity, so light was provided by skylights and kerosene lamps. Finish sanding was done by hand. It was absolutely amazing to watch the whole family work at full capacity near the holiday season, when I was out there for a load of furniture at least every week. One of the young boys must have been destined to be an engineer, because he loved to hop up into the pickup and help me stack the furniture to get the most in there.

Shirley finished the furniture in our basement. It was quite a production. I made a spray booth out of cardboard for her, and while it contained most of the white overspray, some managed to get all over everything else in the basement in the form of white dust. When finishing was complete and hand painting of trim was finished, the items were clear-coated to protect them. Then they came to me for hardware installation. Once that was complete, they were loaded back into the truck and taken either to the store for inventory or to a craft show.

Nashville had a huge craft faire in December sponsored by a sorority. It was at the fairgrounds near downtown, and it was very busy. Shirley would man the booth for about 10 hours a day, and I would bring her more inventory a couple of times a day during the weekend show.

I have no idea how many pieces of doll furniture we sold during the 4+ years we did it, but it was a lot, in the hundreds, especially in the fall leading up to Christmas. Usually I made a trip to Lyles every weekend during the fall, sometimes twice, always returning home with a full pickup. My involvement was evenings and weekends, as I worked full time at Saturn Corporation as well. Shirley worked full time at the craft business. It was a very busy time in our lives, but very rewarding as well. And we worked pretty well together. It was her business, and I basically did what I could when I could. She was a good boss. And it must have worked, because we're still married (49 years this New Years Eve).

This week's topics:

- 1. Did you ever buy a car from a Rapids dealership that no longer exists?
Your memories of the car, the salesman, the dealership.**
- 2. Memorable hayrides - scary, romantic, scenic?**
- 3. Did you ever bob for apples? Did you get one?**
- 4. Anyone still burning their fallen leaves?**
- 5. Remembering cloth diapers and all thatt.**
- 6. Any of the readers going hunting this fall? For what? Where?**
- 7. Your most memorable pet.**
- 8. Did you ever cook on a wood stove? Maybe with cast iron pots and pans?**
- 9. Have you installed Windows 10? What do you think of it?**
- 10. Remembering the arrival of the Wards and Sears Christmas catalogs.**

and responses:

Gene Hafermann - genehafermann@charter.net

1. I did buy my first car from the American Motors dealer run by Sparky (not sure what his last name was). My dad always got his cars there. The one I bought was a baby wagon called a Hornet Sportabout. It was a stick shift on the column and was very functional for us, but I sure prefer the Jeeps I have been buying since 1987.

2. I don't remember any hayrides back in high school. Most of those were in college and beyond. Still have friends on a farm south of Verona that do hayrides out to a remote setting along the Sugar River to set off fireworks in the summer.
 3. Of course I have bobbed for apples and the best way to get them was to either use suction or trap them on the bottom.
 6. I still hunt deer, now using a cross bow. I did hunt one night back in mid-October 2 days before I had prostate surgery. But I was out scouting around this afternoon and plan to hunt with my nephew on Saturday. Right now I don't need the venison, so whatever I get I take to a butcher shop that processes them for a food pantry.
 9. I have not had time to work on installing and learning Windows 10. And with all the communication being done with contractors related to construction of our new house, I can't afford to take the chance on anything getting messed up. After we move into the new house this winter, I will probably read some forums and try to upgrade at least one of my computers to see how it goes and what I think of it.
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Bill Hartley toyguy5538@aol.com writes:

I bought two new cars from Rapids dealerships that are no longer there. In fact, they didn't last too long after I bought those cars, as I think about it.

My first new car was a dark blue '65 Chevelle Malibu two door hardtop.



My dad and I ordered it through Clark Chevrolet when they were on 8th Street South. Jack Knott was our salesman. He was a friend of my dad. I had ordered a 300 horse 327 engine, four speed manual transmission, and Positraction. When Chevrolet built it, the supplier that made Positraction rear ends was on strike, so they built it without. So I had to put AirLift bags in the rear springs to preload the rear suspension when I drag raced it, to reduce the wheel spin. That was a great car, as I remember it now.

I traded that Chevelle in on a '66 Buick Skylark Grand Sport. I bought that one from Jurgella Buick in Stevens Point. They are also defunct.



The other Rapids new car was a '67 Riviera Gran Sport that I ordered through George Nimtze Buick.



Ironically, he was in the same building where I bought my Chevelle, as Clark Chevrolet had moved to 4th Avenue. And I was working for Clark Chevrolet in the parts department at the time. And I bought the Riviera from Jack Knott, who had moved to Nimtz from Clark. Wierd. I would have bought a red 1966 Corvette coupe that Art Clark had left on the showroom floor. He had offered me a killer deal on it since it was soon to be last years model and I was an employee. Then I called my insurance company (Sentry, I believe) and found out what they wanted to charge a young man for Corvette insurance, and I opted for the Riviera. Art was very understanding.

I left Clark Chevrolet and went to work for C&R Oldsmobile International on West Grand. Jack Knott was then a salesman there. We worked together for over a year before he left and moved to Wausau.

I also moved to Wausau to work for Leo Kay in his Oldsmobile Cadillac dealership downtown. The guy who convinced me to move up there was Jack Knott, who was already working there.



I kept the Riviera for three years, until I went to work for Cadillac Motor Car Division. Then I got a new Cadillac company car every 90 days, so I didn't buy any new cars for a while. I traveled out of Minneapolis as a Cadillac Parts & Accessories Rep, and Wausau was in our zone. When I would travel to Wausau to visit the Cadillac dealer who bought Leo out, Tom O'Malley, I would visit Jack Knott at a bar where he worked week day evenings. So I not only bought cars and got jobs through Jack, but enjoyed many drinks with him as well. It was a great relationship.

Funnies

The devout cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later, a cow walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the cow's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!" "Not really," said the cow. "Your name is written inside the cover."

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Sandra; 'I just don't understand the attraction golf holds for men.' Cindy: "TELL me about it! I went golfing with my ex one time, and he told me I asked too many questions!" Sandra: 'Well, I'm sure you were just trying to understand the game. What questions did you ask?' Cindy: "I thought I asked legitimate questions - like, 'Why did you hit the ball into that lake?' and he got mad."

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Two old men in a retirement village were sitting in the reading room and one said to the other, "How do you really feel? I mean, you're 80 years old, how do you honestly feel?" "Honestly, I feel like a new born baby. I've got no hair, no teeth, and I just wet myself."