
From: The Vasbys <kvasby@smallbytes.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 4, 2017 3:10 PM
To: Undisclosed-Recipient;;
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 5/4/17

Lincoln High Newsletter

RE: Vince Biegel getting drafted by the Packers

Barb Thalacker - Cousin of my cousin too. Yippee

Roger Fritz - I also always liked him for his connection to cranberries. Now maybe he can buy his own or a larger bog.

<http://www.agdaily.com/video/biegel-wisconsin-cranberry-farmer-nfl-draft/>

My good friend in Massachusetts had a small bog and I had great fun helping him, especially at harvest time. We once lived for 17 years in the town of Lakeville, Ma, where Ocean Spray has their headquarters. Do you remember the Cranberry parades in Rapids or "the cranberry scare"?

Nancy Timm - AWESOME! Let's hope he does us as well as himself proud! Thanks for the update!

Toni Olsen - Great news about Vince Biegel getting drafted by the Packers. He has such deep roots in the Rapids and is also the grandson of Susie Eichorn Dempze, LHS class of '64.

This week's topics:

1. Remembering the toys of our childhood - what were they?
2. How many pets have you had over the years? Do you remember their names?
3. Mainline churches are losing members. How's your local church doing?
4. It's tick season once again. Have you had Lyme disease? Any lasting effects?
5. One of the readers is considering having both knees replaced at once. Have any of you done that? How did it work out?
6. Do you participate in organized exercise? How's it working?
7. What's the funniest thing that happened to you or someone you know?
8. Do you think Christians in America are being persecuted? How?
9. Have you ever experienced someone "speaking in tongues"?
10. It's severe weather time. Do you have a generator to supply electricity to your home if the power goes out? Used it?

11. Anything else you'd care to write about.

and responses:

Bill Cammack - billcammack@hotmail.com

Barb (Martin) and I live in The Villages, Florida. This is a retirement community of around 110,000 mostly old people. The churches around here are flourishing. Most churches have had to add on and once the additions are completed, they have to add on again or open branch churches (if that's what they are called). The only explanation I can come up with is that we are all getting close to the end and everyone wants to hedge his/her bets!!

Don Solie - dg.solie@hotmail.com

5. My wife has had both knees replaced, but they were two years apart. Prior to the replacements the left knee had two meniscus surgeries, and the right knee had one meniscus surgery. She played tennis for 20 years winning city team and individual championships in the many communities we called home: Indianapolis, Atlanta, Austin, Dallas, Oak Brook (Chicago), and San Diego. Claims she'd do it all again. She had a friend in Ft. Worth who had both done at once and got through the rehab Ok. She had to have both done together because of other medical issues. Most surgeons prefer not to do both at once because the recovery and rehab require real commitment and dedication. I have a friend who had both replaced but waited six weeks for the second.

3. We've been affiliated with Presbyterian and Methodist (current) and experienced pretty level membership. We're changing to a United Methodist in McKinney, TX in two weeks (we move 5/16) and it is growing steadily due in part to the expanding community growth. Here in the DFW area we've experienced a steady level of membership in Lutheran, Baptist, and the afore mentioned churches.

8. Persecution of Christians in the US is difficult to assess since geographically definitions of Christians may vary, and the sources of potential persecution can be dependent on the source. Our experience has been persecution free, but in the nation the number of regularly attending Christians has been declining.

Candace Caylor - klorkatz@att.net

1. I wasn't much for dolls but I loved playing outdoors. I had my own bat and played "baseball" with the neighbor kids. I did love playing jacks and pick-up-stix. My dad did make me a doll house that I actually played with. I played board games and Candyland was my favorite. Going back to last week's subject—I lived on Irving St. midway between Irving School and Robinson Park. The neighbor kids and I would play in the park. In those days you could go without your parents and have no fear. The only stipulation was to not go near the "bum jungle". That was down an embankment near the train tracks. Of course we would go down there. Never saw a bum.

2. I've had many cats. I can't remember all their names. The last few I owned here in Milw. were Scotch, Tequi, Coco, Minty, Squeaky, Squirt, and now Pepper and Ginger. And no, I didn't have them all at once! I also owned 2 small Lasa Apos, but did not have enough time to spend with them because of the crazy nursing shift hours. I'm just an animal lover.

3. I do think the mainline churches have lost members to the large nondenominational churches. My local church—Congregational-- is a charter church and is doing quite well.

5. I'm still contemplating knee surgery but not both at once.

8. I think we are trying too hard to be so inclusive about different religions that Christians are being left behind. How can we allow Muslim prayers at the work place and in schools, etc. when we can't even say prayers anymore for fear we will hurt someone's feelings.

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

1. Toys of our childhood - I remember Tinker Toys, Lincoln Logs, puzzles of all kinds, Yo Yo's, doll houses made of metal or aluminum, wooden blocks, and balsa wood airplanes to name a few. You can still get the balsa wood airplanes. I saw some recently that said "made in USA" believe it or not. One of my sons loved Matchbox pocket vehicles when he was a kid, and my 7-year-old grandson loves them too. They're quite a bargain at around a dollar. Sadly they've been made in China for a long time. My husband Larry has a cool "rocket bank" from his childhood. It's made of cast aluminum and has the name of a Chicago Savings and Loan Association on the side. You place a coin on the rocket, pull back on a spring-loaded little plane, and the coin shoots into the part of the bank that looks like a little world globe. That's my trip down memory lane for today.

Roger Fritz - fritzcat11@yahoo.com

#1 My Dad once gave me a new Schwinn Black Phantom bicycle. I could tell that his tastes in bicycles were not the same as mine. It had a built in horn and light and I thought it was really ugly. Pops was such a nice guy that I couldn't tell him so I rode it. Sometimes other kids wanted to give it a try so I was happy to trade with them. Chris Gorski had a real "beater" which I would have gladly traded for in a heartbeat except for Pops. In about 2009, I saw my same old Black Phantom in the Smithsonian in Washington DC.

#3 There are few Episcopalians, Lutherans or Presbyterians native to SW Virginia so they formed this combined church made up of mostly older retired folks from the northern US. It's really booming, pardon the expression, and I expect it will continue to do so as long as people kept retiring and moving south for the better weather. The other churches in the area also seem to be doing well, probably because the South is less secular.

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

I could address a number of your subjects, but I will limit my reply to the "pet" question. I assume hunting dogs qualify as pets. We have had a number of hunting dogs since we moved to Idaho in 1970, but one has a particularly interesting story to it.

The story actually starts my junior year at LHS. In that year I was on the varsity basketball team. Coach Rheel wanted to bring up 6'8" Bruce Ristow from the sophomore squad, either because of his exceptional ability or my lack thereof. In any event, they cut me from the squad in order to make room for Bruce.

Fast forward 40 years to 2003. I needed to replace my Brittany Spaniel bird dog. My hunting buddy told me NOT to get a "field trials" dog. Instead he advised me to get a "gun" dog. Where do I get a "gun" dog I asked. The best "gun" dogs in the country are raised by Tainter Creek Kennels in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin. I Googled Tainter Creek Kennels and who do you think the owner is? 300 million people in the country and 6 million people in Wisconsin and I need to buy a bird dog from the guy who bumped me off the LHS basketball team 40 years earlier. Bruce and his wife Sue developed an outstanding strain of Brittany bird dogs that were just what I was looking for.

I contacted Bruce and jokingly suggested he owed me a favor. He laughed and said moving up to the Varsity was the worst thing that could have happened to him. He was a star on the JV's, but "rode the pine" on the Varsity. In any event, Bruce found me a dog and put it on a plane to Idaho. She's the BEST dog that ever lived! Thanks again, Bruce.

Kent Vasby - Fort Atkinson Class of 58 - kvasby@smallbytes.net

1. Had the usual Lincoln Logs and Erector set but Dad also got me a functional toy steam engine to power the things I made with the erector set.
 2. First dog I remember was Blackie, dad's hunting Lab. We've had 2 dogs, Doc & Marlo. Cats have been around since my 16 year old daughter brought home a pregnant female from our neighbor. Currently have Calli, a calico cat.
 3. The Methodist church in America is hurting. But our local UMChurch is doing OK as we use scripture as our base, not the social gospel.
 8. Persecuted Christians? Trump's executive order of this morning did much to alleviate that here in the US. At least until some 9th Circuit judge rules otherwise.
 9. Haven't needed a generator since the ice storm of 1976. Was working at Monkey Ward in Fort Atkinson at the time and when I woke up and went outside and heard all the tree branches snapping off, I figured it was time to have one. Drove to the store and bought the only one we had in stock. Took it home and powered the furnace and coffee maker for 5 days. Used it at several other homes in Cambridge to get their homes warm - at least for a short time.
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Letter to the Editor

Roger Fritz writes:

Many people thank you for your efforts with the News Letter and I sure am one of them. You may not have considered that it sparks lots of communication you never see. The example below is how I sometimes utilize the info you provide. Thanks again.

Roger

----- Forwarded Message -----
From: Roger Fritz <fritzc11@yahoo.com>
To: "pete_smullen@hotmail.com"
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:22 AM
Subject: More old memories

Pete,

I saw your photo in the newsletter and although I don't think I ever knew you, you represent two thoughts I often have about the Rapids kids during my high school years.

One is where are they all now and two is if I were standing next to one of them now would I know it? The newsletter is good but many of the kids I occasionally think about do not respond. Your mention of Assumption lit up some of my old synaptic nerves and prompted me to ask you if you know anything about the Krumrui brothers? I remember them from Little League. I know that the younger one, Steve, played football in North Dakota (North Dakota State?) and later worked for the City (Rapids). I can't recall the older brother's name, which is getting to be a more common thing than I'd like to admit. I believe it was Dave and their father was Roger. I remember him as a heck of a nice guy and ran across him briefly at the University of Wisconsin where his wife (Sharon?) worked in the Engineering Dept.

Maybe you knew my two cousins who also attended Assumption? Carol Jean and Nancy Mrsas.

I may have met you once on the football field. Our freshmen football team went down Chestnut Street to scrimmage the Assumption team. We / I thought we were hot stuff and assumed that because Lincoln was so much bigger than Assumption, we would kick butt. That scrimmage taught me a lifetime of humility. I assume Dave was one of the Assumption guys on the other side of the line issuing the lesson. After that I always read of the Assumption exploits in a

different light. (The Catholic grade schools, had a football league and the early exposure to the game gave them an edge. eg. One of our better LHS players, and a good friend, Chris Gorski, played at St Marys.)

Thanks for indulging me. I figure you can always hit the DELETE button.
Roger Fritz - LHS class of 1965