

**From:** [The Vasbys](#)  
**To:** [i](#)  
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## *Lincoln High Newsletter*

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### **This week's topics:**

1. **Snow forts. Great topic for hot weather.** Did you build one with friends and defend it from the "enemy"?
2. **Ping-pong, badminton, horseshoes & shuffleboard.** Anyone still playing?
3. **Puss n' boots - My cat seems to have a shoe fetish.** She likes to curl up on my shoes after I kick them off. Anyone else's cat have this strange behavior?
4. **Men's clothing stores - your memories.** Any of the guys frequent Joseph A Bank stores nowadays?
5. **Rocking chairs and Family Bibles** - There must be a story there.
6. **Wicked weather - What's happening in your neck of the woods?** Wildfires, floods, high winds, droughts, dust storms?
7. **Olympics - Anyone going to London?** Anyone attend the Olympics in previous years?

### **and responses:**

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Ron Karnatz [karnatzr@wctc.net](mailto:karnatzr@wctc.net) writes:

Greetings, as Kent said it is too HOT to be outside. I did mow the lawn this morning (Monday) and just got back from a trip on my motorcycle and that was really HOT. Needed to go get a replacement vent cover for our camper.

I am a little late with this but wanted to tell my story regarding Darrell Newman. Darrell lived either a cross the street from us or a block away for the past 34 years, until the time of his death. We were in Florida at the time that he died. I got the "story" from one of his renters, who lived in the house across the street from us when we got back to Wisconsin. Darrell was always friendly and talkative. He was a great neighbor even if at times a little different. Several years ago he hurt his hand in his snow blower and after that would always come and get me to change locks on his rental houses as he changed them after each renter left. When our boys were small Darrell would always talk with them and offer them things and play with them in the street between the houses. He always stopped to talk when he collected the rent from the house across the street or whenever he came by and I was outside. He will be missed. The house that he last lived in and the one directly across the street from us are now empty and looking the worse for being empty. The one that still has renters also looks a little the worse for wear.

Char, my youngest son Aaron and I went to the Olympics in Atlanta (1996). My sister-in-law's parents live in Athens, Georgia and her dad was the maintenance manager for the University of Georgia. We stayed at their house. We had tickets for soccer matches and it was great. We did not see any other competition. We had been to Olympic park the day before the bombing. We did go back several days after the bombing and the place looked like not much had happened. I have been back to the park at least once since the Olympics. We did have a great time, but could not believe the number of people. We got around using the train system and I used that same train system for many business meetings in Atlanta after the Olympics.

Thank you again for doing the News Letter Kent, you are the greatest.

I hope that everyone has a Safe and Blessed Fourth of July Holiday. Remember our freedom and our troops.

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Don Solie [dg.solie@hotmail.com](mailto:dg.solie@hotmail.com) writes:

Men's clothing stores and my memories remain a favorite topic for me. Before my dad became the store manager for Johnson Hills he managed several departments including men's furnishings. I hated having to purchase all of my clothing from J&H, but since he was paying I really didn't have much choice. He kept an inventory appropriate for the older generation, thus I never had access to levis and peg leg slacks.

Time has a way of improving the situation and once in college he still paid, but I purchased what and from where I chose as long as it wasn't from a Wisconsin Rapids competitor. And in time he had his own men's store, Gordon's Better Clothing or Gordon Solie, LTD. That short adventure provided me with some really bad habits that I still follow today. I never look at the price on an article, if I like it, I buy it.

After moving away and eventually entering the business world I always earned a reputation for being well dressed. Early in my career I picked up an affinity for Hickey Freeman Suits, I had my dress shirts made, and most of my ties were high end silk ties.

While business casual has become the primary business dress code, I still wear suits when delivering presentations, negotiating contracts, or going for the money! Since the early '90's I've purchased most of my shirts from Robert Talbot either in their Dallas store or their Manhattan store. I also frequented Tino ties in Manhattan, although I think they've either moved or exited the business. They had the best looking, sexiest sales lady who could sell me anything based upon her presentation which was always alluring. And to this day, I do not look at the prices. Nordstrom's sells Talbot shirts and ties and they love to see me in the Galleria Store in Dallas or the location in Oak Brook, IL outside of Chicago.

I'm sure my wife would hemorrhage if she knew that I wear few ties more than 10 times, that's not a great habit if you are paying \$175 to \$200 per tie! I think those days have reached an end or will in 2012 as I am traveling less, selling less, and earning less. In fact with the events of last week i am thinking of becoming a taker rather than a payer.....can't believe it as I thought I'd work until I dropped. Hope this isn't a forecast for a very short longevity!!!

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Lynn DeLong [ledelong@cox.net](mailto:ledelong@cox.net) writes:

4. Men's clothing stores - memories. When in High School, I worked for Johnson-Hills. One of my jobs was to deliver Esquire Magazines monthly and Gentlemen's Quarterly (GQ) every three months to every barbershop in town plus other selected businesses. The merchandise sold by Johnson Hills had their advertisements and features highlighted with sticker to draw attention to them and let people know where

to buy the products.

Every two weeks, I would buy a VanHuessin or Arrow shirt from Gordon Solie. He sold me my first suits, Botany 500 and Hart Schaffner & Marx. Gordy made me buy ties and a hat with each new suit.

I did visit the other men's apparel stores when JH did not have what I needed. Able's was a favorite for sportswear. I have a sweater bought from Able's as a present for me over 40 years ago; I still wear it.

Today, I have a closet full of suits that are aging in their garment bags. Suits are not worn much in el valle del sol. I do have drawers of sweaters that I bought when caught in cold weather in the north. I wait for days to wear them here, but those days seldom come.

6. Wicked weather - How dry I am! AZ is in a drought but officially its "Monsoon" season and most people here hope for rain enough to stop the wildfires and provide for the agricultural and power needs of the state.

In Mesa, the dew point is 42 degrees (on Monday) and temp was 107; feels like 102. The rain is not reaching the ground; It is called virga. If the high wind kick up enough dust we call it an Haboob. When the atmospheric current push the Haboob high enough to reach the virga, we get sediment precipitation or "raining mud." My white roof is tan today.

Look up Googles Images of "Haboob" and "virga" for some great photos.

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Chuck Hinnars [Chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com](mailto:Chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com) writes:

Kent and Judy,

Our friends from South Carolina come to Milwaukee for Summerfest every year.

This year Susan and I invited them to come and stay with us after Summerfest.

They left the frigid 80 degree weather of South Carolina to hit Summerfest when it was 98.

Mike called to tell me he wouldn't play golf in 100 degree weather.

The first day (June 30) it was 99 and we played our home course.

Susan got heat stroke and quit after 7 holes

Mike's wife Neecey quit after 8

Mike broke the temperature, but lost \$10 to me and wanted revenge

The second day we played another course and it was only 98.

The ladies were smart and went to a movie about male strippers

I was cold but my golf game was hot and I beat him out of another \$10.

Yesterday (July 2) cooled to 97½, Mike lost another \$10 and accused me of bringing my own weather.

Never broke a sweat which convinced everyone that I'm not right.

Mike and his wife left for South Carolina this morning to escape the heat

Heilman always broke down my snow fort and my mother rewarded him with milk and cookies

I got to shovel the dog shit out of our dog pen.

Hornig was smart enough to stay away from snow forts and golf.

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Hi Kent:

John is driving the truck and pulling the snowmobiles in our July 4th parade in Phelps today. I just might ride with to stay in the air conditioned truck. We don't have a very large parade so all of the organizations try to have something in the parade.(John is vice-president of the snowmobile club).

Also, from last weeks topics concerning cruises. We have been on 25 cruises, 20 of them with Princess. All of them have been good, but we got hooked with Princess because they started a rewards program, so now it is hard to look at any other ones. I did get the Norwalk virus on one of the Mexican Riviera trips and it is bad stuff. I was in bed for three days and couldn't eat anything. Also, we are going on our 26th cruise the first week of September (11 days to Alaska).

Again thanks for doing the newsletter.

Rosie (Akkerman) Passer [rjpasser@sonicnet.us](mailto:rjpasser@sonicnet.us)

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Kent,

Regarding Don Solie's submission to the newsletter a couple of weeks ago:

In the face of hysterical and ill-informed rhetoric, silence is irresponsible and makes a response to last weeks assessment of President Obama obligatory. Innuendo and ad hominem attacks detract from reasoned argument and dehumanize us all. Can we not differ ideologically and still retain civility? I value every person's right of free speech but am not obliged to respect opinions born from seeds of hatred and resentment. A political debate based on rational discussion and empathy for our opponents benefits us all, and offers a way forward from the unproductive discord of our present political scene.

Respectfully,

Paul Harshner [jensam@hotmail.com](mailto:jensam@hotmail.com)

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Hi Kent,

Just wanted to let you know - today I received my 2012 Social Security Stimulus Package. It contained two tomato seeds, cornbread mix, a prayer rug, a machine to blow smoke up my ass, 2 discount coupons to KFC, an "Obama Hope & Change" bumper sticker, and a "Blame it on Bush" poster for the front yard. The directions were in Spanish.

Watch for yours soon.

Best regards,

Jack Sultze

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