

MOOSMATES AND NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS

AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER FOR AND ABOUT THE KIDS OF MOOS SCHOOL DURING THE '50S

APRIL 2004

6TH EDITION



My Column

We now have over 90 MoosMates. pretty impressive for our humble beginnings. More are found every week. Lots of new thoughts and images in this issue along with old photos, friends and classmates. The file of Moos graduating class photos grows and grows. Many MoosMates can be found on the internet at Classmates.com. Always anxious to hear back from you.

"Seasons" of Spring

Every Spring would find us in our "seasons". Paper airplane season, yoyo season, tops season, squirt gun season, marbles season, kite flying season to name several. Guess we got tired of one thing after a few weeks and went on to another as the warm weather progressed. What happened to the balsa wood gliders that cost 10 cents? They sure could sail. When was the last time YOU made a paper airplane for your kids or grandkids or even for yourself? I don't think the kids today even know how to fold a sheet of math paper into a fighter plane. I'll have to make a few and show the neighborhood kids what fun can be had with a single sheet of paper. Recess at Moos would find us boys heaving our unique designs skyward.

Full wings, wings with tabs bent up or down for stability and direction. The shortened wing versions. A paper clip to keep the nose down. We would make them in class and hide them until we were in the school yard. Tops season had us winding strings with a button or stick on the end to hold it to our hand when we yanked it with all we had. If you did it wrong the top would potato spin (spin on it's side) and we would get jeered and snickered at. Travelers (ball bearing tips), spikers, who's point could be sharpened enough to crack another top in two. Whistlers made from plastic which were the most vulnerable to be spiked. If you had a whistler, you may as well say goodbye to it. There were different styles of getting them to spin...overhand, which was deadly for spiking. Side arm and under hand, we tried it all. One of my favorite seasons was yoyo season. I never really mastered many of the great tricks but I was always amazed at the yoyo guy that came around the neighborhood and promoted Duncan yoyo's. He was always an Asian looking guy and could do all the tricks. He made it look oh, so easy. Walk the dog, spank the baby, around the world, the swing, he would show us all the tricks and if you bought a new yoyo from (fill in the blank) or the Washtenaw Variety Store he would carve a scene on one side which might have been a stylized Mt. Fuji and/or your name in a Japanese font. Summers were spent with softball, corkball, statues, three feet off and ring-a-le-ve-o. What do you remember about the "seasons" and just what did the girls all do while we were so busy having so much fun?

Remember **Margies Candies** on Western at Armitage and Milwaukee? Here is their sign and hopefully it brings back many sweet memories.



Margie's is a family owned business founded in 1920 by Peter George Poulos. It's hot fudge is sooooo good that the Beatles partook of it after their legendary Comiskey Park concert.

Recently Departed

Don Cornell at age 84. He had several pop hits between 1950 and 1962. Among them were "It Isn't Fair", "I'm Your's", "I'll Walk Alone" and "Hold My Hand". Penny Singleton who played Blondie in the Dagwood movies.

Teachers at Moos

How many do you remember?

Who have we missed?

Alice Hayes 8A teacher 1933 and way beyond. The most talked about teacher at Moos. Some despised her, some accepted her and others were grateful for her no-nonsense way of teaching. She DID get things done.

Marie Anderson 3rd grade teacher. Maybe there were 2 Marie Andersons? My favorite as I once got all A's and she had me go to all my class teachers and I got several Gold stars on my report card. This resulted in my being double promoted. I was proud as punch!

Mrs. Labus

Mrs. Tobin (Principal) her office when you were bad.

Mr. Weber (1933)

Miss Gladys Purinton (1933 and beyond) Art Teacher Always a fun class.

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Mrs. Carlson (1933 and ?)
Mr. Roy F. Webster (1927 - 1933 principal)
Mrs. Mertes (1933 and beyond)
Mrs. Vivian Wirkus (1948 - 2003) 50 years of teaching at Moos.
Mrs. Bunzel Assistant Principal? Too bad we don't have photos of our grammar school teachers.

The "L" and Green Hornets



Typical L Station



The Green Hornets

The L was an intimate part of my very early memories. The attached photo is of the Armitage Ave. station but looks exactly like the California station which I was most familiar with. From there I experienced many adventures. Going downtown, riding as far as we could without a transfer and going to the end of the line were all great adventures when we were kids. One time we went to the "end of the line" and got off and started walking home. We didn't discover that we were walking west, instead of east, until we had walked several miles. With no money in our pockets, so

we turned around and walked several miles more than necessary to get back home. Boy, were we tired! At one time (before Moos) I lived at 1602 N. Fairfield with my Mom, aunt and uncle. It was an apartment in the second floor rear and the porch was almost next to the California L platform. I remember watching the trains stop and the passengers exiting and I watched intensely for my Mom. She worked in the loop at that time. When she exited the train she would look for me from the platform and wave and I would wave back knowing I would see her again within a few minutes when she would reach our apartment.

NEW CLASS PHOTOS

We now have January '52: 8-A (pg. 5), 4A and 5A-and 5B. I am always looking for more class photos to complete the years. Those missing are: Both of 1948, 49, 54, 58, 59, 60 and Jan. '55, '56 and '57 and June of '50-'53, '56.



Brigitte (Barton) Halloran

Recently, Brigitte and her hubby, William, have moved to Sun City West, AZ. We wish them well in their new adventure. There was a Bon Voyage get-together recently and several of her Moos classmates wished them well. Maybe we will get some photos of the BIG event for the next MoosMates issue?

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Tommy Crook Remembers

He, also, remembers the hamburgers we ate from the little portable unit on North Ave. between Washtenaw and Talman on an empty lot near Lewis Spring. As he recalls, they were prepared with a giant slice of onion. Best burger WE ever had. Tommy also remembers the war time paper drives at Moos that had a movie in the assembly hall as a reward if you turned in a certain weight of paper. Those that didn't make the goal had to sit in class while the fortunate ones saw the movie. Stars and banners were displayed, during those war years, in the windows of all those who had relatives fighting the war overseas. A rectangular banner with gold fringe and a star for everyone in service. Tommy especially remembers coming home for lunch in August of 1945 and his Dad was home. his Dad was with the 80th Infantry division in France. He had been in hospitals in England and Baltimore for 8 months suffering from "trench foot". The day he saw his father was a GOOD Day. Tommy also remembers Harold Justice and his "pilot cap" with ear flaps. Tommy keeps in touch with Kenny Rae who has a temporary problem with writing. I guess "old age" is creeping up on all of us,

Little known Facts

During the early Moos years there was a publication called "The Moos Call" which was printed and published by the students of Moos. I have been

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privileged to be given two 1933 copies by my uncle, **Walter Jabczynski**, who attended Moos back then. It was a year book filled with graduate lists, class photos, parting thoughts of the graduates and many, many other fun items you would expect in a high school yearbook. They even had advertisement sponsors such as Park View Pharmacy at 2800 W. North Avenue and Wolken's grocery at 1702 N. Whipple St. There were glee clubs, printing classes, a Kraft club, basketball tournaments and more. 1933 saw the 1st talking pictures shown in the assembly hall at Moos. One was made by the telephone company (AT&T?) and the other was about air mail, telephone operators and big generators, says an article by Fred Ganschaw of room 32. There was also a bus trip to the Worlds Fair of 1932. A trip to the Crystal Theater and mention of an annex to the school building. I wonder when the Moos Call, and the shops that printed it, were abandoned? Does anyone have a clue?



Today's "kids"

L to R: Kenny Rae '52, Harold Justice '52 and grandson Brennan, Corky O' Donnel, Tommy Crook '52, Dixon Whitson '51.

Tommy Jacobson by his wife Louise

Tom and I met in 1957 when he was stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base and I was working as

at Confederate Memorial Hospital (now LSU Med. Center). We were married in May of that year. Our daughter Valarie was born in 1960 in Shreveport. I stopped working and we moved to Chicago when Tom got out of the Air Force. He started college in Shreveport, and once in Chicago attended night school at Wright Junior College, and worked during the day. In June of 1961, our son Andy was born and we bought a house in Streamwood. After five years, we returned to Louisiana. We were both homesick. In 1968, our youngest son, Eddie, was born here in Lake Charles, and we haven't moved since. Seemed like every city we lived in we had a baby, so we decided to stop taking chances. However, we wouldn't trade any of our children for anything in the world. They have grown into fine adults with families of their own. Our daughter has a beautiful first soprano voice and sings for weddings, funerals, and other occasions. She is an upper elementary teacher, married to an executive of Conoco and they have 2 sons...Jordan 15, and Will 12. Both boys are into athletics, fishing, and hunting. When Andy was a very young teenager, he and Tom started singing Barber Shop with the local chapter here, and that was their main hobby for years. Tom sang lead in the chorus and Andy sang tenor and baritone. Andy was a part of several award-winning quartets, and at one time, was the director of the chapter. They both still sing...Andy as Minister of Music and Adult Ministries of one of the Baptist churches here in town for 7 years. Now he fills in at different churches when they need a music director, and otherwise sings in the choir at the largest

Baptist church here in town. He now works for Howell's Furniture Gallery. He's been married for 21 years to Becky and they have a 14 year old daughter, Taylor, who is also vocally talented (she will sing in San Francisco the end of this month), and a 7 year old son, Brydon, the image of Andy at that age. Tom sings in the church choir and in a group that sings once a month at nursing homes. Eddie isn't married, but does have a lovely home and two dogs. He is a Rad. Tech. and CT Specialist and supervisor at the hospital a couple of blocks from here. Thank goodness all of our children stayed right here in the area. Eddie has been trying to take us on a vacation for three years, so we finally gave in this year. First he wanted to take us on a cruise year before last, last year it was Paris, finally we gave in on a cruise this year. We'll be going in Oct...a birthday gift for us. Tom's birthday is Oct. 6 and mine is Nov. 2. I worked off and on while the kids were growing up. Mostly I did a lot of church work...Sunday School director of third grade dept., church pianist, and planned church activities. The two older children were in school, but Eddie was 8 yrs. younger than Valarie and 7 years younger than Andy, so he really needed me at home. After they were all in school, I went back into nursing, but by that time, teenagers needed me, so I worked part time until the first two married. Seven years ago I had pneumonia and almost died. I was in the hospital in a coma for 3 weeks. Once I came home, it was months before I could go anywhere on my own because I was still so weak. I was working under contract for Public Health at the time, so I went and
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retired then. It's a good thing, because I wouldn't have been able to go back to work anyway. My legs are still weak but I can get around, just not walk a lot without stopping. The year after that, I had my second heart attack, then three years ago emergency gallbladder surgery. Poor Tom...had he not already been gray, I would have turned him that way... After I came home from the hospital, Andy brought his laptop computer over, plugged it in, and turned me loose. I haven't been the same since.... Then a couple of years ago I bought a new one. One night in a book chat, the hostess who owned a review website asked me to review books for her. I told her I didn't know a thing about reviewing. She said I knew what I liked and why, and she would teach me the rest. So I embarked on an interesting new "career." Soon I was promoted to Author/Publisher Liaison then as the website grew by leaps and bounds, I mentored new reviewers, and was part of a critique group. The website grew so big, so fast, it imploded. The owner shut it down, but one of the reviewers in my critique group asked me and one other reviewer in our group to form our own website. So we started Reviewer's Choice Reviews. I review under the name Sissy because that's what my brother and his family always called me. Everybody else calls me Louise. We are pretty laid back, review what we want, when we want, and have no plans to take on more reviewers. We don't court publishers or authors, but I have a manuscript here that an author asked me to review for her and I accepted. So everybody, please take a peek at our website and let us know what

you think. We can be found at www.reviewers-choice.com Tom fishes and hunts with our son-in-law and the boys. They own a camp that can only be reached by boat. Like I said, he stills sings and watches TV...The cooking shows, then tells me how to cook. I tell him he didn't marry a gourmet. If I were one, I'd have my own show. Tom retired three years ago but is now a gofer..."Daddy, will you pick up Jordan at school and take him for his orthodontist appt.?" Never mind school is almost 20 miles from here..."Daddy will you pick up the kids from school? Becky will get them after work." He's really a "Daddy-do" and in truth loves it. But the kids do a lot for us too, so it all works out. We've been married almost 47 years. It's a good thing I was lucky enough to find him because nobody else would have put up with me this long. Home has been here in Lake Charles for 37 years. We'll look through pictures and send some next time. Louise & Tom Sissy Jacobson
Reviewer & Co-owner
www.reviewers-choice.com

WANTED



Tommy Beattner

Information leading to the whereabouts of the above are solicited and urged. Where is Tommy? Where has he been? When was the last time you were in contact with him? Contact me and let me know what you can do to help find him.

Recently Found

Lenora Hughes Class of Jan. '53
(continued next column)

is looking to find **Barbara Jablonski** and wonders about **Jim Hoffman, Judy McNulty, Pat Banot, Sadie McKlusky & a girl nicknamed "Machine Gun Kelly"**.

Gloria Monroy Class of '69

Eric Graubins Class of Jan. '62

Gwen Davis 1962-65

Kenneth Iverson Class of June '49 is looking for Ronald Frelk

Melodie Swan 1957-64 lived at 1732 N. Campbell and graduated from Yates and Tuley

Carol Nielsen Class of 1960

My BIO

My Pets: I train, groom and show dogs. I raise sheep for market. My Kids: My son followed in the footsteps of his late Father. He is a motion picture cameraman, right now working on the set of JAG. He lives in California. He also is pictured in March's 2001 GQ Magazine. My daughter is an ISO inspector. Lives a few miles from me and also trains and shows dogs. So we are together most every weekend. My son is married, my daughter is single and I do not have any grandchildren at this time. My Job: My job is rewarding. I work with great people and residents. I also get to take my dogs to work. It's like a home away from home.

She remembers the Steljes', Dee Fiordaliso, Mary Ann Makela and the Skidmores.

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For news, views, bios, info, old photos and just to hear about your life adventures.

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Moos Class of January 1952

I recognize Bobby Sorce and Richard Gilbert. Names are L to R and back to front:

Back row: Betty Lou Medling, Carwell? Doden, unknown, Royal Root, Harold Faulkenberg, Ivan Rubenstein, Mary Ann Troka, Warren Richard Johnson Faulkenberg, unknown, Andrew Zaradney. Next row: Jan Voss, Caroline Wolf, Beverly Jansen, Lois McNulty, Esther Larson, Geraldine McGee, unknown, unknown, unknown. Next row: Richard Gilbert, Thomas Crook, Richard Stopka, unknown, unknown, Jack Hareland, Ray Hagan. Bottom row: Darlene Williams, Diane Mowery, Marlene Becker, Bobbie Sorce, Barbara Shank, Geraldine (Gerry) Giocola, Carolyne Batty, Joyce Witucki. Somewhere in this mix are: Eric Drochner, Camille Haves, Harold Heckler, Marie Knutsen, Joseph Karzemenski, Patricia Mostek, Chester Norys, Rosemary Swersen and Jean Zuccaro. Can you place them??



Just like my very 1st. car, a 1937 Pontiac. Mine was blue. Bought for me by my Mom in 1954 for the price of \$95 from Max Albrecht, the coal and ice man, who had gotten too blind to drive.

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If you have fond, or not so fond, memories of that 1st. car, let me know so we can all share it. There was a good bit of courting going on in this car. Just ask my wife Sandy.



MYF Kids circa 1953
Any old friends or flames?



Moos 8-A's 1939
looks like 101 kids. WOW
Probably the largest Moos class to graduate ever.



Another blast from the past.
These babies were all over the city. I remember them on California Avenue.