From: The Vasbys
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 1/14/21
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Responses to previous topics:

Chuck Hinners - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

Chuck Hagen was my English teacher in our junior year. He came from Whitehall which is the next metropolis downstream from Blair on the Trempeleau River. Larry Jorgensen would hang out in our room from time to time talking with me or Roger Fritz. Larry had put on a few pounds from his days at LaCrosse so we were surprised when we learned Larry won the 100 yard dash in the Coulee Conference track meet. His time was a respectable 10.5

This week's topics:

1. What is something you've tried but would never do again?

2. What do you like most about living in your city/town?

3. Do you remember the last dream you had? What was it about?

4. What is your morning routine like?

5. Ever ridden in a helicopter, glider, hot air balloon, or been skydiving. Ever

driven on a test track.

6. Ever been to the Rose Bowl? When?

7. Which National Parks are/were your favorites. Why?

8. What is the worst injury you've had.

9. What did you learn in this past week?

10. What do you think the best invention is?

11. Topics for next week?

<u>and responses:</u>

Bill Hartley (63) - toyguy5538@aol.com

Hello, Classmates. I haven't written in a while, but that doesn't mean I don't care. Just pretty busy. That being said, I thought I'd contribute some thoughts to this week's suggested topics.

1. What is something you've tried but would never do again. Eat Sushi! I can't understand how anyone can eat that raw fish!

2. What do you like best about living in your city? In general, I like the weather and the large variety of things to do and see in the Dallas Fort Worth area. Specifically, I love being close to our kids and grandkids! Can't beat that!

3. Do you remember the last dream you had? No, I can hardly remember what I had for breakfast! This getting old has it's downsides.

4. What is your morning routine like? Just like my every hour all night routine - get up, go to the bathroom, go back to bed. Then when I finally get up to stay up, I go make breakfast. Normal stuff. Then on some days I go look at a burned car and try to determine the cause, and some days I go pick up hazardous parts and return them to the plant or manufacturer. Other days I sit and read a book or peruse facebook.

5. Ever ridden in a helicopter, glider, hot air balloon, or been skydiving? Ever

driven on a test track? Yes, No, Yes, No, Yes.

I rode in one of those bubble front Sikorsky helicopters in the Great Smoky Mountains several years ago. It was scary. The chopper was old and noisy, and there were no doors. I think it was left over from the Korean war. I think the pilot was an ex-combat pilot who didn't know the war was over.

Shirley and I rode in a hot air balloon over the wine country in Temecula, CA with some friends. It was awesome! The vineyards looked so cool from above, and it was a nice breezy morning, so we moved around quite a bit and saw a lot of the area. The landing was kind of rough, and the basket tipped on its side. Fortunately, I wound up on the top!

I would never go skydiving! I've always been told a man should never jump out of a perfectly good airplane!

I have had the opportunity to drive on the GM test track at the Milford Proving Grounds back in the 80s when I worked for Cadillac. We spent the day there and had to pass several tests in order to get a driver's license to drive there in the future. In addition to the test track oval, we drove on what they call Black Lake (smooth asphalt soaked with water) with an instructor who randomly pulled the hand brake and put you into a slide or spin to test your ability to regain control. We also drove over curbs where one side of the car dropped off the curb at high speed and you had to keep from wrecking. It was one of the most fun days in my career.

I also got to drive on the road course at the Porsche Proving Grounds track in Weissach, Germany in the late 80s. We got to drive the new models around the various tracks and put them through their paces. We also high speed caravaned on the winding roads in the Black Forest. That was the other most fun day in my career.

6. Ever been to the Rose Bowl? Well, yes and no. I never went to "the" game there. Shirley and I went to the Rose Bowl on a vacation to CA with our grandkids. We stopped in and took the tour. It was very interesting, and since that was after Michigan State had played in the big game, my granddaughter, who is a huge State and Connor Cook fan, went nuts! She took a whole bunch of pictures of everything there, including the locker rooms. I enjoyed the tour and her excitement.

I have always wanted to go to the monthly swap meet held at the Rose Bowl grounds, but have never made it. I have a friend here who goes fairly often, since he has family out there. He keeps threatening to take me along. It's on the bucket list.

7. Which National Parks are your favorites. I think the Grand Canyon will always be on top of my list. We have been there several times over the years, and it never ceases to amaze me. Other parks in the West are neat too, but not Grand Canyon neat. The colors, sheer size, and difference in climate are second to none there. Yosemite is a close second, though. We have hiked several of the trails there and it offers spectacular scenery and colors as well.

8. What is the worst injury you've had? I've never really been injured significantly. I don't know if I'm lucky, careful, or just don't do enough dangerous stuff. Whatever, I'm happy about it.

9. What did you learn in this past week? I learned I shouldn't talk about politics, because some people can't take it and get mad at you because your opinion is different from theirs. 'Nuff Said.

10. What do you think the best invention is? Obviously, it's the automobile! The industry has provided a great career for me and my family, and here I am 19 years after retirement still interested in cars, still playing with cars, and still enjoying life. It just doesn't get any better than that.

Thanks for the great job keeping this going, Kent.

Gene Santoski - k9utq@solarus.net

#1. Pee on an electric fence!!!

#2. What I like most about living in Rapids all my life is the ease of getting around, general friendliness of its citizens and being centrally located in the state. What I don't like is how our city has changed physically - ie the removal of most of the west side businesses . It has mostly become a retirement community. Anyone who has not visited the last 40 years would be shocked at how much it has changed over the years.

#4. When I open my eyes and see that I'm not surrounded by flowers, I know I have another day ahead of me! I get up, go to the bathroom, start the coffee, check email. and sort of lounge around in my PJs until about 10 AM. If I have other things to do (appointments), then that is a change in my usual routine.

#5. Took a helicopter tour over Bryce Canyon NP several years ago. Our daughter was a Navy pilot and flew the largest helicopter in the Western world (MH-53 Sea

Stallion). Never got to fly with her due to regulations but, did sit in the cockpit a couple of times. Also Skydived and flew in a glider over Hawaii, been in a hot air balloon over North Wood County Park and, flew in an ultralight over Lakes Sherwood and Camelot in Adams County. I would like to drive a test track in my Vette before I sell it!!

#6. Been to the Pro Bowl in Hawaii several years ago.

#7. Been to most of the National Parks over the years. My favorites are Acadia, Zion, Grand Canyon. Hiked down to the river at Grand Canyon and hopped on a raft and rode the mighty Colorado for several days years ago. That is the best way to view the canyon!!

#8. Never had any serious injuries - just skinned knees/elbows growing up as a kid. Never had any broken bones!

#9. I've learned this past week what a terrible situation our world is in - Environmental, Political and Health issues abound. On top of that a VERY divided country which, in my estimation will never fully recover from in my lifetime.

#10. I think the best inventions were computers, cellphones, radio, the airplane. Also - the great milestones in the medical field over the years especially the various vaccines that have cured many diseases

11. Topic for next week - What was your favorite toy as a child? Mine was an Erector Set - That's how I had my first erections!!!!

THANK YOU for your efforts in putting together this and the daily Military Newsletters.

STAY SAFE!!

P.S. Check out this website! Quite disturbing to say the least!! A VERY interesting take on our current political situation and its future along with reflections back on our history.

Personally, I feel that in time the United (Divided) States of America democracy will fall just as the Roman Empire did. I just hope that I'm not around to witness it!!

Nathan Kalmoe was born in Wisconsin Rapids and we baby sat him on several occasions.

His mother, Sharon, taught with Janet at Pitsch School back in the day.

He is now a Political Science Professor at Louisiana University and has written a couple of books which are mentioned in the article.

Check it out at:

https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/22217576/trump-insurrection-capitol-america-political-violence

Let me know what you think!

Chuck Hinners - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

1. What is something you've tried but would never do again? - Motorcycle riding. When I was 20 I rode for about 68 yards on the back of Arlan Henke's bike. It was at a bar somewhere south of Rapids. I was riding behind him and he popped a wheelie and I managed to fall off as he slowed down. The fact I can't remember the bar tells you all you need to know about my crapulence.

3. Do you remember the last dream you had? - I had a recurring golf dream this morning and probably have a version of the same dream once a month. It always involves a golf tournament. The one this morning was the Madison City Tournament which is played over four different courses on 4 consecutive days in late July. Susan was caddying for me and we were riding in a cart with our two golden retrievers. We played the first hole at Pleasant View in Middleton, but the next hole was at Yahara Hills West on the far east side of Madison, 17 miles away. The drive to Yahara was on golf courses all the way but the dogs kept getting out of the cart and I had to chase them and get them out of trees, water hazards and bunkers. When we finally got to Yahara our group had to wait for the group in front of us to clear. They were having trouble because one of the players hit multiple balls into deep grass to the right of the fairway and lost them all. He finally quit and left the course, but then spectators kept walking in front of us. I usually wake up at this point and this morning was the same. This was the first one of these golf dreams in two years where I actually got to finish a hole and I did birdie the first hole at Pleasant View.

Norman Arendt - normarendt@gmail.com

2. We live in the country and it is very quiet. Best part is how quiet the animals are that wander into the yard. Some we have not seen other than their tracks such as the cougar and wolf. AT least one of each we have tracked through the yard. But there is a drawback and that is lack of reliable Internet and TV. Although most of the time I consider that a plus as well.

5. We took a helicopter in Hawaii on the Big Island over the active volcano. Very interesting flight and I have many great pictures of the lava and the lava lake. We also flew a helicopter from Las Vegas to the rim of the Grand Canyon and the Skywalk and Eagle Point. Quite the view but if you are afraid of heights this is not the place to be.

7. Best National Parks that we like are the Grand Canyon, Volcano National PArk, and Glacier Waterton International PEace Park. Although I would say that Denali and Yukon (Canada) come in a very close second.

8. Worse injury I would say that there are two. I was hit by a car snow blowing in my driveway about 26 years ago. Ruptured three lower lumbar discs and they can not be fixed. Still live with the injury. And the second would be about three years ago I coughed and ripped the inner costal cartilage off the right side of my lower ribs. Not fixable either. Not sure which was more painful.

9. Thing that I learned or confirmed as how America is heading downhill very rapidly and most Americans are either not aware or do not care. We will be a socialist state within the next few years and then everyone will wonder how that happened. Many just wanted Trump gone but did not realize what the alternative is going to bring. Just like Germany in the 30s so is the USA in 20s.

Roger Fritz - fritzcat11@yahoo.com

#4: Morning routine. - Just about every day the cat and I wake up at 0630 and I have two cups of coffee. (only I drink the coffee). I check out the mail on the computed and read the Military and LHS newsletters (Cat loves the cursor and screen action and often works the key pad). We then clean the fireplace ashes and vacuum up the area. I get dressed (cat stays in his fur coat) and I go outdoors.

Also: My "love" for Joe Biden has inspired me to offer a Seig Heil or Heil Biden and an arm salute at the mention of his name.