

**From:** The Vasbys [kvasby@smallbytes.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 3:10 PM  
**To:** Undisclosed-Recipient:;  
**Subject:** Lincoln High Newsletter - 2/19/15

## Lincoln High Newsletter

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### Address change:

Marcia (Rokus) Mauk - [mrrmmauk@gmail.com](mailto:mrrmmauk@gmail.com)

I have been disconnected from the class news since the first of the year but keep in touch somewhat (via phone) with Kaaren (Berg) Brehmer. Not much news gets generated in the life of retirees here in Santa Fe. I assume the 50th LHS reunion is still viable for August-- I plan to attend.

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### Remembering Mom's Clothesline

Sent by Sue (Peaslee) Schulte - [sueschulte3@yahoo.com](mailto:sueschulte3@yahoo.com)

THIS IS FUNNY AND QUITE TRUE....WE ARE PROBABLY THE LAST GENERATION THAT WILL REMEMBER WHAT A CLOTHES LINE WAS....Great memories for some of us! It's the poem at the end that's the best!

There is one thing that's left out. We had a long wooden pole (clothes pole) that was used to push the clotheslines up so that longer items (sheets/pants/etc.) didn't brush the ground and get dirty. I can hear my mother now...

THE BASIC RULES FOR CLOTHESLINES: (If you don't even know what clotheslines are, better skip this.)

1. You had to hang the socks by the toes... NOT the top.
2. You hung pants by the BOTTOM/cuffs... NOT the waistbands.
3. You had to WASH the clothesline(s) before hanging any clothes - walk the entire length of each line with a damp cloth around the lines.
4. You had to hang the clothes in a certain order, and always hang "whites" with "whites," and hang them first.
5. You NEVER hung a shirt by the shoulders - always by the tail! What would the neighbors think?
6. Wash day on a Monday! NEVER hang clothes on the weekend, or on Sunday, for Heaven's sake!
7. Hang the sheets and towels on the OUTSIDE lines so you could hide your "unmentionables" in the middle (perverts & busybodies, y'know!)
8. It didn't matter if it was sub-zero weather....clothes would "freeze-dry." I remember my Grandfather's union suits standing by themselves frozen. How many remember union suits?
9. ALWAYS gather the clothes pins when taking down dry clothes! Pins left on the lines were "tacky"!
10. If you were efficient, you would line the clothes up so that each item did not need two clothes pins, but shared one of the clothes pins with the next washed item.

11. Clothes off of the line before dinner time, neatly folded in the clothes basket, and ready to be ironed. (IRONED? Well, that's a whole OTHER subject!)

And now a POEM....

A clothesline was a news forecast, to neighbors passing by,  
There were no secrets you could keep, when clothes were hung to dry.  
It also was a friendly link, for neighbors always knew  
If company had stopped on by, to spend a night or two.  
For then you'd see the "fancy sheets", and towels upon the line;  
You'd see the "company table cloths", with intricate designs.  
The line announced a baby's birth, from folks who lived inside,  
As brand new infant clothes were hung, so carefully with pride!

The ages of the children could, so readily be known  
By watching how the sizes changed, you'd know how much they'd grown!  
It also told when illness struck, as extra sheets were hung;  
Then nightclothes and a bathrobe too, haphazardly were strung.  
It also said, "On vacation now", when lines hung limp and bare.  
It told, "We're back!" when full lines sagged, with not an inch to spare!  
New folks in town were scorned upon, if wash was dingy and gray,  
As neighbors carefully raised their brows, and looked the other way.

But clotheslines now are of the past, for dryers make work much less.  
Now what goes on inside a home, is anybody's guess!  
I really miss that way of life, it was a friendly sign,  
When neighbors knew each other best...  
by what hung on the line.

**David Engel**

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**From:** The Vasbys [kvasby@smallbytes.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:16 AM  
**To:** Undisclosed-Recipient;  
**Subject:** Topics - LHS Newsletter - 2/19

**We are making up a trivia test for the class reunion**

**Here are a couple samples**

**Who was US History teacher who moved to Rapids in 1963?  
What was the name of the soda shop on the west side of Rapids near Mead School?  
Who was the principal at Woodside in 8th grade?**

**But you can do better than these no-brainers**

**Send your stumpers and we'll see how you classmates do in the 50th reunion final**

**Thanks to those of you have already submitted your recondite renderings of perspicacity**

**Chuck and Susan Hiners**