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Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 9/28/17

LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER

Responses to previous topics:

Leslie Fitz - rfitz750@outlook.com

I'm very late but I want to answer number 8. I do believe, with all out technology & science, we may be prolonging life & are not asking what is best for the person. I'm retired from the medical center now. However in my 17 years, I saw some patients being treated for cancer who also had other complicated diagnoses. Why in the world would we treat an 86 year old with congestive heart failure using harsh chemo medicines that made her even sicker- before she passed away!

(There! I've waited a long time to get that off my chest). In so many areas of our culture, we do things just because we can - without consideration for just what makes sense. Thanks for the opportunity to sound off.

How unusual are these hurricanes?
by Don Wylie - donwylie2@gmail.com

I looked at the last 20 years of Atlantic hurricanes to see if this is an unusual year. The web site weather.unisys.com has the tracks of all the hurricanes and typhoons (same storms in the Pacific Ocean) over the last 20 yrs. The average # of tropical storms and hurricanes has been:

Tropical storms (winds >39 mph) average 15.9/yr

Hurricanes (winds > 74 mph) average 6.9/yr

Strong hurricanes of => category 3 (winds >112 mph) average 3.2/yr

Of these storms the US gets hit by an average of 4.2/yr of which hurricane strength storms hitting the us average 2.0/yr and Cat. 3 hurricanes hit the US on the average of 1.2/yr.

2017 has had 14 tropical storms so far of which 7 reached hurricane strength and 2 hit the US (Harvey and Irma) which got the big publicity. There also were 2 more big hurricanes that ravaged Caribbean islands.

This is not the worst year for tropical storms. In 2004 and 2005 we had 5 hurricanes of cat. 3 strength that hit the US each yr.

2004 Jeanne hit central Florida as a Cat. 3 storm and traveled across the state (It went to Disneyland).

Ivan slammed Mississippi east of New Orleans and was a Cat. 5 in the Gulf weakening slightly as it came in.

2005 Cindy hit New Orleans in July as a Cat. 1 hurricane. This probably gave some people an illusion that hurricanes are survivable. Katrina took down the dikes in late August. It was Cat. 5 in the Gulf but weakened to Cat. 3 just before it hit New Orleans.

Rita hit eastern Texas – western Louisiana in later September when we thought it was over.

After 2005 very few hurricanes came ashore in the US. The biggest was Matthew last year that toured the east coast from Florida to South Carolina.

The bottom line is that this isn't unusual. We had a slight reprieve from strong hurricanes hitting the US for 10 years (2006-2015) so this summer only seems unusual.

We must have classmates living in Florida. We'd like to hear from you.

This week's topics:

1. Why you love/hate winter.
2. Stuff you memorized in grade school / high school and still remember.
3. Homecoming memories.
4. Paper or Plastic?
5. Sadie Hawkins dances. Did you have Sadie Hawkins dances at LHS?
6. School bus drivers.

and responses:

Ed note: No one responded so I'm just going to send the responses of 5 years ago.

Don Wylie dwyllie@chorus.net writes:

These are very personal topics:

1. I love winter. Why? Because when I grew up on the farm, summers were all work and no play. But in winter, when there was snow and Powers Bluff County Park. Skiing was free and for about \$1.50, Olie Arneson rented skies, boots and poles for all the fun a kid could get. Powers Bluff is still there but they don't make snow so skiers are at nature's mercy. It also has the most beautiful blooms of Trillium flowers in early May. Check it out around Mother's Day.

2. Stuff I memorized in school. Arithmetic - Chris Mattheis (LHS 65) and I went to a one room grade school, Altdorf on County D. Since there were 8 grades and 24 kids in one class room with only one teacher, we had a lot of free time. We drilled on arithmetic flash cards to break the boredom. Chris is now an accountant and once said to me, "Do you notice that for simple addition, subtraction and multiplication, you get the answer in your head before your hand gets to the calculator?" We learned it at Altdorf.

Some of the most useful math I learned was from Mr Wagoner's class at LHS - mainly trigonometry and geometry. Polly Sci and Government - I learned far more from Mr. Geotzke's class at LHS than the one BS course I took in college.

3. Homecoming memories - Where did all those Outhouses that always appeared on the LHS bonfire come from?

5. Sadie Hawkins dances - I remember Kathy Wittenburg (LHS 65) who usually sat in front of me in classes, asking "what would I say if I got twerped?" I said I'd give those usual answers that girls say when they don't want to go out with you like, "I got a headache. I have to baby sit" Kathy said she was asking for someone else. I was a dumb teenager and I later found out that I really I blew it. At our ten year reunion, Karen Serchen revealed that she's the one Kathy was asking for. Karen was happily married by that time and so was I.

Gene Hafermann genehafermann@charter.net writes:

1. I love that after winter comes spring. I hate the bleakness if there is no snow. And I'm not too fond of extreme cold anymore.
2. Words to many songs. A few Bible verses. SOHCAHTOA. A couple poems (Barefoot Boy and The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere).
3. None.
4. It depends. Frozen goes in plastic. Most everything else in paper or carry in bags.
5. I think they had them, but I never was into dancing.
6. Can't recall a one of them. Mostly car pooled though.

Jack Sultze writes:

Winter?

Living in Southern California... what's not to love about the winters? We have had a long run of close to 100 degree weather this summer. Can't wait for a little "winter". It's about the only thing left that would make anyone want to live here.

Memorization?

"Thirteenth days hath September, April, June and November....."

Homecoming memory?

Participating in the theft of the outhouse that went on top of the bonfire. It was funny at the time, but it really was a "shitty" thing to do.

Paper or Plastic?

The following is a part of the signature that goes with my work e-mails:

Feel free to print this email!

Trees used for paper are a renewable resource.

They are fast-growing hybrids, farmed - like corn.

They are harvested and more are planted in their place.

These fast-growing forests absorb billions of tons of carbon and the pulp, paper and related industries employ hundreds of thousands of American workers.

I hate plastic grocery bags, though I suppose folks working in a plastic bag factory think they're great. Have the reusable bags but nine out of ten times forget to take them into the store. We recycle so trust that the bags we dispose of don't get into a landfill.

TIP: Tie them in a knot before putting them out. They won't blow around your neighborhood if the wind can't get inside.

Sadie Hawkins Dances.

We had 'em. I didn't do dances..... well, except at the Corpsman Hall where beer was involved. The kids now don't know that the concept originated from a comic strip.

Jack Sultze

jsultze@verizon.net

Kaaren (Berg) Brehmer kaarenknits@solarus.net writes:

The only good thing about winter is being able to be warm and snug inside by the fire. I don't like being too cold (or too warm) and having to bundle up just to go to the mailbox. I love the heated seats in the car and the fact that now that we're retired, I no longer have to shovel.

I can still sing row, row, row your boat in Latin! My husband can sing jingle bells in Latin. A friend who quite often sits next to me in church thinks I have all the hymns committed to memory--that's what 8 years of parochial school will do to you!

We try not to use paper or plastic. We have a large collection of cloth totes that we use. Copps even gives us a nickel off each time we use one.

I remember Sadie Hawkins Day at LHS. It was the only day the girls were allowed to wear pants to school---dress pants, not jeans.

Never rode the bus. Dick Calvi, whose Dad owned a bus company was in my class at Immanuel.

Chad Lewis chad.a.lewis@comcast.net writes:

The thing I remember memorizing in high school was "The Death of 69,000". Not appropriate for repeating here. Had to memorize Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in eighth grade and recite it in front of a crowd on Memorial Day. I left out one line but I don't think anyone noticed except my teacher.

I was asked to a Sadie Hawkins dance in eighth grade. It was winter time and when the girl came to get me. I slipped on the icy driveway and slid under my dad's car. I was embarrassed but unhurt and still had a good time.

