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Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 6/3/04
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Lincoln High Newsletter

Memories of then! News of now!

New readers:

Judy (Evenson) Truttman - saftsadi@yahoo.com

Marcie (Basler) Ortscheid - Marcie.ortscheid@kl.com

Editor's note: Cary Winegarden is returning to the Rapids this July. How about a mini-reunion on either the 15th or 16th?

Hi Kent: Wow - I got a newsletter that went through. Don't know why but I am not complaining! (smile). Congrats on the wedding! Hope we get to see some pictures (smile).

Our son is graduating high school June 10th. Turns 18 on June 9th. Our daughter, Krista, is flying in the morning of the 9th and will surprise him. He doesn't think she can make it as she is living in Paris, France while attending Columbia U grad school. He will be so surprised - and touched beyond words I am sure. I am counting the days as we have not seen her since Christmas. She will be home for good in Sept. (It is a 2 year program condensed into 12 months.)

This Sunday will be a hard one as it is another anniversary of the unsolved death of our 9 year old Ryan. As Nicole Simpson's sister shared recently - "it doesn't get easier with the passing years, it gets harder!". In some ways it is so true - even tho we KNOW where he is and we KNOW we will see him again. The 'unfairness' of it all is what hurts so much. Well, for us we are able to have the blessings of other children and the joys of their accomplishments to take the thoughts/focus off the loss some of the time (smile). Prayers are appreciated during this tender time.

Thanks for all you do to keep the classmates in touch! I hope I can make it next year. My husband's reunion is in Ohio next year. Have not heard when. Hope it is close but not at the same time so we can do both. It is our 25th anniversary in June so I am hoping we can start it out with trip to Wisc/Ohio and then off for something special (he wants to take me to Europe). Well time will tell. (I am not so sure I want to go that far with all the turmoil around the world. I might just be happy tour the U.S.A. in a motorhome for a month or so - smile.

Well, look forward to hearing all about the wedding!

Blessings! **Linda (Mitchell) Leitzke** skulmom@hotmail.com

It has been a long time, but then again it seems like just yesterday. All is good with me, I've been in Madison ever since I left Wisconsin Rapids in 1965 and I'm only on my 2nd Husband. Ha Ha. I've worked for the State of Wisconsin for 36 years, so I can retire any time now. I only attended the 5 year class reunion, and I guess I didn't get too excited after that to go to anymore. But I am looking forward to coming to this one, and I'm glad to hear that it is in the fall this time. My address is as follows:

Judy (Evenson) Truttman & Neil Truttman
4302 Doncaster Drive
Madison, WI 53711
(608) 274-7875

e-mail: saftsadi@yahoo.com

Thanks again for contacting me, I still keep in contact with Jean (Dykstra) Van Ruth too.

Hi Cary...My address is Marcia Ortscheid, 2686 Humboldt Rd., Green Bay, WI, 54311. Phone number is 920 217 8641 and my email is Marcie.ortscheid@kl.com
Yes I still have my bike and ride as much as the weather permits and really enjoy it. I am still a Corporate travel agent and travel as much as the money permits. Yes we did have fun at our table at the reunion, but I think we shocked a few of the stuffy shirts when we moved it, but hey if you don't have fun and keep your sense of humor what do you have. take care.....**Marcie (Basler) Ortscheid**

Dear Kent,

Jim and I really appreciate what you are doing. We have enjoyed reading about all the accomplishments our classmates have achieved. Ours are very mundane. This is a small capsule.

After graduation and four years of higher education we earned teaching degrees. While spending summers on advanced degrees, the school year was spent teaching in Phillips in a one room school. After four years in the Phillips School District, I received a fourth grade teaching position in the Park Falls School District where Jim was teaching. I have spent the next 31 years teaching fourth grade in Park Falls.

Jim has taught 35 years as a K-6 physical education instructor for the Park Falls School District. Park Falls is where our home is. After 35 years we have a ton of stories about children, including our own.

We have two girls. Shelley is the oldest and Jill, five years younger. Shelley has two girls (Kailey-4 and Lauren-1). Shelley lives in Bradenton, Florida with her two girls and husband Jake (a physical education teacher). Shelley is an administrator of a nursing home. They have been in Florida for ten years now.

Jill, who is also married to a physical education teacher lives in Chilton, Wisconsin. Her husband's name is Jeremy and they have a three year old boy, Ben with another boy coming in September. Jill teaches fourth grade just like I do. Everything seems to be going well now.

Like so many others, a little rain must fall in our lives. Our tough times arrived after Shelley's second child was born last May. One week after Lauren's arrival Shelley had a stroke. It was a very scary time for us. She has recovered well and is almost back to normal. Within one hour after arriving home from Shelley's stroke we received a call about Jill. She was in the hospital for an unknown reason. As it turned out she had a tubal pregnancy and lost the baby. Sadness continued in January when Jim's sister's husband passed away from cancer. The ship seems to be righting itself now.

Jim and I have our house for sale. We are retiring on June 6. We have been looking at three season homes on water. We would like to spend the summers in the Northwoods, but it is hard to find a cottage that doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Jim has offered to sell our two girls into servitude to help raise money

for our summer home, but they have serious objections!

I would like to leave at the end of October for Florida, but Jim wants to stay through gun season. He still gun hunts with classmates Ron Grundeen and David Nelson. Jim also really enjoys bow hunting in the fall.

In the summer we both enjoy golfing. We plan to extend the golfing season as we have a place in Sebring, Florida to spend the cold winter months. Anyone in the area? You will not be hearing from us after June 6 due to the fact we will not have access to a computer until December when we are settled in Florida. We will send you our new email address at that time. Meanwhile, hi to everyone and happy summer to all!

Sincerely, **Jim & Bev (Rheel) Szelagowski (715) 762-3120**

River City Memoirs: Previous Mead-Witter shops provided personal relationships for workers

Second of two parts

By DAVE ENGEL

For the Daily Tribune

When I met with her on a Monday in May 2004, Ellen Sabetta held a poppy she had acquired at Baker Drive IGA.

It reminded her of the 1930s when she stood outside Woolworth's "dime store" on the corner of Third and Grand avenues, "with my little poppy basket on my arm."

"Down this block and I guess every other block of the business district of Rapids, there was a hole in the sidewalk where they flew a flag on all flag holidays."

Please join us for a figurative perambulation along the Mead-Witter block as it was in the 1940s and 1950s:

* 210 W. Grand Ave. - First Bond & Mortgage Co. and Ziegler Insurance (1941). In 1955, Harstad's Shoe Store and Klismet's Toyland.

* 212 - Fritz & Pete's Billiard Hall, owned by Fritz Rebernick (spelling?) and Pete Sakolosky. "When I was small," said Ellen, "my father, William Prebbanow, would drag me in and plop me on a stool while he played pool or billiards.

"In later years, my friends and I would walk down from Lincoln High School. Boys would grab our books and duck in the pool hall because they knew we thought it was horrible to have to go in after them."

* 222 - Wilpolt's Restaurant.

"They had a deluxe hamburger called the Aristocrat that had a gob of barbecue sauce and there might have been a slice of cheese. We always went to Wilpolt's after the movies and I don't know how our dates indicated that, yeah, you could order an Aristocrat. It was maybe fifty cents.

"Harry Wilpolt's wife was a Panter girl, Ramona. She worked in the restaurant in a uniform.

"He probably threw us out regularly because we made a lot of noise and mess for a nickel Coke, and the poor waitresses knew they weren't going to get any tips."

* 224 - Grand Rapids Bakery.

"The best crescents, with a little bit of orange frosting. At one time, it was owned by people

named Anderson.

"I still know Andersons' phone number.

"The fire department was '1,' my friend Sally Madsen was '2' and Anderson's was '3.' Sheer memory, kiddo."

* 230 - D&M Beauty Shop.

"I have a photo of me taken with a fresh haircut from there when I was in fifth grade. I got confirmed and immediately after, got my long braids cut.

"I had my first permanent there in 1939. You were hooked up to a machine. It was heavy and hot. They'd stand and fan you."

* 232 - Barber shop.

1941: Joe Arnold barber shop. 1955: Fritz Haefner barber shop.

"He always waved."

* 240 - Abel's Clothes Shop.

"My mother picked out my father's clothes. Bob Patzer's father worked there. He usually waited on us because my mother didn't like Frank Abel. That's a gazillion years ago."

* 242 - Western Union Telegraph Co.

"E.J. Wallace was the telegrapher. Dorothy Jaecks and June Flatt worked there."

* 244 - Anderson's Drugs.

(In 1941, Whitrock pharmacy.)

Operated by Harris and Delbert Anderson, from Frederick, Wis., by way of Madison.

"I worked at the soda shop in the late forties. We had the best ice cream. It came up from Milwaukee on a night train packed in dry ice in those canvas ice cream cans.

"Everything was hand dipped. I had a tremendous muscle from dipping."

* 250 - Newton's. See last week's Memoirs.

* 252 - Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.

"I have some menus and recipes from A&P before they built their own building on Fourth Avenue about where the drive-in for the First National (US) Bank is."

* 264 - F.W. Woolworth Co.

"The first job I ever had, 1941-42, Friday nights and Saturdays. My first rate of pay was 12 cents an hour. I saved enough to buy a black Chesterfield winter coat with a black velvet collar."

Dave Engel is a Wisconsin Rapids native, local historian and author of nine books in his "River City Memoirs" series. His column is a Monday feature in the Daily Tribune.

Editor's note: Our youngest daughter, Naomi, got married last Saturday in Dubuque, IA. Here's a pic of the Editor walking his daughter "down the aisle"!



Pic below is of the bride and groom. Mr. & Mrs. Chris Blohm.
Naomi is a commodities broker with Stewart-Peterson in West Bend, WI

See: <http://www.stewart-peterson.com/index.cfm?show=14&mid=15&image=/images/e0061001/naomi.htm>

Chris is an electrical engineer with Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac.

The couple have bought a home on the SE side of Lake Winnebago and have a "Golden Lab" (their dog!) that the "grandparents" are currently "baby-sitting" while they honeymoon in Jamaica!

Wish them luck!

