

David Engel

From: The Vasbys <kvasby@smallbytes.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 6:18 PM
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 10/17/19



Responses to last week's topics:

Barbara Thalacker - bthalacker@comcast.net

I visited today with my oldest, though not my longest, friend, Doris Alexis, who is 98.



Ed note: Got this pic from Google. Hope it's her!

She knows who I am, is still witty and cheerful, but has virtually no short term memory. We always have a good time together, eat chocolate cake, tell stories and talk about the Schnauzers we both used to have. She is still living at home with her son and spends her time watching Westerns, and looking out the window of her bedroom onto a tree-lined street where children often play.

I met Doris in 1982 when I became the Executive Director of the Sacramento YWCA and she was the President of the Board of Directors. She governed with honesty, integrity, supported me when I was right and debated with me when I was wrong.

In her work life, she started as a front desk clerk for the CA Department of Motor Vehicles office in Los Angeles. Because of her hard work, she rose thru the ranks and eventually was appointed Director of the California DMV by Governor Jerry Brown, a Democrat, despite being a life-long Republican. That was a real tribute to her ability to work with all kinds of people. When she was challenged to institute more stringent regulations for semi drivers, she went out in the middle of the night to the 18 wheeler training school and learned how to drive and listened to the men and women behind the wheel. She opened the very first day care for state workers in a California government agency and it recently was renamed in her honor. She has seen lots of history. She has a letter from Booker T. Washington to her father and also has preserved her great-grandfather's slave emancipation papers. We have vast differences in our backgrounds and nearly no differences in our outlook and beliefs.

I know her time is shortening, but her attitude is cheerful and her gentle and strong nature is still very present. I am grateful for every day together.

This week's topics:

1. Ever been in a cave? Which one? Memories/impressions?
2. Ever walk on stilts? When? Why?
3. Have a garden this summer? What did you grow?
4. Ever have a treehouse or other "hideaway" as a kid? What did you do there?
5. Have a cap gun as a kid? Play cops and robbers or cowboys and Indians?
6. It's hunting season. Anyone going?
7. Remember what you had in your toybox? What?
8. Gals, still have a doll you had as a kid? Or maybe something else?
9. Ever "paint by numbers"? Still have the picture?
10. Some folks want to "rewrite" history, like doing away with Columbus Day. Should we be doing that?

and responses:

Lenore Haferman - lenorehaferman@yahoo.com

I always have a garden. I mostly grow tomatoes, a few broccoli, and cauliflower. I canned 178 quarts of tomato juice this year. We like a lot of bloody Marys. And, yes we eat a lot of venison.

Kathy Gotter - gotterkd@yahoo.com

I find the rewriting of history, all of our history, disgusting. Our history is our history and just because you decide you don't like what it is you think you can change it but that changes nothing. History is there for us to remember and to either live by what it says or change the future because of it.

I hope winter doesn't hit up north too soon but I do have to admit that I'm happy with our upper 80s. All I can say is there's nothing like retirement. I love it, love it, love it. I hope everyone's enjoying their fall wherever you are.

Chris Gorski - cwgorski@yahoo.com

Tree House: Back in the late eighties I decided to build a tree house for my daughter and twin sons. Sarah was 11 or so and Sam & Matt were 4 years younger. We had a heavily wooded lot so it was easy to select the 2 trees for my design.



It was an A frame with 2 dormers and a small deck. I ran electricity out to it, carpeted it with red shag carpeting. I set up a small tv as well as a radio / cassette player for them. Also built in a toy box with a hinged lid. Can't tell you how much they played in and slept in that play house. When they had friends over everyone wanted to sleep in it. Great memories.

Nancy Witt - nancystew@copper.net

1. Ever been in a cave? Which one? Memories/impressions? There is a very nice cave in the

grotto in Rudolph. It was built by the priest, who was sickly as a young man, but no seminary would take him cuz of his health, and sure enough he ended up there for his whole life.

3. Have a garden this summer? What did you grow? Living in San Diego makes it hard cuz we have lousy soil compared to Midwest, and we don't get any rain til winter.

8. Gals, still have a doll you had as a kid? Or maybe something else? - I had a nice doll for a Christmas present and had it for a few yrs.

10. Some folks want to "rewrite" history, like doing away with Columbus Day. Should we be doing that? - Don't have an opinion on that, but schools were open, and I did my tutoring for a 1st grader that fell on the school day. Didn't get any mail that day.

Sue Peaslee Schulte '65 - gaias4mail@gmail.com

When we were in grade school (at Grove and then Woodside) we had a class trip at the end of the year. One of those was to Cave of the Mounds and La Crosse. I don't remember too much except the trips were always fun!



I have also been to several national parks with caves. Found them very interesting and beautiful but now I am too claustrophobic to enjoy any close-in places!

I still have some of my dolls. My very favorites all wore out from lots of loving and exposure to the air around us! I didn't let my kids play with them because they were falling apart.

Karen King - yayaec@ymail.com

Hi all—garden was great in some aspects this year but not others. We got loads of potatoes and squash, cucumbers, beans and peas, but limited tomatoes and zucchini. Ditto limited beets, sweet potatoes. No whining. Always grateful for whatever we can harvest, share and keep.



As for doll question—I still have a doll we called “Walking Susan.” Cannot find a trace of her anywhere on the internet but she’s in good shape and can still walk with assistance, but alas, her hair comes off in my hand. I also have an ancient teddy bear and a Howdy Doody wooden doll. All worth not much but memories. If anyone has a Stretch Monster, not Stretch Armstrong figure, I’m interested. I threw my son’s out the window on a lengthy trip one time when he and his sister were fighting over it in the back seat. I would love to surprise him with a replacement.

David Engel

From: The Vasbys <kvasby@smallbytes.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 5:00 PM
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 10/10/19



This week's topics:

1. Hospital care at the VA. Good? Bad?
2. VA clinic in the Rapids. Been there? Good care?
3. Cranberry bogs. Ever work there? Work with other food products?
4. Do you think that aliens exist? Ever seen a UFO? Where, when?
5. Where are some unusual places you've been? What did you do there?
- 6..What do you think of tattoos? Do you have any? What are they?
7. Where did you go last weekend? / What did you do last weekend?
8. Who is your oldest friend? Where did you meet them?
9. What were you really into when you were a kid?
10. Whatever else.