

Class of '76 Life Updates

Volume I, Issue I

October 11, 2008

Thank you, Class of '76!

By Lisa Fell

Thanks to all of you for a great event!! It took a lot of work to find some of you, but it was worth it. The highlight was getting a phone message via my daughter who said, "Hey Mom, some guy named



Steve called and said he hasn't talked to you for 32 years!" That was Steve Zastenchik (this is Steve in 5th grade!).

What always makes this so special for me is reconnecting with my roots in such a special way. We didn't just do high school together. Many of us have known each other since Kindergarten! So there's no-one else who shares the past, who when you say Reynolds Field or King Pizza or River Rats or Hudsonettes knows just what you are talking about.

We've come a long way since those days. We now live all over the country, from California to Maine to Florida and everywhere in between. Most of us have weathered sorrows, whether it's been the loss of a loved one, a marriage, a friend, or a dream. But many of us, thank good-



At the 30th: Tim Liotta, Mrs. Drewes, Lisa Fell, Alexis Artel

ness, have also had some real joy. And from what people have been telling me, most are relatively content with their lives.

I'm very grateful that you all have been a part of my life! Happy 50th to all of us!!!

Check out the
HHS Class of '76 web site at
www.pugavatar.com
(thank you Earle MacHardy!)



Diane Fisher Rakoff, DFRRN@aol.com, Scarsdale, NY

Time sure does fly! I have been living in Scarsdale, N.Y. for the past 23 years. Jamie and I have been married for 27 years and have 3 terrific children. Matthew 24, Missy 22, and Michelle 18. Mat-

thew graduated from Bucknell University, Missy from Syracuse University and Michelle is a freshman at Syracuse University.

I am a registered nurse. Jamie is a Developer/Builder. I worked at WCMC

Cindy Amatniek jamatniek@comcast.net

I live in Newtown, PA, with my husband Max Yaffe, our daughter Abigail, 2 cats, and an au par Iris. We moved in almost 9 years ago, right after our daughter was born. A little before that I started working for Johnson and Johnson on an Alzheimer's drug as a research physician and continue to work at J&J but now mostly on a schizophrenia compound. With a young child I think about people from Hastings' quite often as that is where I lived at her age. I have fond memories of Hastings' folks and hope that you are well. I for one am just too darn busy but am volunteering for one of the campaign's none-the-less. I hope that I can rearrange life somewhat to get there in person on October 11.

as a pediatric Oncology nurse for 14 years and am presently working at the Greenville Elementary school, where I have been working for the past 15 years as the school nurse.

Lesley Harris, lharris@cruzers.com

I moved to San Francisco in 1983 to attend . . . Hastings Law School. I swear. It's part of the University of California. (I wore my Hastings Hudsonette jacket occasionally, just to confuse people.) Anyway, I loved S.F. so much I took the California bar exam and stayed. I worked and played in San Francisco for 17 years. Lots of outdoor fun-- backpacking, skiing, river rafting, etc. Various relationships along the way-- some good, some not so good. Fell in love (again) at age 41 with a guy living in Santa Cruz -- a beach/surfing town about 75 miles south of S.F. We got pregnant and I moved to Santa Cruz. Well, that relationship turned out to be one of the "not so good" ones, but the good part is we have Natalie, now 8. Currently I have my own law practice (www.lesleyharrislaw.com) in Santa Cruz, a steady dude named Daniel who came with 3 grown kids who are part of our scene, a cat named Buster Suave, and a pretty well-balanced life style. I still embarrass myself by playing team sports (softball) and dancing in public like nobody's watching.

I am soooooo sorry to be missing the party. I'd be there except that I'll be on a safari in Tanzania. My mom's 50th birthday present to me. You gotta see Yosemite National Park, at least. So come visit northern California, and call me when you're here!

Happy Birthday Y'all,



Dan Scheiner, dscheiner@amnh.org

The Scheiner family includes my wife Priscilla, two daughters Emily (20) and Carly (16) and Cooper, our dog.

We live in Princeton and have been here or one town over since the early 80's. It's a great community and a wonderful town to raise two children.

I spent about 16 years working for Princeton University and ran the human resources department until 2004. I am now working for the American Museum of Natural History in NYC and head up the human resources department. It's a great place to work and seems like everyone I know or meet has found memories of a childhood visit to our museum.



Vivienne Heston-Demeril

vivhdem@hotmail.com

Since April 2007, I have been communications director of the National Council for Research on Women (www.ncrw.org). It's an interesting job but a grueling commute down to Wall Street and I'm longing for a little work:life balance. My daughter Julia (15) is a freshman at the Gunnery School in Washington, CT. My stepsons Baris and Emre, all grown up, are based in New York City and I see them often. Baris is in the restaurant business and Emre is an engineer. My husband Mehmet lives half the year in Istanbul and commutes back and forth (talk about a grueling commute!). At age 50, I feel like I know ever less about life -- no magic formulas, no pearls of wisdom. Just get on with it...

Ben Katzenstein, benk@starkaywhite.com

Many of you I first met at a brand new opening day for Hillside Elementary School. Do you remember watching President Kennedy speak and a space missions on black and white TV while sitting "Indian style" on our linoleum squares on the floor in the All Purpose Room. So many great memories! You never forget the people from your youth, and I remember you all fondly.

After HHS, graduated Ithaca College and Culinary Institute of America. Traveled the periphery of United States and to Scandinavia, Israel, Soviet Union, China, France, Switzerland, Bora Bora, West Africa.

Started working full time at Star Kay White in the Bronx in 1984. Married Barbara in 1986; we have two sons, Alex & Gabe, both presently in college. Today I am Executive Vice President of Star Kay White, Inc., and fourth family generation owner, manufacturer of fine flavoring ingredients, specializing in ingredients for ice cream, (75 employees). Keep an eye out for J9 Espresso® chocolate espresso confections which I've been working on for over twenty years. The



creative influence of growing up in Hastings-on Hudson has been long lasting and always inspirational

I have lived with my wife and boys in Warwick with horses, dogs and cats since 1986, (with visits by deer, skunks, raccoons, black bear, coyotes) on property that abuts the Appalachian Trail. I've cared for my horses, feed, water, hay and mucking, almost every eve-

ning since 1986, and still have my original pitch fork, wheel barrow, and tractor.

I still love saltwater fishing. Cannot SCUBA dive anymore due to ear injury, but that was a favorite activity for a long time. Now I've taken to sailing which is a beautiful activity. I enjoy reading, especially political, economic, and military biography. I got turned on to Astrology on my trip around the country, and still 31 years later continue to learn new insights.

I try to swim about a half mile six times a week to keep in shape. I wish I could play guitar like Eric Clapton, but haven't mastered bar chords, oh well. I still love rock and roll, but who among us doesn't?

The best to all of you! Ben

Ruth Happel, rhappel@wildportraits.com

I spent many years studying primates and tropical forests, but left academia and now works on filming nature videos, along with producing wildlife recordings- one of these was even featured on a Neil Young album. I have a daughter, Robin, who turns 12 the day of the reunion event. We are in the process of relocating from WA to NC.

Dave Yapchanyk, yapster1@sbcglobal.net



Been married 25 years to Carolyn from Riverdale, NY, Met at SUNY @ Stony Brook during college. I've worked at a power plant in Waterford CT, for the past 26 years as a Senior Mechanical Engineer. Lived in East Lyme, CT for 26 years. Have 3 children, a 20 year old daughter, Anastasia, currently studying Mechanical Engineering, like her Dad, at Rensselaer in Troy NY. Twin 11 year old boys, Pete and Jeff, Pete plays hockey and runs, Jeff plays soccer and basketball. All Three kids play the trumpet!, water ski and do Judo.



Anastasia Yapchanyk

Jean Taddeo Staples CNJStaples@aol.com

I met my husband Carl in Ciba Specialty Chemicals 8 years ago. We've been married for 7 years, and I have a 31 year old stepson Ben, my daughter in law Cathy and my grandson Reid just turned 1 this month! We moved to Reading, PA. when Carl took a position with Arrow International as Sr. VP of HR. As an Officer of the company Carl was required to travel a great deal and I was required to



travel with him on business. Therefore, I left my job at Ciba and traveled to many wonderful places, it was a nice "early retirement".

I have been doing a great deal of volunteer work for our community and participating on the Obama Campaign over the past year. It's amazing how the days pass and before you know it another year is gone. I turned 50 this past August and I don't feel any different than I did back in high school. Just the mirror tells a different story. But like they say "as long as you have your health"!

Deborah Lee khimbalee@yahoo.com

I have been living and working for the past five years on an organic farm in Maine--it has a vegetable, apple and blueberry business, and a winery, as well as having sheep and chickens. That I love it and highly recommend it for those who think they'd like it, they'll probably like it even more than they imagine. And that I hope I can get down and see people in June.

I'm moving from this farm either to a goat dairy farm, or to a friends property, don't know yet.

Earle MacHardy, MacHardy_Earle@emc.com, 19-423-0305

I live in Durham NC with my wife Jackie. I have worked for Data General/EMC for 25 years and currently hold a senior software architect position. That means I work on new products and services offered by EMC (Data General was bought by EMC back in 1999) that involve data storage products (essentially computers that act like huge disks). I have two

kids in college, one is 21 (Nat) and the other one is 18 (Zack). Nat is a triple major in Genetics, Biomedical engineering and anthropology. Zack is still not really made up his mind, but is considering physics as a major. Jackie and I have four pug dogs that we spoil rotten and work with a Pug Rescue organization called Mid-Atlantic Pug Resuce.



Clint DeGanon clint@clintdeganon.com 845-353-6277

I'm living in Nyack, NY, with wife Stephanie & Golden Retriever Duncan. No kids. Still a drummer, in Europe right now with Art Garfunkel (though I'd rather be at the reunion- really.) And when home, playing the Broadway show Hairspray, among other things.



Rachelle Tetenbaum Fobe Rachelle.Fobe@sodexo.com, 301-570-4129

I live in Brookeville, Maryland about an hour south of Baltimore and north of DC. I have lived here for the last 17 years. I have two beautiful children, Irene 15 and Lenny 12, and a small menagerie of animals including a dog, a couple of cockatiels and a bunny and whatever my kids will talk me into next! I work for Sodexo, a French company that manages food and facilities operations internationally. I work at the corporate headquarters in benefits administration.

Laura Anastasio Glick, lauraasheville@yahoo.com

I am in the midst of a divorce (a good thing), my 13 year old daughter, Ali, and I moved to Asheville, NC a year ago with our two dogs, and we are happy here. I have a new marketing job at a retirement complex, Ali is in the 8th grade, and I'm grateful for a second chance at life and fun and romance at almost 50. Having a great time dating and amazed that in my 30' and 40's, i felt 80 with a negative, complaining partner, and now, at almost 50, I feel 20!! Feel free to email me at anytime.



Ali and Laura

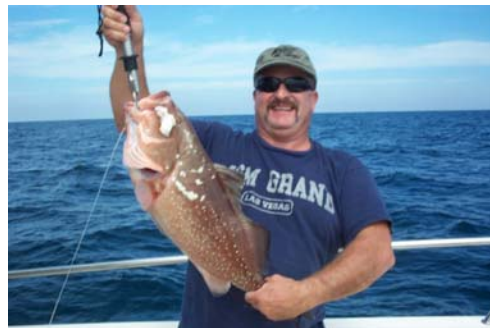


Mike Ingui, mikeingui2@yahoo.com



We are living in Lutz, Fl for 20 years with 3 daughters. Jeanette, 30, lives in Palm Harbor and is a Radiology tech. Jeniffer, 28, lives in Las Vegas NV; she is a concierge

manager for Ballys. And Jeanine is 24, finishing school to become a prosthetics tech. My wife Francine and I are part owners of an Auto recycling yard in Riverview just 10 minutes from Tampa. We love cruising and deep sea fishing, and just hangin out together. Check out our web site, www.fldialapart.com. Please send our love to all.



Bob Stephanic

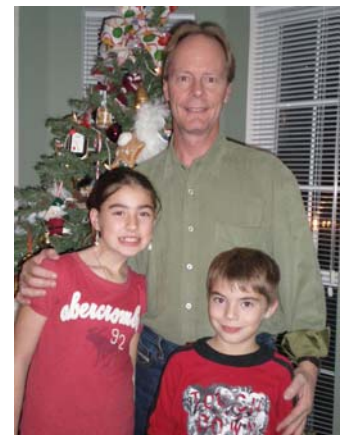
bobsfixit@verizon.net
845-225-5591

I'm living in Carmel with My wife Diane, daughter Lyndsey, 2 mini Dachs-hunds and 3 Siamese cats.



Tim Collins tcollins@haifire.com

I am a Fire Protection Engineer/ Consultant for the last 25+ years working in Great Neck, NY/L.I.. I am a single dad with two terrific kids (Natalie-12, Christopher-8). I live in Glen Oaks (Queens), NY.



Polly Mitzman Guanieri, Nativesun43@aol.com, 845-723-4101

My brother, Todd, passed away a couple of months ago and I am taking guardianship of his two children which will require me to be away in Michigan for a court hearing at that time.

I have five children, four of whom are grown (21-30 years old). I have a thirteen year old son and three grandkids also. My niece and nephew are 15 and 13 respectively. They've been with us since the end of August and

the October court date is the final guardianship hearing. Thankfully they are doing well here. My brother and sister-in-law did a wonderful job raising them. I'm not sure having two extra teens will make me young again...my previous four having given me the gray hairs I sport now! But so far they've been a joy.

I did see the photo Earl McHardy put up on the website. It felt like coming home



Polly and her granddaughter.

Lynn Osborn, losborn@bestweb.net

Here I am enjoying my 50th this past September with a few friends that surprised me at a local restaurant. After working on Wall Street for 21 years the past three years I have spent working in administration for a company near my home in Orange County, NY. My free time is spent caring for my five horses which I keep on my property along with other livestock which include two cows, 3 goats, a pig, and several cats and dogs.



Kryssi Staikidis (Stack),

kstaikidis@aol.com, 917-887-2626

I am recently married and currently lives in DeKalb, Illinois. I'm a professor of art and art education at Northern Illinois University. I continues to paint and make etchings. My husband Michael Barnes is also an artist and is currently a professor in printmaking at Northern Illinois University as well.

Sorry to have missed the 50 year-old shin-dig!

Susan Craft, craft_susan@hotmail.com

I currently reside in Skillman, NJ (Princeton environs). My family includes my husband Jim, a professor of Molecular Biology at Princeton, and our daughter Lily - 8 years old now (adopted from China at age 17 months). I've been in clinical research in the pharmaceutical industry for about 18 years.

Since being laid off from a Senior Director position in May 2007, I've surprised my-

self by pulling together a consulting company with (currently) 5 clients, one subcontractor and an intern.



Laura Craft was in the Class of '77 but graduated with us in 1976. She lives in Connecticut and sees sister Sue and niece Lily often (see p. 7).

Andy's RSVP

Hi Lisa,

I wanted to let you know that I can't make it to the party. I have a broken doorknob that needs repair and I need to take care of that next Saturday night. I remember what a goof off you were in classes, have you changed much?

*Wishing you the best,
Andy (Ettinger)*

Diane Serafin Meade, DMSM618@aol.com

I live in Mohegan Lake New York for 18 years with my husband of 20 years and my 3 children-Lauren-Marie-16, Robert-14, and Dana-9. I worked in St. Matthew's Church as Religious Ed. Coordinator for 16 years. I am presently working in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church as a full time Religious Education Coordinator and have been there for the past 4 years. Before becoming a Religious Ed. Coordinator I taught elementary school for 14 years. I loved it and still miss it.

I'm sorry I'm not able to be at this celebration. We are away celebrating our 20th Anniversary. I hope everyone is well.



Debbie Rode Petrillo, zordy@aol.com

This is me and my son Adam on a recent cruise. I am very happily married to my husband Michael and we will be celebrating 6 years this December, but have been together since 1995. I am currently working at Jenny Craig in Eastchester as a weight loss counselor. My son Adam will be 21 next week and he attends Western new England College in Mass. for engineering. I live in Yorktown with my Husband and our 5 cats. Sorry I can't be there in person but hopefully I'll make the 60th Birthday Bash!!



Pete Brainin
antongorkin@hotmail.com

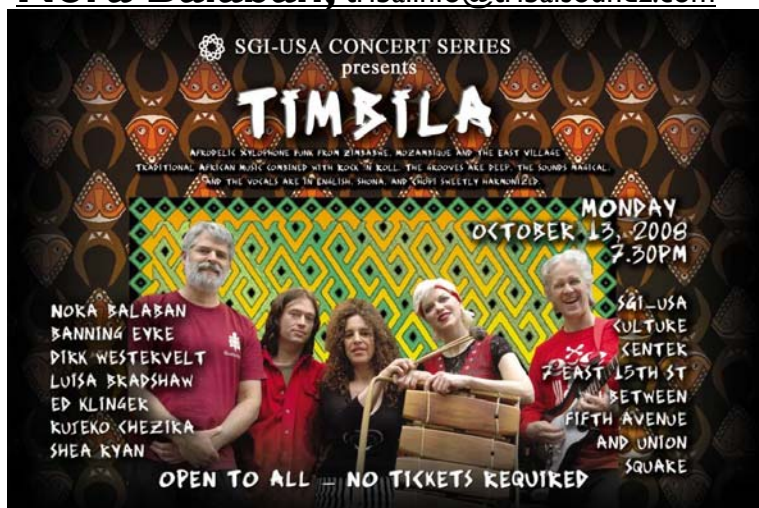


Nick Frascione

Peter Zimmerman, pcz@npgcable.com

Peter Zimmerman has been living in Sedona, Arizona for the past four years. He is finishing the rough draft of his second book, entitled Podunk, about small, out-of-the-way places in America that he has visited over the years. His first book is called Tennessee Music. Still a bachelor, Pete keeps in touch with a few old '76 cronies, including Nehrbauer, Brainin, and Artel.

Nora Balaban, tribalinfo@tribalsoundz.com



Mr. Robert Tucker Passed Away

September 26, 2008

Today, we learned of the passing of Bob Tucker, former social studies teacher at Hastings High School. As many of you know, Bob was fighting a courageous battle with cancer.

Bob was truly one of the great educators that I have ever had the pleasure of working with. Hastings High School is a better place having had him as a teacher for what I believe was a total of thirty-seven years. Bob created a student-centered AP American History course long before the term was ever

used. Students who accepted the challenge of the rigor of that course come back and tell me it was one of their most significant experiences of all their years of schooling. He also created an anthropology course that incorporated the "Lucy Awards" named after the cartoon character from Peanuts. Bob also founded WestMUNC, the Hastings High School Model United Nations back in 1976. WestMUNC is now a Hastings High School institution.

Bob also served for a time as the Chair of the Social Studies

Department and as the President of the Hastings Teachers Association. We were fortunate to have him as the commencement speaker for the Class of 2007. Bob will surely be missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Hastings High School Social Studies Department. Please make checks payable to Hastings High School, attention Dr. Fazio. Be sure to note on the check this is in memory of Bob Tucker



Where in the world is Eric Cromartie??



The list of the missing gets longer as time goes by. If you have any contacts for these people, please share them, or let them know we are looking for them!

Andrea Alterman
Stephanie Ambrozek King
Andy Auld
Russell Bauer
David Baur
James Bella
Hans Berger
Leslie Brown Sennett
Bruce Buscher
Cathy Campher Van Zyl
Kevin Cardaci
MaryLiz Chanwick Sente
Eric Cromartie
Maureen Darcy Rapoli
Valerie DiCicco
Scott Duncan
Pam Dwyer
Urban Edwards
Jon Feldstein
Wulf Fiedler
Robin Fisher
Steve Fisher
Tom Gardner
Mindy Grabowski
Martha Grimm Sterling
Curt Haedke
Suzanne Haubold Suydam
Stuart Huddelston
Tom Joseph
Bill Kane

Bill Karschmidt
Kevin Korenko
Kathy Kowalewski Milner
Pam Kreusser Baier
Rosemarie Laino Nehrebecki
Jeff Levine
Toby Lieberman Mazon
Andy Maccabe
Mark Madden
Tom Mark
Virginia Matthews-Newman
Carla Messmer Peltier
Carolyn Mills
Russell Mills
Gail Newman
Noreen Kim O'Conner Price
Bonny Page Robertson
Deborah Pawlowski
Eugenie Pecylak Rishy
Anita Pellegrini
Doreen Pietropaolo
Donald Porges
Vinny Potenzo
Ted Poulos
Christopher Rapoli
Bill Schmid
Deborah Schuck Rossi
Donna Shea Medeiros
Lee Sporn
Mike Stafford

Tom Stanford
Pedro Starks, Jr.
Clifford Steiner
Vail Thorne
Rosaleen Tiernan Leahy
Lisa Tiersten
Emmitt Trevan
Ed Waage
Debra Wakefield Zubrick
Jon Wald
Lee Whiting
Jane Young

Deceased

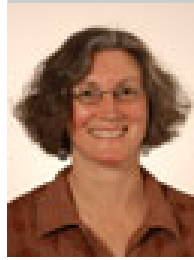
Steven Gans (kidney disease)
Arthur Kozminsky (car accident, 9/83)
Nat Mesnikoff (aneurysm, 1975)
Joe Tapisa (heart attack?)

THANK YOU TO THE COMMITTEE!!

Mark Bingham
Anna Capuano Tino
Patty Chemka Speranza
Coke Coakley
Jeff Edelman
Lisa Fell Labella
Sue Huelsman Ryan
Donna Noll Pagliaro



Susan Earle, earle@ku.edu,



Susan Earle is a Curator of European & American Art at the Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas. Susan gave birth to twins Noah & Eliza (below with their big brother) in early 2007.



Eileen Seredensky Halliday, ehalliday@kraft.com

Married the love of my life, Don, almost 15 years ago. He came with 2 fantastic children, Jason and Allie who are now both in their twenties. They were great kids and grew into great adults. We love hanging out with them.

We live in Poughkeepsie with two crazy dogs (Hobbes, a Shar Pei shepherd mix and Zoe, a nutcase yellow lab) and two cats (fatso Rocky and skinny Calvin).

I've worked at General Foods/ General Foods USA/Kraft General Foods/Kraft Foods for the last 28 years as "food scientist" which is a fancy name for a product developer. Yes, I help develop all those wonderful, "healthy" foods that Kraft puts on the shelf. Don works at Avon heading up the IT department. We've both been lucky in our careers and shouldn't complain about work but of course, we still do.

About 7 years ago we bought a house in the Adirondacks on one of the most beautiful lakes there--

Piseco. We try and go up every weekend we can to hike, kayak, canoe, and just sit on the deck and look at the scenery. We find that no matter what the work week is like, if we know we're heading up there on the weekend, we can endure.

We've been lucky in this game of life and though we've had our share of losses and sadness, overall, we've been very blessed.

I wish we could make the Birthday Bash but hopefully, when the next reunion-type thing comes around, we'll be able to join everyone and catch up in person.

Happy Birthday to all!

