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LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER

This week's topics:

Your memories of:

1. Best meal ever
2. Worst ride
3. Best vacation
4. Grandparents - which pair did you like the most and why?
5. Worst weather you ever experienced.
6. Most memorable classmate
7. Best foreign country you visited
8. Worst hospital stay.
9. Best or worst car you ever owned.
10. Voting the first time.

and responses:

Chris Gorski - cwgorski@yahoo.com

BEST CAR.....saved most of every paycheck during my 2 tours in Viet Nam, the additional amount for hazardous duty pay, jump pay and the per Diem pay from days spent in Cambodia and Laos really added up. Add to this the fact that my checks were automatically deposited in my Bank of America account and since I spent most of my time in the bush, I came home with a pretty nice nest egg. I ETS'd (got out) on Thanksgiving Day, 1969 and had 2 goals, 1- go back to school at LaCrosse and 2-start shopping for a Corvette. Paid cash for one the following spring, it was a Teal blue, 1969 427 cu in 400 hp coupe with a positraction rear end and with a manual 4 speed transmission. The only down side was that I never checked with my insurance agent regarding coverage and after buying it, I learned I no longer could get ordinary American Family coverage and had to insure it with their high risk division, American Standard. Still, it was a goal accomplished, loved driving that car, kept it until my daughter, Sarah was born in 1974, then traded it in on a new Pontiac Grand Prix. For you car enthusiasts out there, I bought it for just under \$5000;00, something like \$4850 or 4895.00, today you would have to move the decimal point one position to the right, unbelievable.

BEST VACATION.....Went on the traditional family vacations to places like Disney World, Yellowstone, New England plus numerous northern Wisconsin camping and fishing trips but my favorite vacation was when we all went skiing at Steam Boat springs Colorado. I've always loved snow skiing having gone to Indianhead, Whitecap and Powderhorn in Northern WI and the U.P. both when I was young and with the family but I had always wondered what it would be like to ski powder in Colorado. We went when my twins, Sam and Matt were 10 and Sarah was 14. Picked Steamboat because it was more of a family oriented venue. Stayed in a condo right in town, just a shuttle bus ride away from the base of the mountain. Stayed there for a week during the kids 1988 Christmas vacation from school. Had just a wonderful time exploring the entire mountain, skiing every run even those considered the wilderness ones. My children still snow ski every chance they get but Lutsen MN is the closest to experiencing Colorado powder again....., and yes, I still snow ski!

Barbara Cammack - barbaracammack@hotmail.com

One of the best meals we had in a restaurant was in Ixtapa, Mexico at the marina area. On a deck, over the water, among huge yachts at night we ate the best lobster and fresh fish ever. Maybe the ambience made it more so. The best homemade meal was also on the water, in Lake Michigan, on our friend's sailboat. We had sailed three boats from Hammond, IN to Door County, WI. While four of us from two boats stayed in the bay, the third boat sailed all day and rose pizza dough to then cook the yummiest pizza ever on their return to share with us. Maybe the wine made it better!

The worst weather we've encountered was on a cruise to New Zealand and Australia in 2002. The waves were so high and fierce that a window and antenna on the Royal Caribbean Ship were damaged and two piers at ports were washed away. Racks of dishes smashed in the kitchens and lots of us were in our cabins for 24 hrs. straight. Bill was thrilled to be in a storm at sea and was one of very few that made it to mealtime for two days.

But on a good note, New Zealand was a beautiful country, the people were friendly and talked with a great accent and we saw happy rugby players for a big tournament there as well as props and posters for the movie filmed there-"Lord of the Rings".

We just returned from a cruise on the Baltic Sea with three other couples. We had great weather, exceptional food, and terrific ports. We flew into Stockholm, Sweden where I ate wonderful reindeer and then went on to Helsinki, Finland where we saw a church totally built into a rock and the ceiling was miles of copper tubing in circles.

Three days in St.Petersburg, Russia where your passport was checked everytime you entered but no one smiled or said welcome. The "Hermitage" was a spectacular museum of gold, art, collectibles and Russian history and the "onion domes" and gold spires from cathedrals were magnificent. Three cities all built on canals and all good.

Then we toured, Tallinn, Estonia which is a medieval town inside a wall, Klaipeda, Lithuania where a teacher had four hours of classes and then took us on a ride to see her country and told us most countries nearby do not trust Putin and still fear Russia.

We saw Gdansk, Poland, famous for Solidarity Monument (1970 stand against shipyard workers' deaths), Berlin and the Communist's wall and "checkpoint Charlie", Copenhagen, Denmark famous for Tivoli Gardens and Hans Christian Andersen and Oslo, Norway. The last two cities also built on canals. We flew out of Amsterdam, which along with Oslo and many other cities, have thousands of bicycles that everyone uses for work. By 2020 they hope to be energy neutral. One of the best vacations!

Bill Severson - wseverson47@gmail.com

Our Grandma McGinty from Adams was all of our favorites . Lived in big house which we all visited and stayed at during our growing up years . She passed away at great age of 92 .She was so well known in Adams/Friendship area that some funerals if there was hardly anyone there the local Rosebury home would call her and pick her up to attend for rosary .

Judy (Ehlert) Brown - jbshells47@gmail.com

4. My favorite grandmother was my dad's mother. She lived in Caroline, WI and as a result was called "grandma Caroline". I used to spend as much time with her as I could during the summers. She taught me how to sew, knit and crochet. My favorite memories as a child were at her house.

5. Worst weather ever was Hurricane Wilma here in Florida. It was my first experience with a hurricane so didn't know what to expect. I was the manager of Indies West, a condominium (am still here) and on the beach of the Gulf of Mexico. Evacuated a few miles inland to a condo we owned on a golf course. The pressure from the storm had our sliding glass patio doors heaving in and out. One window in the bedroom imploded into the room. We were not injured but shards of glass all over the place. It happened so fast you didn't have time to react. All we could do was close the bedroom door and hope for the best. It was almost impossible to open that door again during the storm - the storm pressure was so powerful.

The eye of the storm was an unbelievable calm. We, as well as our neighbors were all outside checking out the damage and chatting with one another.

Then the other side of the storm started moving in. Back inside to "hunker down". It was as bad or worse than the front of the storm. Once it was all over with, I went back to Indies west to see the damage there. I will never forget what I saw. It was like a bomb had been dropped. Our a/c units on the roof had been rolled up in the flat roof membranes like tacos and hanging over the edge or on the ground. We had to hire a diver to check out the marina where a lot of debris and a/c units had landed. Some a/c units were never found. I could stand inside upper floor units and look up at the sky. Many of the units were "condemned" until repairs could be made.

Were without electricity for a week which meant no a/c. I had a little battery operated fan and light in my bedroom. Lived on thawed out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches - you know the ones you buy individually wrapped and frozen. After a week without electricity, it was about all that was left to eat. We had one generator for the complex and we used that to make coffee and keep our ice machine working. You could not buy ice anywhere so we considered ourselves lucky with our ice machine and neighbors made frequent visits. Had to go in each unit and empty out their refrigerators/freezers with a flashlight and giant trash bags - the smell was overwhelming. Could tell many stories about that week, but you get the picture. It took a full year to rebuild the complex and was a very difficult year. As I write this, Hurricane Matthew is heading for the east coast of Florida. My heart goes out to those people. At this point, we should only experience 40 mph winds and bands of rain here on the west coast of Florida. Keeping my fingers crossed!!

Pete Smullen - pete_smullen@hotmail.com

5. Worst weather you ever experienced.

I was on my submarine, on patrol, in the North Atlantic. During one particularly nasty storm we were rocking and rolling, even at a depth of 400 feet. Couldn't go any deeper as we had to maintain communication.

Unfortunately, every so often we had to go to periscope depth to get a star fix for our location ... yes, I am that old that my submarine preceded GPS.

I was the diving officer when we went to periscope depth in that storm. Forty to sixty foot waves. I managed to keep some semblance of submerged, but if anybody had been watching from above, I'm sure they would have seen our sail exposed multiple times. Because we were moving around so much, it took Navigation much longer than normal to get their fix so I "had the dive" several hours longer than normal.

Finally, I was given the order to proceed back to depth. As soon as we were stable at 400 feet, my relief took over. That's when I discovered I was one of the few people on board who was not seasick.

Bob Schmidt - 2803chopper@gmail.com

Worst car.....I didn't own it, Dave Crotteau did. It was a Comet, I think probably a 1960, with a three speed on the column. This car was such a piece of shit, it would get up to about five miles an hour in first and get stuck in snow going down hill. But, with Heilman, Erdman, Dhein, Walters, Lambert and others packed in, it was priceless.

Marcie [Basler] Ortscheid '65 - marcie.ortscheid@ki.com

Best meal; went to Maine and they have lobster shacks along the way and ate lobster for 2 meals a day and the price was great, had a 3 lb lobster for only 13.00 so I did get my lobster fix. 7. Best foreign country .. had to be Brazil, France, and Switzerland, I am going to Krakow Poland in April so maybe I can add that to my list. 4. Only knew my grandparents on my mother's side as my dad come from Switzerland so did not get to meet them and then when I finally got there they had both passed away.

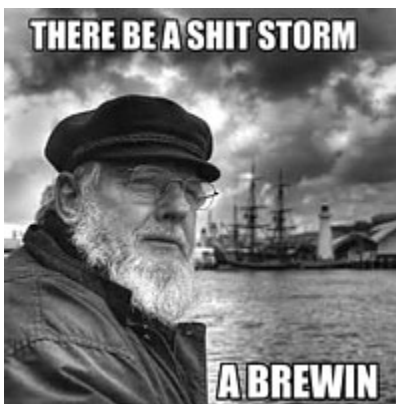
Toni Weller Olsen - LHS '64 - tonicrafty@gmail.com

9. My little 1990 Toyota Tercel hatchback was a car I loved. It was such a little workhorse and very dependable. I drove it for about 20 years, and it was a stick shift. The trunk was roomy, and the back window was nice and big. Also big were the back lights. Easy to see.

10. The first election I voted in was 1964. Lyndon Johnson and Barry Goldwater were the candidates. It was exciting to me then and still is exciting after all these years of voting. I can't get my head around the idea that some eligible voters don't vote, especially in presidential elections.

Letters to the Editor

Ed note: In yesterday's **Military Newsletter**, I included this pic and wished "Good luck" to **Chuck Hinners** and other readers on the east coast.



Chuck responded:

Kent,

We are out of the shit storm (more likely a false alarm sounded by the weather wackos)

Drove to Montgomery AL yesterday.
Nearly all of Florida and half of GA and SC are "on vacation" at the same time!
Big traffic backups and gridlocks in rural SC and GA on way here.

Chuck Hinners - Saint Helena Island, SC - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

Cancer update - I had a CT and a Pet scan last week. They showed little or no residue from the original rare cancer in my nasal cavity. that was the one that was so bad they gave me 3-6 months to live back last November. However, the lump that developed on my jaw is of the same cancer that was in my nasal passage. BUT, this one appears to be treatable, to extent any cancer may be treatable, with chemo-therapy. The cancer Doc said I was the first one she had ever seen that that happened to. So, in december I will probably start a new round of chemo to shrink the jaw lump. They are uncertain about any long term side effects, but given my history, they thought I would tolerate ok with not too much diminution in life style....for how long??...anyone's guess. So I am starting ?heavy? chemo starting in 2nd week of Dec. for 9 weeks. So I may be around a while longer. Plan to be gone RVing for about a month in November, CO to Texas and back.

How children perceive their Grandparents

1. She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye.
2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "80". My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"
3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"
4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking all this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"
5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and replied, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.
6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?", he asked. "I don't know", she replied. "I can't read."
7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"
8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to avoid attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."
9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure."
"Look in your underwear, Grandpa", he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."
10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting." she said . . . "How do you make babies?" "It's simple", replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."
11. Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant", said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder, pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?", she asked. "Sure", replied the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."

12. A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties.

"They use him to keep crowds back", said one child.

"No", said another. "He's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to a close. "You're both wrong . . .

They use the dogs", she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."

13. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

14. Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

15. My Grandparents are funny. When they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog.