From: The Vasbys
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 4/30/20
Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:56:35 PM

Response to last week's newsletter

Roger Fritz - fritzcat11@yahoo.com

Chuck Hinners,

Thanks for the note on Bill Heilman. As with many of the HS kids I new, we are reaching the age where more and more of us will be dropping out. Bill (and you) were always part of the Howe School crowd: our Mead School's big competitors. Our side was Jim Szelagowski, Chris Gorski and I. I think we had a bit of an inferiority complex and always tried harder to beat Howe. High school changed a lot of wrongful impressions and was a good experience and lesson on judging people. It was good to hear about what Bill was up to after we left high school and would have liked to talk to him at the HS reunion if they are able to have one.

Unlike you, I am losing my memory and fear it will be getting worse. We have taken trips and when we get back I have no recollection of having been there. For example, we went to Manchu Pichu in Peru, a place I always had wanted to see, and now can't remember even being there. I'm planning to visit Rapids, regardless of the Reunion status this summer, to see my uncle Warren Kutz. He is my Mom's younger (93) brother and was a big influence on me growing up. My Mom died last October, age 96, and used to keep me up on all the Rapids news. My dad, Eldger Fritz, died of cancer when he was 27, so I'm hoping I have the Kutz genes. Had he lived, I would have been a dairy farmer in Pittsville. A few more years here at

Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia, and off to the old folks home in Virginia. I'll be close to the U of VA campus and will be able to keep an eye on Tony Bennett.

Thanks again for the Bill Heilman update.

This week's topics (same as last week's):

1. Anything you refuse to eat? What?

2. Does anyone start plants from seeds any more? What?

3. Walking to school. How far? With anyone?

4. Chemistry class. Any memorable incidents?

5. In high school choir or band? What part or what instrument? Still sing/play?

6. High school athletics. You played? What sport? Memorable games?

7. High school plays/musicals. You acted, sang, danced? In what?

8. Belong to any high school clubs? Which? What did you do?

9. Eat at the school lunch cafeteria? Memorable meals?

10. Covid19 - How's it affecting your life these days?

and responses:

Tiny (Flaminio) has been gone for 5 1/2 years now. I appreciate getting your newsletter and reading the responses. I do recognize some of the names.

Renée Flaminio - renee.flaminio@frontier.com

Jerry Jepson 1965 Southbison@aol.com

Haggis. Never had it and don't intend to. Was going to Glasgow Scotland this May. Haggis was not on my list of things to try. Due to the virus the trip has been cancelled.

Started some cactus and pansies from seed with the stay at home edicts. Pansies doing fine; the cactus not so well.

Covid has not changed my life too much. I do miss the occasional eating out. Retired up north; live in a quiet resort area east of Rhinelander. I enjoy the quiet - so not much interaction with others during the winter. I have always practiced a bit of social distancing to ward off the flu. Come summer I will spend a lot of time on lakes and Lake Superior kayaking and fishing so contact will be limited there also. Will continue social distancing to a degree come summer till the virus is really under control. Right now it's out there and will continue to be there. We may slow down the spread but will not stop it until we have a vaccine.

Wendy (Davis) Weiss - wweiss@centurytel.net

3. Same walk as the Davis siblings. About a mile walk and never thought it was that far. Seldom remember keeping a ride to or from school.

5. I play piano and organ for Sunday worship services taking turns with 2 others. Interesting challenge incorporating music in our live stream and radio broadcast. Radio is only for people who park by the church or can get reception from their homes. Like the old fashioned drive in theaters.

10. Covid19 has not had a huge effect on our lives. We don't see kids or grands unless outside. My husband is making wine. I am obligated to be a taste tester. Trying to get projects done.

I read your newsletter every time. I neglect responding but will try to do better in the future.

Susan Hammel - gourmay1@gmail.com

I won't eat liver or sardines.

Carl Normington and I used to walk to school together. It wasn't too far, just from 4th street up the hill to Lincoln .

I wanted to play oboe in band, but because Roger Hornig lived next door and need flutes that year, that's what I got. I played in a community band in Warrensburg, Missouri and still have my flute. Our granddaughter is interested in it now. I hated marching band practice in the early humid mornings!!!....Phoebe Sund got to play oboe....????

My husband does our gardening (huge) some seeds, some plants.

I do the cooking when it's all harvested although he makes marinara and salsa. Chokecherry ham and if the birds don't get the berries first.

Sick of being home...and have to be super careful because of my transplant/immune compromise. That's all

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Ursula Nogic - unogic@yahoo.com

All Tucked In

And ready to shop and bank. - Like Martha Stewart on house arrest, I'm baking and cooking and discovering all sorts of ways to happily self entertain. Hope you)re

keeping the prickly little corona monsters at bay and finding the fun in our new way of life.

It's a bit upside down but I feel that time is moving faster while also seeming more deliberative and more purposeful - a bit altered, you might say.

So lucky we don't have bombs dropping at the same time we're being ravaged by this threat, as my parents were during the war. Imagine.

Terry Stake - mrtbass7106@gmail.com

I eat almost anything. Lemons are only thing I wont eat. I am not fond of pineapple either.

As far as covid 19. We don't have many cases here in north woods of Wisconsin. I have MS so I stay at home. My wife works at Walmart and when she comes home she changes clothes and showers. I cant walk very good but I can get in about 15minutes outside a day. We also go for a drive once a week. I really miss sports and am going to start fishing on Saturday when fishing season opens. Staying at home everyday sucks but I ask the Lord to help me cope which he has done.

Ron Karnatz - karnatzr@wctc.net

Good morning Judy and Kent. Wisconsin Rapids is having a very cloudy day (Tuesday) after a great, warm, sunny day yesterday afternoon after a rainy morning. Here are a few comments for this weeks news letter.

1. I think that I eat almost everything, just some things are much more preferred.

2. I have tomato's, cucumbers and some flowers started from seeds in the dining room windows.

3. I walked to school most of the time from kindergarten through high school. Some times I did get a ride with some one. Walking partners varied but included Linda and Phill Zuege, Tom Pribennow(sp), Sue Hanson and on occasion Norm Arendt.

College chemistry classes were a lot more fun than high school but can't remember

any major blow ups.

7. I was in several plays while in high school and had lots of fun doing them. No musicals.

10. Covid-19 had created a few problems for our family. My mom and dad were to move into an assisted living facility at the time the stay-at-home order went into affect and all of the various assisted and senior living facilities went into lock down. Almost two months after the scheduled move they did finally get to move yesterday but the family is not allowed to visit. Cable TV is not allowed into the facility to install their cable. Phone company can't go into the facility to connect their phone. We can't take things in to decorate. So the move has occurred but it was not what we had hoped for but they did need to move some place where they would have have the help that they need.

Kent, thanks for keeping the news letter going.

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

ANYTHING YOU REFUSE TO EAT? -- Tuna! I can't get past the smell. When Merry opens a can of tuna I open a window and leave the kitchen. Same result with brussel sprouts. Then there's liver. Dad died when I was thirteen and I haven't had to eat a speck of liver since. It's a blood filtering organ for crying out loud, full of flukes and bile. If you find yourself licking your lips over a plate of liver and onions consider having a DNA test for a cross match with Jeffrey Dahmer. One more food. I'm on a roll now. It's called"rocky mountain oysters", also known as cattle testicles. I don't remember this from the Midwest, but out West they actually have Rocky Mountain Oyster festivals where people come from far and wide to dine on the byproduct of castrated cattle. You could dip them in chocolate and I still wouldn't eat a testicle! I'm thinking all males, of whatever species, should respect one another's reproductive organs. It's the one thing we have in common. You leave mine alone, etc., etc.. Perhaps the ultimate Quid Pro Quo.

WALKING TO SCHOOL? HOW FAR? -- Lincoln High was about a mile from home. I came home for lunch so I walked it 4 times a day, up hill both ways as they say. Do the math. 4 miles a day, 180 school day a year for 4 years. That's about 3000 miles or the equivalent of walking across North America from Atlantic to Pacific. Throw in Wisconsin winters and we have something to brag to our grandkids about.

CHEMISTRY CLASS. ANY MEMORABLE INCIDENTS? -- The only memorable incident was report card time. Chemistry and algebra left me wondering whether I could make it in this world.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS -- Football, basketball, and baseball. Thanks to the pitching of Eric Sydanmaa and Ron Grundeen we made it to the state baseball tournament our senior year. Eric pretty much dominated baseball in our conference for 4 years.
MEMORABLE GAMES -- In the first game of the tournament Eric was pitching and I was catching. He pitched himself into a jam. Coach Bill Bonesho came out to the pitcher's mound and said "Eric I'm going to have to pull you" I said "don't do it coach". Coach got in my face and said "who's coaching this team you or me?" I responded by saying "coach we wouldn't be here without Eric, he deserves a chance to get through this". Coach left him in and we got out of the jam, but still ended up losing the game.

Around 1990 Eric came out to Idaho to do some elk hunting. Picture two old friends sitting around a campfire strewn with empty beer cans reminiscing over that pitcher's mound scene a quarter century earlier.

HOW IS COVID 19 AFFECTING LIFE THESE DAYS? -- A friend of mine has a favorite saying, "if you can solve your problems with money you don't have any problems". When our son Brian came down with a severe case of Corona we'd have emptied the bank accounts and cashed in all the investments to get him through it. That's the problem, you can't buy your way out of this one. All we could do was rely on the odds. The odds of surviving this wicked killer were in his favor, but I still couldn't get out of my mind those refrigerator trailers full of body bags in New York City. Life may never be the same. We may live in a democracy, but an invisible dictator is taking control.

Toni Weller Olsen -LHS '64 - tonicrafty@gmail.com

1. Foods I refuse to eat - When I was a young kid, I was very picky about what I would eat. My mother, a wise woman about raising children, never made a big deal about my fussiness. She didn't think kids should be made to sit at the table until they ate some food they disliked, but she wasn't going to cook an extra meal just because I was picky. So her solution was to tell me I could make myself a peanut butter sandwich or get some cheese and crackers, and then she just carried on with whatever she had to do. My dad supported Mom in this approach.

I'm glad to say I outgrew this food pickiness (maybe around age 11 or so); and now

I like most foods, especially things made "from scratch."

Linda Edwards - ledwards6112@hotmail.com

I refuse to eat raw meat or seafood.

In the 'anything else' category...we rescued 5 baby bunnies after the Easter snowstorm. We knew where the nest was, so we looked for tracks but the mother didn't return. When we realized she wasn't going to return, we checked the nest, thinking the babies probably hadn't survived. We now have 5 healthy bunnies. Soon we'll start introducing them into the wild, with lots of advice from folks on the internet. We don't handle them any more than necessary. However, we do enjoy watching them play. They're very social and seem to care for each other. It's been a lot of fun and has helped pass the time while we are practicing social distancing.

Kaaren (Berg) Brehmer - kaarenknits@solarus.net

The list of things I refuse to eat is too long. I am bit of a picky eater. … except when it comes to chocolate. I never turn down chocolate!!!

We did a bunch of lettuces and radishes in our deck boxes up north 2 years ago and really enjoyed the very fresh salads. The growing season up there is so short that we only did that once.

I walked to school almost every day, first to Howe for kindergarten, then to Immanuel Lutheran for 8 years and to Lincoln for 4. Some of my best memories are walking to and from school with my sisters and the rest of the kids in the neighborhood. We used to walk home for lunch from Lincoln because we didn't much care for the hot lunch. We lived a block away from St. Vincent de Paul so we didn't have too far to go. On the days my dad was off from work he would make lunch for us.

Covid19 has not affected us too much at all. We generally stay pretty close to home. We have been going for a ride about once a week just to have a change of scenery and on nice days we go for a walk. We do miss church and the library and being able to eat inside at Culver's instead of having to get it "to go". We have been very amused that now all the restaurants in town have become drive ups. We plan to move back to our cottage in Boulder Junction in 2 weeks so we will quarantine

here for 7 days before we go and then for 7 days up there.

Susan Schulte - gaias4mail@gmail.com

Hi Kent. Thank you for all your efforts. It is good to feel connected to classmates.

In high school, band was the center of my life. I played flute and loved it. I have played some for fun but not for 5 years or so because my fingers don't move well any more (arthritis.) I played in the operetta orchestra our jr and sr years. I know we did Showboat but cannot recall the other one.

My favorite club in school was Future Nurses Club with Mrs. Nelson as our advisor. I especially loved the trip to Abbott Labs. Very impressive to a "nurse wannabe!"