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Lincoln High Newsletter

This week's topics:

1. Do you still have a fur coat?
2. Do you have LTC (long term care) insurance? How much does it cover? Nursing homes are very expensive!
3. Are there any toys in your family that have gotten passed down from one generation to the next?
 4. Have you ever played hockey - or hooky?
 5. What was your most memorable Christmas?
6. Your memories of the corner store that mom sent you to to get a loaf of bread.
 7. Have you ever had a clothing malfunction?
 8. Do give or get fruitcakes for Christmas?
9. Any investments you can recommend now that CD interest is near zero?
 10. Anything else you'd care to write about.

and responses:

Margaret Glenn - LHS 64 - maggiglenn-colburn@att.net

Late! This has been sitting in my 'Drafts' folder.

1. My Thanksgiving guests were my 96 year old good friend, Eleanor, and her boyfriend, Pete, who is 86. (Eleanor is a Cougar!) She agreed to bring her famous carrot casserole, plus 2 extra chairs and a pumpkin pie for dessert. When we sat down to eat, we were short the 2 chairs--Pete had forgotten to put them in the car. No problem--he and my son drove back to Eleanor's for the chairs. After enjoying a great dinner, I brought out an apple pie I had made as a surprise on the spur of the moment the day before. Well, no pumpkin pie. Pete said he must have left it in the car trunk. Nope, no pie in the trunk. He forgot it! Did you ever hear of Thanksgiving without the pumpkin pie?! I said, "Well good thing I made that apple pie!" We're still laughing.

2. Yes, I remember the Sadie Hawkins dance. I had such a crush on Steve Schneider (Class of '63 I think), and he agreed to be my date. I remember he wore a green onion boutonniere I lovingly created for him. What was I thinking! I wore a broccoli corsage.

3. Never actually lived in a trailer. However, when I was 12 years old, our family took a trip to the East Coast, and borrowed a small mobile home from friends. Hmmm-mm, interesting living in a trailer for 3 weeks with my parents and 2 of my sisters . . . Also, we ate our meals in that mobile home while our kitchen was being remodeled in the 50s--also an interesting experience, fun for us kids, probably not so much for my mother.

4. Euuuuw--no!! I saw enough deer heads growing up in Wisconsin, some of which lived in our basement.

5. I was an extra in New York City, where I was living, although it was 'involuntary.' I happened to be walking back to the entrance of the Seagrams Building on Park Avenue, where my office was located, along with lots of other people. At the same time Nicholas Cage was being filmed for a scene driving up to the building in a hot little sports car. The film was "Family Man." I could never find myself in that movie.

6. I have a few celebrity autographs, most of which I collected on that trip to the East Coast when I was 12. My cousin, Peter Palmer, had the starring role in the Broadway musical, Li'l Abner, so of course New York City was part of our East Coast trip. He took us backstage afterward to collect the other stars' signatures. I remember visiting Edie Adams in her dressing room. Remember her? She played Daisy Mae. She was married to Ernie Kovacs (remember him?) I also remember getting Julie Newmar's autograph. What a memory for a 12 year old! I also have Troy Donahue's autograph, which my son got for me when Mr. Donahue visited a 50s café here in Sacramento in the 90s, where my son was working at the time. Remember him?

7. Wow--you're asking me to fill in 50 years of my life! OK, I started college at UW Madison in '65. Unfortunately, this small-town girl who had led a very sheltered life was totally overwhelmed and flunked out after 3 semesters. I graduated from a business school after that, then worked at an insurance company in Milwaukee for a year. I got married in 1967. We settled in Texas for 3 months where my husband was stationed in the Air Force, then in Hawaii for 3 years, where our son was born. We moved to Northern California after my husband got out of the service, and lived in the SF Bay Area for about 4 years, where our daughter was born. My husband was transferred to Sacramento in '76, and this is where we raised our children.

Unfortunately, our marriage didn't work out, though, and we divorced in '87 after 18 years. I had been a stay-at-home mom up until my children entered high school; then I started working full-time for the Federal Government, DEA--which was interesting! At the same time, I started back to college to finish my degree, and graduated with a BA cum laude at the age of 50. In the early 90s, I met and fell in love with a man who lived in New York City, who convinced me to move there in '97. I worked in Mid-Town Manhattan in hedge funds and private wealth equity. THAT was interesting!

I absolutely loved NYC but, unfortunately, after a while, it didn't work out as well for us. I moved back to Sacramento in '07, where my son and daughter live. I am semi-retired, and I work part-time teaching yoga, pilates and water aerobics. I absolutely love it--my favorite job ever! The seniors I work with tell me I inspire them. I keep myself healthy, happy, and have become quite the 'athlete.' I do a lot of cycling, swimming, trail running, kayaking, some skiing. I've run 3 marathons (2 of them in the California International Marathon), numerous half-marathons and trail runs in the Sierras, and cycled lots of miles. I get together for lunch once in a while with Barbara Thalacker, who also lives in Sacramento, and we talk a lot about our beginnings in the Rapids.

Judy (Ehlert) Brown - jbshells47@gmail.com

At one time I had a short mink coat from my grandmother. I knew I would never wear it so I found a woman in New Holstein, WI that made bears out of fur coats. I had her make a mink fur bear for each of my children and a couple for me. Made a nice remembrance of grandma "Caroline" as we called her. I also had 2 long rabbit fur coats and another shorter fur but don't remember what kind. They are still hanging in a back closet with the linings removed. I have good intentions of making my own teddy bears out of them.....maybe when I retire?

When I was growing up we had a corner store called Peterson's grocery. It was on the corner of 13th street south and Chestnut street. They had a charge system where mom would send me to the store for whatever we needed and I could charge it. They kept track of purchases on a piece of paper and on dad's payday we would go in and pay whatever was owed. Well it became evident to me that I could go and buy things and just say "charge it"until my mom found out. Then she instructed Mr. Peterson that I could only charge groceries, not candy. So one day I went and charged a loaf of

bread just to prove I could still get away with it. But then reality set in and I couldn't go home with the "unauthorized" bread so I left it on a neighbor's window sill. Sounds really stupid now but at the time I just wanted to ditch the bread. I've never found out how, but I got caught and was in big trouble...over a loaf of bread. Wasn't hardly worth it but guess it was the bit of defiance in me. From then on when mom sent me to the store it was with a note to Mr. Peterson and I could only purchase what was on the note. Was rather demeaning at the time and took all the fun out of going to the store. (I think Mr. Peterson's name was George and his son who also worked there and eventually took over the business was called Junior). The big supermarket stores eventually forced the small neighborhood stores out of business. Life was much simpler back then.

Pat Barton - LHS class of 64 - bpwpat@solarus.net

1. I do not have a fur coat, but my mother had a beautiful one. I remember how great she looked wearing it. (1960 era). I also went along with her when she would take the fur coat to be cleaned and stored for the summer. I seem to remember that the fellow who provided the service was located by the current Dairy Queen/near Sandy Hazel's home.

I priced a fur coat at one time from the company that was located in Stevens Point. I did not get one; but I just looked on-line at Macy's and they still sell them. It is really too bad that the fur suppliers were put on the 'black list' those coats were lovely. (just my opinion)

6. My mom would give me one dollar and I would walk approximately one block to Meyer's food market for one loaf of bread and one gallon of milk. A dollar covered it back then.(probably 1956-60) We lived on the 1800 block of Baker St. and the IGA store was built there when I was growing up, and replaced Meyer's store.

Barb Cammack - barbaracammack@hotmail.com

I had three lovely fur coats, wore them a lot in 30 yrs.' time, probably paid for them once again thru storage and cleaning costs but sold them thru a resale store recently since we now live in Florida. Hope they make someone else happy and warm. My uncle lived across the street from a mink farm. They were the meanest, screechy animals ever so I was glad to have coats made of mink. We wondered what Christmas would be like in Hawaii when we were transferred there by the Navy. All holidays are wonderful wherever you live as long as you have someone to share them with and health to enjoy life. We loved our 3 Christmases in Hawaii just as we love it here in Florida.

God Bless our troops and all of you in this wonderful season of the year.

Susan (Rice) Hammel - gourmay1@gmail.com

6. Ann Ritchie's (Nelson) mom said she could eat dinner at my house if we rode our bikes to Hamers bakery and got dinner rolls for their dinner. So we did, and as we were coming out (think it was eighth street, but not sure) I said it was ok to go. She went and I stayed and she got hit by a car. I rode my bike at lightning speed to get home. She still has a horseshoe shaped scar on her knee. Man, I still feel bad about that!
Ann, if you are reading this please feel free to correct my memory!

Karen (Goetzke) King - yayaec@ymail.com

The tricycle I had as a child, the well made one with the sturdy wheels, has been ridden by my children and all of their children and some friends to boot. It's an amazement to me each spring when we bring it out to the yard that it's the first toy the little kids run to.

And yes, I make fruitcake, the recipe from my mom and even if you think you don't like fruitcake you 'd be surprised by this one. Each loaf has candied cherries and pineapple, dates and two pounds of pecan halves,(no citron,) and it's patted with, not doused, in rum, every other day for a week after it's baked. This year I made a dozen and they are all spoken for by former fruitcake haters.

Kaaren (Berg) Brehmer - kaarenknits@solarus.net

I have a fur coat. It's a full length Hudson Bay Seal that was made by Louis Kiss here in Wisconsin Rapids. It belonged to Tom's grandmother, Esther Herschleb. I have worn it a few times when it was really cold. It was not stored properly for a large number of years and cannot be repaired or restored so I just keep it in the closet and pet in on occasion. The workmanship is beautiful. I have often thought about wearing in with the inside out as the lining is in perfect condition even though the seal pelts are falling apart.

My grandchildren play with the same Lincoln Logs that my sisters and I did, along with a set of castle building blocks that my mother bought for our son when he was small. My younger granddaughter has a doll that my mother played with as a child. It has a china head, a leather body and is wearing a silk dress that my grandmother stitched by hand. I had to mend the cotton petticoat and marveled at the work she did.

I have many fond memories of Peterson's Grocery Store on the corner of Chestnut and 11th Streets. We could charge groceries and they delivered on Saturday morning, When we got married, Mr. Peterson gave me one of every spice he had in the store as a shower gift. The building is still there and now is a beauty shop.

In Memoriam

Kathleen (Barnes) Bates, 67, passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by her family on December 12, 2014.

Kathy was born to Donald and Cornelia (Vleeshouwers) Barnes on July 27, 1947 in Wis. Rapids.

She graduated from Lincoln High School in 1965.

She married Gordon Bates in 1967 but later divorced. She worked at the Aquarium pet store for many years before leaving to work for Consolidated Papers (Paperboard Division) for 20 years before retiring.

She will be remembered for the great love she had for her pets and finding one of a kind treasure to decorate her home.

She is survived by longtime companion LeRoy Check of Plover, one son Jeffrey (Jenny) Bates, Wis. Rapids; three daughters; Jodi (Gary) Alft, Wis. Rapids, Kristine (Rick) Olson, Nekoosa, Melissa (Jon) Heili, Rudolph. Five grandchildren; Tyler, Amber, Taylor, Katelynn and Colin; one great granddaughter; Maci. Two sisters; Susan (Scott) McAuley and Elizabeth (Tim) Savage.

A private service was held at Forest Hill Mausoleum. The family would like to thank Ministry Medical Hospice, Wis. Rapids Fire Dept. and Riverview Hospital for their kind support they gave mom.

Online condolences can be made at www.honorone.com

Higgins Funeral Home is assisting the family at this time

WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades.

Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know ?"