



Tiger Tales

**Terra Nova High School
Class of 1965**

**Newsletter No. 8
August 22, 2002**

Hello Dear Friends,

My gosh this summer is flying! I do hope you are all finding some time to relax, enjoy the sunshine, and spend time with someone you care about.

Personally, I have had a really fun summer--and it's not over yet. In June I went on a two-week road trip, two-thirds of it with a woman friend I've known for 30 years. I drove up to Sisters, Oregon to visit some old friends, stopping on the way to spend the night in McCloud, near Shasta, an area I think is so beautiful. After 3 nights in Sisters, I drove on to Moscow, Idaho to pick up my friend Mary Ann and see her daughter, our God daughter, and her new 12-week old baby. Boy, they're precious at that age! After a couple of days there, Mary Ann and I drove to Port Townsend Washington. Now there is a little town I would love to live in! We stayed at the Commander's Beach House, a wonderful B&B just 50 feet from the water, where we could see all the boats going in and out of Puget Sound, fabulous sunsets and otters playing in the back yard (much to the dismay of the owners--apparently, despite their cute factor, they can be as pesky and destructive as raccoons).

The highlight of our stay in Port Townsend was a whale watching boat tour to Friday Harbor in San Juan Island (28 miles). We saw 8 adult orca whales and 1 baby up close personal--what a thrill!, otters, seals, puffin birds, and an adult bald eagle couple with their two babies. The weather was great-- 85-90 degrees with no wind, and the water was smooth as glass. Locals joked that we had lucked into the two good weather days of the year.

If Paul and I ever move, Port Townsend is on our list of places. Rain you say? Actually Pt. Townsend averages only 16-18 inches per year, half of what we get in the Bay Area.

Mary Ann and I left Pt. Townsend and headed for Newport Beach, Oregon. We stayed at the Sylvia Beach Hotel which has a literary theme--each of 20 rooms is decorated on around a specific author. We stayed in the E.B. White room (Charlotte's Web). There was also the Agatha Christie room (80 clues relating to each of her books) and the Edgar Allan Poe room (dark, a raven in the corner and a pendulum above the bed). It's a great old place where the top floor is like a huge comfortable old living room with overstuffed sofas and chairs where you can put your feet up and enjoy reading a good book while you watch the sunset over the ocean and drink hot mulled wine at 10 p.m. I highly recommend it. There is also a

great beachside boardwalk at the harbor with good restaurants and art-filled shops.

Then on to Ashland, Oregon, one of my favorite all time places (another place on our "maybe we'll move there" list). I have been to Ashland a number of times and always love it. It is the home of the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. Now, I must admit that I am not a true Shakespeare fan--I don't like working that hard to understand what is being said, so I always make myself see one Shakespeare play. But the Festival offers many other plays as well. And the acting, directing, sets, etc. are always superb. On this trip, we didn't take in the Shakespeare Festival at all. Instead, we went to the Oregon Cabaret Theatre and saw "Route 66", a very funny and entertaining musical review. We spent two nights there and headed for home where Mary Ann flew back to Idaho the next day. A really great vacation!

I also just got back from another 4-day trip to Ashland (told you I like it there) with four other women acting friends of mine. This time we spent time working on monologues for an upcoming audition in the Bay Area and two worked on lines for a play they are both in currently. But we also took in the movie, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding." You must see this if like laughing. We also saw Route 66 (yes, again for me), Shakespeare's "As You Like It" and a non-Shakespeare play called "Friday, Saturday, Sunday" about a large Italian family in Italy--another two hours of laughter, and then we took a 1-1/2 hour back stage tour and headed home.

Well, like I said I've had a great summer. And you might be asking what about poor Paul? Well he has been working his butt off as usual while I've been playing. But his day is coming--he and I leave in a week for 3 weeks in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. We were also going to spend three days in Prague, but with the flooding going on there, we'll make that decision while in Europe.

I've never been away from home this much, but I've enjoyed it thoroughly. Never thought I'd look forward to cooking again, but eating out that much actually made me look forward to just staying home and cooking. I don't suppose that will last too long though.

Okay, I've rattled on long enough. Here's news from a few other people:

MIKE WELLMAN wellman@gorge.net (as of March 31--sorry, forgot to put this in the last newsletter--we need an update Mike):

We flew in to San Diego on Friday, and drove to Yuma that night. The weather is beautiful, and the lemon flowers have such a nice smell. Mom's Park Motel is just beautiful, and we will spend 5 or 6 days here, then we are going to the Grand Canyon, Boulder Dam and Death Valley, etc. this week. Then we will spend a couple of days in San Diego seeing the sights. I love swimming in these pools, and we all hope to take a flying lesson or two here, before we head off to the

Canyon. We will be back on April 9.

Best wishes to all,
Mike, Jeanie and Rebecca

RAY & SHERRY (ANDERSON [OCEANA '65]) LENCI
Ray.Lenci@flooring.dupont.com (as of May)

Well here's our story so far in a condensed format " Life with all it's ups and downs has been great "

Graduated TN/Oceana - 1965. Sher went to work in the travel business with Varig Airlines - I ended up in the Navy, two years on Guam Special Services. We got married in 1968 - will be married 34 years on June 9th (she is as thoughtful , kind attractive , caring & loving - " today " - as she was then !! She's the best !!)

First son Ray born 1970 - second son Tony born 1974 - they have been a major joy in our lives - they were good boys , have become good men, both treasure family & they have become wonderful husbands since they both got married within the last two years to two special ladies (Marcia & Rachel) . Both graduated from St Mary's College in Moraga.

I ended up in the flooring business back in 1969 as a Union Floor Covering Technician, knew it was not for me long term and decided to either move up or move out - the moving up thing worked--today I am a Regional Vice President - West Coast Region for DuPont and have been in the business for over 33 years .

Sher has just closed her own business " Lenci Cruise & Travel " which she operated for 16 + years and semi-retired (which means she is now working from her home office we set up and doing well--so for your travel needs call 650-355-9446).

We have just received the keys for a new custom home we had built in the El Dorado Foothills, this will be our retirement home full time when we are ready to get out of the Bay Area .(If you get up that way call 916-939-9774, come over & we'll buy you a beverage).

OK - Let me wrap this up: I coached baseball for 17 years; we have traveled extensively; vacation home in Tahoe; my mom's going to be 89 on her next birthday; houseboats on Lake Shasta are a Family Tradition; get to about 15/16 Giants games a year at Pac Bell (when I can get tickets out of Ray & Tony's hands); work out 3 or 4 days a week

-Racquetball--Sher says she's going to start at least 3 or 4 times a week (just kidding - she looks better now than she did then!!).

Bottom Line - It has not always been easy , we have just been fortunate to have each other, our sons ,a strong belief in Family . Life has been good--I wouldn't change a

thing !!

"And by the way we are looking forward to the next 40 years!"

Ray & Sherry Lenci

JOHN (JACK) KOBLOS OldStuff94@aol.com

I dropped out of Terra Nova in my sophomore year to go to work to help out my mom. I left Pacifica a few years later, living in Hayward for a while before I moved to the Livermore area. I started working for Lucky Stores in 1971, and transferred to the Vacaville Warehouse in 1978. I then moved to Dixon, Ca. (near Vacaville) with my wife and five kids. We divorced and I remarried in 1985. That year I did attend the 20 year joint reunion with Oceana. In addition to working for Luckys I had my own indoor archery range and pro-shop in Dixon for several years. My wife and I wanted to move away from the heat and find a less populated area with 4 seasons so we moved to Klamath Falls, Oregon, in 1994. We enjoy the fresh air, slower pace and lower cost of living. My kids and grandkids are still in the Dixon area, and we visit them often. I am semi-retired up here and dabble in antiques. My current hobby is woodworking and I sell a lot of the shelves, quilt stands, and other things I make. I would love to hear from my old friends, please drop me a line. We live near Crater Lake, so if you're ever in this area please give me a call!

KERRY (SEMENZA) ORTIZ Kio@svlg.com (as of July 10)

I was sorry to have missed the picnic. I had planned to attend with a couple of my daughters, but had to go out of town at the last minute. I look forward to seeing a dedicated website for Terra Nova alumni. In connection to Linda's suggestion (NOTE: Linda (Robinson) Patterson's suggestion of writing a book about our class based on our newsletter in part and selling it to benefit a scholarship recipient), I think each of us have something to contribute that would reflect the "way things were" and could prove to be a nostalgic look at a very interesting time in history. You are also right in that we need to view the here and now as "the best time" of our lives. If we don't, we make the past bigger and better than it was and neglect the present and future.

Best regards,

--Kerry

AND MORE FROM KERRY ON JULY 12:

Yippee!! The website is great! Wouldn't it be nice if we could (those that would like to) post our email addresses on the website so that if other classmates wanted to contact us or we them, it could happen without our having to pay to do so (as on the "Classmates" website)? Do you think that might be a possibility? It was so great seeing Heidi (Rigoni)!

Also, who was the person next to David Crass in the picnic picture?

Questions, questions, questions.....

Thank you.

--Kerry

NOTE FROM JEAN: Check out the website again--many more people have been identified in the pictures. If you know the names of some people who have not been identified, please send them to me right away. Also, remember that the website is still in progress, so check it out now and then to see what's new at <http://home.attbi.com/~ratman98/>
For any questions or input, please also contact Cliff Rather at ratman98@aol.com .

GEORGE HINKLE geohinkle@juno.com (as of July 10)

Hi Folks,

Great newsletter--as usual!

Our family reunion does nothing but get better each year. Yes, we do have them every year--and the great part about them is we continue to get to know each other much better--and the great distances all the way from Ashland, Or. to San Diego just "gets shorter" each year.

Will put the last weekend of June on my calendar and make sure no other reunion gets in the way. AND I WILL MENTION THIS TO MY CLASS OF 39!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The thought just came to me that because of your wonderful and timely newsletter, I will start putting together one for our family--so that we can update during the course of the year.

While quite a project, tackling the project of writing a book about the class of 65 seems like a wonderful idea--grandkids would love it. If I can help in any way, let me know.

My best

George

MARCIA (FELTY) TAYLOR hayrides@inreach.com

I am so excited about this web site...Yeah Cliff and thank you Jean for all your hard work and effort.

LORNA (WILLS) BAZZANI BazzaniY@aol.com

(as of July 31)

Tom is still looking for a job up here... We had a fun filled summer, been to visit relatives in Springfield, Oregon, went to Vegas , won some money.. And went to a family reunion up in Ferndale, Eureka , with the Bazzani family and good friends Scalvini families... The great, great, grandparents from both families came over on the boat together from Italy... We had a great time! They do this every three years, about four hundred people... Well, take care Jeanne ... Lorna (**note: please see update in "sad news" below**)

SHELLIE GARRETT garrettenterprise@earthlink.net (as of July
(YAY, WE HAVEN'T SEEN SHELLIE SINCE HIGH SCHOOL!))

Thanks so much for all seven issues of the newsletter. One of the great things about the internet is you can send out an almost unlimited size of text. The postage would have busted you, if the amount of paper in the printouts is any indication.

I think these newsletters will be best read with the yearbook in hand, so I'm going to dust it off, pour a glass or two of wine, and read them in detail.

I'll send some bio information to you in the next week or so. (OKAY SHELLIE, WHERE'S THAT BIO?)

Regards, Shellie

SAD NEWS

--We will all miss Mr. Olsen, our beloved English teacher at Terra Nova. He succumbed to Cancer in July. A memorial Service was held at St. Peter's Church in Pacifica on July 21st. at 1 pm. Instead of flowers, donations were asked for Friends of the Library or the Pacifica Performances at the Sanchez Concert Hall.

1. Mr. Olsen was a truly gifted teacher with a great love for literature and his students. He seemed to have such a kind heart, and he taught me to love good writing. We are all better people because he touched our lives. I will remember him with fondness always--**Mike Wellman**
2. That's so sad. I can remember sitting in his classroom as he sat at his desk reading to us. I remember he would always rub his bald head as he got deeper into the story. He was a great teacher. I remember that someone who wrote in the newsletter had asked if anyone knew where he was. I wonder if whoever it was got to talk or write to Mr. Olsen.--**Sharon (Day) Rathbun** slr@hartdistrict.org
3. Thanks for letting me know about Chuck. He was one of my close teachers. I will contact Mrs. Olsen. I was shocked when I read your e-mail and deeply saddened to hear about Chuck.--**George Hinkle**

--Also we all send our very sincere condolences to Lorna (Wills) Bazzani on the terrible loss of her sister, Sandy on August 1st. Lorna, know that we are all sending you loving thoughts and hope that your healing will soon begin. (ADDRESS: Lorna and Tom Wills, 4813 Willowbrook Drive, Sacramento, CA 94582)

--From Tom Leslie and his wife, Diane regarding Diane's father on Aug. 16: Diane Needs your prayers

This is in regard to my father. He has just been diagnosed with a very

aggressive cancer, they are not sure of where it originated, but it is in his stomach, glands, etc. He started noticing symptoms in May, just a slight loss of appetite, and a small amount of weight loss, got a little worse in June, when I saw him at the end of June, the weight loss was getting noticeable. July, the symptoms increased, and in the last 3 weeks he is wasting away and becoming very weak. His is developing large tumors in his glands and his bile ducts are blocked. Tuesday was his first round of chemo, the next 3 weeks should be a good indication of what way it could go. I don't mean to make everyone sad, but I believe that sometimes miracles happen. That's where you come in. If enough people pray for him to make it, you just never know what can happen. I am asking all of you for your help, even if you don't know him. My dad's name is Dan Young. He is a wonderful caring, loving Father, Grandpa and person. He is very selfless, and has spent his life always giving. Please put us in your prayers.

Love, Diane and family

(Diane, we all hope for the best for your father and send love to you and Tom--Jean)

OTHER NEW NEWS:

LESLEY GORANSON lesleyg3@yahoo.com
(as of July 31)

Here's my brief blurb.

After graduation I went to CSM/Skyline and completed a two year degree. Since that time I have taken about another 70 units. I was never focused enough on any specific major to complete it. by the time I returned to school I was interested in something else.

I traveled in the '70's to Greece and England twice. It was wonderful. Went to Hawaii a couple of times. My favorite most recent trip was to Arizona, but that was a few years ago.

Though I seriously considered it a couple of times, I never married. I have never regretted the decision not to marry or have kids. I tend to be more a loner type and like hiking in the foothills with my dogs. Idaho has beautiful high desert scenery, at least in the Boise area. Other parts of the state are heavily wooded. In fact, there is a ski resort about 15 miles from me in the mountains. If you go up there during the summer the temperature drops about 10-15 degrees. It makes for a nice break when we are on one of our triple digit runs.

I moved to Idaho in 1996. My mother died of Parkinson's in 1992. I had a very high stress job as administrative services manager for a high tech trade show company (Ziff Davis) at the time and I decided then that once her estate was settled I would head out here and slow the pace down. I like peace more than money. Must be that '60's upbringing. My younger sister Anna moved out here in '86 and I would come visit each year and fell in love with Idaho.

My love is hiking with my dogs and doing volunteer work. I have been on the board of Habitat for Humanity in the past and am currently on the board of The Interfaith Alliance. I do a fair amount of human rights work and enjoy it immensely. My life is good.

I don't really have any connections with my fellow classmates though some I have gone to school with since first grade. The only person I still remain in touch with from our class is Linda LaForest Burton. We were close friends in high school and remain such. She comes out 1-2 times a year to visit and I go there as well. She has a beautiful home in Woodside that she and her husband designed themselves and it is always a joy to visit.

My brothers Storm, Arne, and Colin all still live in California. They also attended TN. Arne lives near Yosemite and has two daughters. Storm lives in Santa Rosa and has four daughters. Colin lives in the east bay.

I do enjoy reading everyone's stories and wish all the very best, especially you, Jean, for giving everyone this gift. (Thank you very much, Lesley.)
Lesley

KEN MORRISON KMorr00222@aol.com

(as of July 31)

Hi Jean, Hi all.

Well, after retiring from the Army in 1991--"whew", glad that is over--I went to work for an oil company here in Salinas. Two weeks ago....I quit. Why you ask?, well....I am 55 years old...well...ain't we all? and I am tired of working, I am packing up an moving to Overland Park Kansas. About 2 years ago, I was playing a game of slingo on the 'puter and ended up chatting with this young lady.

We chatted off an on and sometimes on the phone, no love connection, just being friends. Well...last September, she jumped on a bus to come out here for a 2 week vacation, to meet me and see Calif. She had never left the state of Kansas. She never left, been here ever since. Now....here is the kicker, she was born on the same day.....and year as my middle child.

Yepper, she is 30 years old, and we are going back to Kansas, Her daughter came out here a couple of months ago and we really had a great time.

Wish me a lot of luck, I am going back there to live in a 3 bedroom house near a lake, so I can kick back, fish, drink a few MGD's and relax. This house is a whopping \$400.00 a month.

Take care TNT's.....Ken Morrison

(FROM JEAN: Sound's like a good life Ken. Congratulations to you both--and good luck!)

PAUL THOMPSON **thompzach@alaskalife.net**
(as of July 31)

Hello all,

Lord it's hot today, as it has been for several days. It's seventy-six inside the house and seventy-two outside in the shade. Terrible! As I said, killing heat. Hah! I can hear your eyes rolling from here.

I can't remember when the last time I wrote was, but I know it has been a while. My son Jeffrey graduated from high school in June. He just got his driving license last month. Now I can appreciate how my parents must have felt when I would disappear for hours on recreational driving trips. He will be going away to college in less than a month, to Yale. Yeah, yeah, okay, I'm proud. They had the best financial aid package of all the schools to which he was accepted. He wants to study physics and/or mathematics. As I never tire of saying, very unlike me at that age. Katherine, my daughter, is fifteen and will be a sophomore this fall. She is having a proper summer; goofing off and lazing around, interspersed with occasional trips. She just got back from a canoe trip with a bunch of other kids out on the Kenai. She wants a motorcycle. So did I. So did you. So does everyone at that age.

Disappointment builds character. I've not done too much of interest. Jeff and I reshingled my folk's roof here in town last month. They got a new roof cheap, Jeff got a couple thousand dollars and I... well, I got very sore. If there is a more unpleasant job than tearing old shingles off a roof and carting them away, I don't know what it could be. Jeff says he doesn't want to be a roofer. Every kid needs a job like that just before he goes away to college. Keep him motivated. I also spent a few days last week at my cabin in Kasilof (on the Kenai) doing some maintenance I've deferred for fifteen years. Also cut down a bunch of dead trees. As well as dipnetted some salmon in the Kenai River. The soreness is gradually going away. It takes longer every year. I don't understand it. Mary, my wife, is the gardener in the family. I just turn the soil in the garden every spring, do the compost, and the lawn and mow it when I can't make the kids do it. Her father was the BC provincial agriculturist, so I guess it's in her blood. It sure isn't in mine, although I do enjoy our garden a lot.

Mary and I had a preview of what things will be like when the kids are out of the house. Jeff working a lot and Katherine out of town with friends. Kind of nice for a change, although I expect to miss them when they are really gone.

I'll be in California next month. I'm traveling east to take Jeff to college and will stop there on the way home to visit family. Had you had the picnic in Sept rather than July, I could have gone. Too bad. I expect I'll make it out to Pacifica to admire the ocean.

Jeanie asks about movies seen. **(NOTE from Jean: Wow, someone actually answered my question!)** The latest Star Wars and The Lord of the Rings come to mind. Who cares about the former? It was okay, I guess. I enjoyed the Lord of the Rings, although I found Aragorn a bit too much like an Arnold Schwarzenegger (sp) character. No way everyone could ever have been pleased with any movie rendition of those books. As I said, who cares? Books read? I went through O'Brien's Aubrey Maturine books last winter for the second time. Great stuff. I

plowed through Thucydides' The Peloponesian War (sp) also last winter. A few gems among a great deal of chaff. I had read somewhere that, after 9/11, there were lessons there for the US. There were, but it was not a flowing read. I read a biography of Mohammed, as well as a history of Islam. Both interesting, if a little dry. Anyone out there ever read any Conrad these days? You should. We all had to read Heart of Darkness, and likely hated it. I don't any more. I love his dialogue. I generally have a book going, but not at the moment. Too busy. I'll slow down come fall. I was reading The Last Angry Man, which I picked up from a box of discarded books at work. I'll get back to it, or not, when things slow down. I should mention that I'll read anything.

Jeanie, you mention retirement. Not me. Not for a while. Kids in college and (I hope) heading there. I think not.

I guess this is all I have to write at the moment. Paul.

(Paul, can't wait for your next installment!--Jean)

**ROMALEE (BUNNY CLINTON) GLEASON bgbunnyden2002@yahoo.com
(as of July 31)**

After graduation, I went to work for our family dentist. I was trained on the job and had to work for six different dentists. I really enjoyed that a lot, but guess what? Marriage did me in (ha,ha) Lynn and I were dating in my senior year and we married in June of 1967. Lynn was in the army and was stationed at Fort Knox, KY where I joined him. What a difference in the weather. I was not used to the hot humid weather and made it through the summer with two heat strokes and the winter with bronchitis. Our first child was born in June of 1968 at Fort Knox. We moved to a little town outside of the base when Lynnette was 6 weeks old and eventually bought a house in Jeffersonville, IN when Lynnette was 3 months old. Lynn went to work at the Postal Service and then we had child number two. David was born in September of 1969 and what a difference between boys and girls. Our third child was born in April of 1971 so as you can see our kids were close in age. Our oldest daughter has three children, Jonathan-12 1/2, Shelby-8 1/2, Brooke-5 1/2. Jonathan is in the seventh grade, Shelby in third and Brooke is going to Kindergarten and they live here in Jeffersonville. Our son, David lives in Camden, Tennessee and has two children. Nicole-11 1/2, Brandon-6. Our youngest daughter, Denise, has three children. Dustin-12, Kayla-9 1/2, Kaitlin 4 1/2 They live in Jeffersonville. Our children have good jobs and guess they turned out pretty good.

So with 8 grandchildren and five of their birthdays are in November and December, grandma and grandpa were busy.

I work for the school corporation as an Instruction Assistant and have done so for 23 years. I work with the first graders and love every minute of it. I am going to retire in 2006 which I will reach the magic number of 87(number of years plus age (60) I am looking forward to it but am not sure what I will do but I know I won't stay home all the time. With everyone out of the home I would go crazy and I am not ready for that yet. It is hard to believe that we are getting older and some of us (myself) are having to be put back together again like Humpty Dumpty. I had both my knees replaced three years ago and don't regret doing it although at the

time of surgery I wouldn't have said that. Hope that all is well. My parents now live in Turlock, CA as well as my brother.

I can't think of anything else to write, so have a wonderful day.

Your friend,

Romalee (Bunny) Gleason

LANY KAY MARTELL martell@mtrmls.com (as of Aug. 9)

My website: www.LanyKayMartell.com

My Special Miracle

November 1997

A **Miracle** took place last month, and I would like to share it with all of you. As many of you know, I was an adopted child, and always felt very special and chosen by my adoptive parents, Edmond & Mildred Martell. They told me from my earliest memories of how my biological parents, Neil and Ruth were unable to care for another child, and so promised their next child to them if my mother should become pregnant again. Neil was a widower and had one son, Ronnie. I found out recently, that Ruth was very naive and an emotionally disturbed young woman when she married my father who was eleven years her senior. She had been placed in an orphanage as a child, and was quite bitter. Eleven months after the wedding, she gave birth to identical twins Pat and Mike. Several months after they were born, she discovered she was pregnant again with another set of twins. Not wanting these babies, she went horseback riding and miscarried. They were baby boys. Shortly thereafter, she met Ed and Millie, who had been trying to have a child for nine years. Several months later she became pregnant again (with me) only this time she had found a loving couple to give me to. Millie would go to Ruth's home daily to help her with the twins and make sure she was eating properly and taking her vitamins, etc.

Ruth and Neil's marriage was deteriorating. Neil fashioned himself a ladies' man and stayed out much of the time, leaving Ruth to care for his older son and the twins. Ruth would place the twins in their cribs and leave them alone for hours. They would bang their heads until they knocked holes in the walls from boredom and stress. She would lock them in the closet and leave the house for periods of time. One day she locked them in the closet just before Neil came home from work, but this time she did not return. Neil decided that raising three active little boys was not something he wanted to do either. He spoke with an orphanage about placing the boys there. In the interim, he found a lady friend to raise Ron and she found another lady, a forty-year-old entertainer by the name of Sally. Sally had never married because she was busy traveling the world, playing music in an all ladies band. Sally decided it was time to settle down, so she welcomed Pat and Mike into her home. They were almost five years old now. Pat and Mike turned out to be quite a handful. Little Mike was placed in a hospital for a short time, as they thought he might be suffering from autism. When he was not diagnosed, she placed them in a Military Academy near her to help establish discipline. Their rearing was regimented and firm, though not very nurturing. They suffered emotional and disciplinary problems from their abused and turbulent beginnings. Neil kept minimal contact with them until he committed suicide. Ruth

called them one time when they were twelve years old and said she wanted to see them, but never showed up or called again. We have discovered her tragic life ended a broken woman, with a history of alcoholism and alone with colon cancer, one day short of her fifty-fifth birthday. I was sorry to hear this as I had hoped to meet her and thank her for giving me to such a wonderful and loving couple.

Last January, Pat decided it was time to trace his ancestry and told Sally of his intentions. Sally, now ninety-three, for some reason chose not to tell Pat and Mike of their baby sister, given away at birth. The only other information he had of his family was that his dad committed suicide and his mother abandoned him. I had several pictures of us together as small children as did they. They were not told who the little girl in the picture was, and thought I might be a cousin.

I have been actively searching for my brothers every since my adoptive father passed away. The problem I was running up against, was they had changed their last name. If it had not been for the Salvation Army who helped me locate Marita, a sister of Neil's and AOL where I found a posting from Pat's wife Nancy on the genealogy site, I would still be searching. The funny part of this is that after I emailed Nancy and Pat who I was, they were not checking their email. So I called AOL Corporate Offices and told them my dilemma, and they were gracious enough to make the call. When we were finally able to talk, there were many tears of happiness as this family is now able to come together. I hope to fly out soon to California for a much-anticipated reunion to meet my brothers, their wives and my three nieces and two nephews. For my birthday, several weeks ago, Mike sent me a beautiful gold necklace and heart inscribed with "Sister" on the front and "With Love" on the back. We are sending pictures via the Internet. What is ironic about all this is that many families choose not to be close, take each other for granted and sometimes let petty arguments destroy their family relationship. Ironic, how we were seeking to find our family and never had that choice.

P.S.

It is now 2002 and I have had the opportunity on several occasions to meet my brothers in person. They had some pretty turbulent times as teenagers but have worked out most of the abandonment issues. The most important thing to happen in my life was being blessed with was having two loving parents to guide me and support me in my formative years.

A LITTLE PATRIOTISM FROM ED HARRISON

Ed@TimberlineHVAC.com

(from Aug. 19)

9/11 LIGHTS ON!

Please join us on 9/11.....we have over a month to get the word out all across this great land we love and call the United States of America. Let's see how powerful e-mail can be! On Wednesday, September 11, 2002 everyone in the USA who will be driving a motor vehicle is asked to drive with their headlights on

during daylight hours. Though no explanation is needed as to why we are commemorating September 11.....we hope more importantly to pay respect to the victims of that day, show our nation's solidarity and show support for our men and women of the Armed Forces.

You can help by sending this e-mail on to others!

Remember.....9/11 LIGHTS ON!

NOW YOU CAN'T SAY YOU DIDN'T GET THE MEMO!!!!

September 11, 2002 - A Way To Honor Our Nation Together

September 11, 2002 is soon approaching. On that day, please wear red, white and blue to work or school to show your support for those who lost their lives on 9~11~01 and to honor the heroes who worked to save them and the families left behind. At noon your time on September 11, 2002, no matter where you are or what you are doing, stop, put your hand on your heart, and say the Pledge of Allegiance out loud or to yourself and say a prayer for our nation.

If all of us do this together in every time zone around the world, we will have a powerful chain of thoughts surrounding us. Please keep this going to your friends and family. By September 11, 2002 hopefully enough people will have read this and will join together in unity.

God Bless the U.S.A.

THOUGHTS FROM CLIFF RATHER ABOUT THE CLASS WEBSITE
(ratman98@attbi.com)

(Note: I had asked Cliff about putting the newsletter on the website, but he had some concerns to pass on to you--feedback please?!)

The newsletter contains a lot of personal information. I think we would need a group buy-in to put the e-mails from the class on the public forum. An alternative would be to provide password access to the newsletter link... a simple password sent with your quarterly letter.

If you put the current format of the newsletter on the site, it would need some moderation assistance. There is a possibility that the letter would be only available for two issues back or so as I am limited in space. The advantage to putting it on the TNT site is people that have links to pictures and their own web pages could be linked as well.

Throw it out to the general population for request-for-comment and see what transpires...So, what do you all think about this stuff?

(Note: Cliff really deserves gratitude from all of us for the new website--what a guy! When you check out the website, be sure to click on to each person's face in any of the reunion or picnic pictures (at least those that we have already identified) to see what they looked like in our senior year (no, not

this senior year you sillies--the one in high school!).

NEWS OF OTHERS NO LONGER WITH US:

Please me know the names of anyone from our class that you know may have passed away so I can share that information with everyone. The following are the names I have: Jeff Boyden, Carl Casperson, Curtis Denton, Linda Eldred, Barbara Evans, Judy Taufer, Terry Ladell, Lynn Monahan, Doug Northcutt, Bill Stone, Medford Chrysler, Pete Premenko, Allen Fizer, Lorna Neill

LOOKING FOR MORE INFO FROM YOU!

Okay all you people who haven't shared your lives with us--now is the time. I can tell you from first hand information that it is amazing how much people are enjoying hearing from those they haven't had contact with all these years. And if you're reading this, I know you know what I mean. No one is comparing people--they are just thrilled to hear from you. So, if you haven't sent in a contribution so far, why not give a try now?

MARK YOUR CALENDARS-NEXT PICNIC!

We are planning the next annual picnic for Saturday, June 28, 2003. Mark the day on your calendars now so nothing else gets in the way. There will be more details about location, time, etc. sometime in the future. We are trying to reserve a Linda Mar site for the picnic.

A LITTLE HUMOR FROM A FRIEND

How To Stay Young and Happy!

Throw out all the non-essential numbers.
This includes age, weight and height.
Let the doctor worry about them -- that is why you pay him.

Keep only cheerful friends.
The grouches pull you down.
If you really need a grouch, there are
probably a few of your relatives to do the job.

Keep learning.
Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever.
Just never let your brain idle.

Laugh often, long and loud.
Laugh until you gasp for breath.
Laugh so much that you can be tracked in the store by your distinctive laughter.

The tears happen.

Endure, grieve, and move on.
The only person who is with you your entire life is yourself.

Surround yourself with what you love,
whether it is family, pets, keepsakes,
music, plants, hobbies, whatever.
Your home is your refuge.

Cherish your health.
If it is good -- preserve it.
If it is unstable -- improve it.
If it is beyond what you can improve -- get help.

Don't take guilt trips.
Go to the mall, the next county, a foreign country
... but not to guilt.

Tell the people you love that you
love them, at every opportunity.

And remember that Life is not measured
by the number of breaths we take ... but by the moments that
take our breath away!

THAT'S ALL FOLKS--SEE YOU IN THE MOVIES!